

# Merry Christmas from the Gordons!

# 2005

1121 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue, SW, Alabaster, AL 35007 - (205) 620-9729 - [www.GordonPlace.com](http://www.GordonPlace.com)

It's hard to believe it's Christmas time again! Sending Christmas cards is one of my (Jay's) favorite Christmas traditions. We'd love to hear from you, so if you don't do Christmas cards and/or letters, please send us an email ([jay@GordonPlace.com](mailto:jay@GordonPlace.com)). Sorry I didn't have time for a personal letter. This is the best I can do!



We've had a lot of things happen this year. The biggest event was a 10-day trip Liz and I made to celebrate our 20th Anniversary... a whirl-wind tour of Europe, made possible with air miles earned using our American Airlines Credit Card. We spent most of our time in Germany and Italy, but also got to make brief stops in Paris and London. Highlights included driving through the Alps, the Rhine River, castles in Germany, the Eiffel Tower, Venice, Rome, the Isle of Capri and King Ludwig's Neuschwanstein Castle (pictured above). The trip was fantastic. I'd love to show you all 912 pictures I took!

My title and some responsibilities changed yet again at church this year, getting back almost where I started eleven years ago. Now I serve as Pastor of Small Groups, which means that I

oversee the Sunday School, our new Home Group Ministry (we now lead one in our home). I also supervise our age-group staff and a long list of other unrelated things. It is actually less than I used to do, but I still can't get it all done. At least there is less to feel guilty about. Westwood will be relocating to our new campus in March. Here's a picture of the front as of December 1.



Liz is now working with Global Missions Fellowship coordinating and leading a number of mission trips each year to South America. God has blessed her with a position that allows her to fulfill her heart for the world and be based here in the States. She still pet sits, but more of that will go to her helpers with the GMF work.

Andy really loves basketball and made the Freshman Basketball Team at Thompson High School. He got his permit to drive in September and is really thrilled with that. He is also excited to be slightly taller than his dad! In October, Andy started working at Chick-Fil-A in Alabaster's new shopping center. We're glad to finally have new stores and restaurants. Andy is pictured with his first check.



Emily is growing up too and now has braces. She is in fifth grade at Evangel Classical Christian School which meets at our church. It is a ministry of the church which purchased Westwood and is allowing us to pay rent until we move. She particularly enjoyed fishing during our Gulf Shores vacation this summer because she caught more fish than anyone else! We had to leave early because the town was boarding up for Hurricane Dennis.

That's about it for the update. Please let us hear from you soon!

*May the joy of knowing Christ be yours this  
Christmas season! You are loved!*

*Jay, Liz, Andy & Emily*

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 1 John 4:9-10