



*Wishing you the Joy of Christmas
and a Happy (and Creative) New Year*

*Praise the Lord from the earth,
you great sea creatures
and all ocean depths
(Psalms 148:7)*



This was our seventh annual North Carolina family get together over Memorial Day weekend. This year we rented a house on Holden Beach (an hour south of Wilmington). We also took a ferry ride to visit the NC Fort Fisher Aquarium.





Our house, called "Shrimp & Grits" was just across the street from the beach. We enjoyed five full days of ocean views, wave surfing, kite flying, and sand castling (and, of course, lots of eating!)





Bennett and Kenner discovered that the aquarium had been invaded by dinosaurs. Meanwhile Kris almost lost his head to an angry alligator.



Andy, on the other hand, during his September visit to New Mexico for Kenner's birthday, demonstrated that he could be on friendly terms with the Webb's pet corn snake named Kernel.





Joshua gave us a tour of the paratransit bus that he drives when he's not driving a school bus.

Kenner's 7th birthday was celebrated at a BMX bike track, and with a dirt-bike cake in the shape of a "7".



Julia and Andy enjoyed trips this year to Manhattan, NY to meet their new nephew, Graham, and to Portland, OR to meet a close friend's daughter, Ruby. Julia developed a new interest in the craft of crocheting. She began making baby items to gift to friends and coworkers which evolved into creating her very own Etsy Shop "ButtonsBabiesBooties".





We spent the month of July in Kinshasa to help manage the MPH Guest House. The trip home included a long weekend in Brugge, Belgium. With its many canals, Brugge is called the “Venice of the North.” Or, perhaps Venice should be called the “Brugge of the South”!





(Larry, Bonnie, Franklin, Linda and Bill)
In November, the Baer siblings celebrated
Bill's 75th birthday in Hagerstown, MD.

