

# the latest

>january 2010 >ben/sarah/travis/hannah

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## >pondering

Even though any given tick of the clock is really no different than any other, in reality, it is celebrated more than ever every 365 days (sometimes 366). A couple of nights ago, that rare different tick of the clock occurred, and in celebration standards, it was as celebratory as always! Sarah took the opportunity to celebrate with a few friends, along with thousands of others, down near the Brandenburg Gate at midnight, and I (Ben) enjoyed the fireworks at home from our balcony. I have never been a huge fan of the new year, but I do appreciate that special natural timely "tick-tock" that can help us measure out where we are, what used to be and who we can be – we're looking forward to this potentially wonderful year! Wondering what may come each day is not necessarily the strength to develop, but rather the practice of keeping the right perspective and roots for whatever may happen -- that's key for us. "As the Father has loved me, so have I (Jesus) loved you. *Now remain in my love*" (John 14:9, emphasis mine). With that said, oh you year of 2010, I'm ready and excited to face these coming days. No matter what happens, I'm ready. I know who I am and Who is always with me.

## >picture



*Making Christmas cookies to hand out to our neighbors and friends – superfun!*

## >praise

--We thank God for a beautiful Christmas season – including Christmas markets, spending time with visiting friends from the States, meaningful Freischwimmer Adventsbrunches, celebrating the birthday of our Savior and Friend with close friends – Christmas is the best!...

--We thank God for 2009! We experienced the hand of God in so many ways this past year – His guidance and provision for Freischwimmer, His love and healing touch for our family, and His vision and direction for our mission team – we look ahead with great expectancy this year, eager to move forward with Him in all areas of our lives...

--We thank God for YOU!, our family and friends who support us and pray for us...

## >prayer

--Please pray with us for our Freischwimmer project/church-plant – please pray with us, that God would guide us to the right room/place to rent (for Sundays and/or to have throughout the week, if workable) – please pray for guidance, clarity and boldness in the next steps for this project – please pray for our adventurous beginning to this new year! – please pray for our core team, that we would be strengthened together and our level of commitment would continue to deepen...

--Please pray with us for the Galerie Kunstschwimmer – the next Ausstellung (exhibition) begins on January 22<sup>nd</sup> – please pray for us as we use this opportunity to connect with people...

--Please pray for the Chinese Alliance Church (CAC), as they are transitioning into their new leadership in John & Hoiling Poon, after our colleagues, Calvin & Pearl Lai, flew back to the States on December 27th...

--Please pray for our team, that we would be unified and driven forward together: Don & Sarah Jones (Open Door Gemeinde), Jerry & Shelly Kragt (team leader & leadership development), Steve & Karen Mack (Berlin International Church) – and for the Chinese Alliance Church (led by John & Hoiling Poon)...

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with the Christian & Missionary Alliance

*Thanks again, so much, for joining alongside us as we serve God here in Berlin – without your prayers, encouragement and giving, we wouldn't even be here.*

If you would like to give financially, the Alliance's **Great Commission Fund**, the most imperative aspect of our support, keeps hundreds of missionaries overseas, including us – please prayerfully consider how the Lord would love for you to join in His work around the world. Also, as we are moving forward more into ministry with Freischwimmer, our **Work Special Fund** (for ministry and outreach related expenses) is important, as it will help open up possibilities and opportunities in our ministry in the days to come – please consider assisting us in this way.

One of the easiest ways to give is through the Alliance website at:

<http://www.cmalliance.org/give/>

You can also send gifts made out to the Christian & Missionary Alliance, P.O. Box 35000, Colorado Springs, CO 80935-3500. Please specify "Ben Carey Work Special Fund" or "Ben Carey Vehicle Fund"

there's always more info, pictures and other sweet stuff at [thecareyjourney.xanga.com](http://thecareyjourney.xanga.com) -- check it out!

