



Merry Christmas from the Clontz Family!

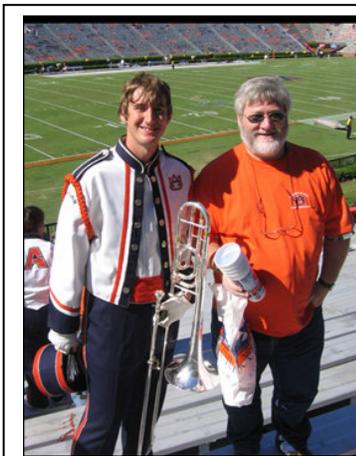
Huntsville for Phillip to drive. In June, he was the senior patrol leader for a Boy Scout Leadership Training Camp. But since he is now 20, he has “aged” out of most of those responsibilities.

Nov. 26, 2006

Merry Christmas to our friends and family!!

2006 seemed to fly by even faster than '05! I heard a commentator speak of life in New Orleans as “getting back to abnormal.” And I suspect that is our life. Not abnormal in a bad sense, but just the busy life of a family in our day and age. And while 2006 did not bring as many changes to our house as last year, we have been very busy.

If they had a contest, I'd nominate Craig for best clergy spouse and I believe he'd win in



Steven and Craig at Auburn/Arkansas Game

a landslide. He stays busy at work (24 years at Dynetics now!) and still does a great job of caring for the family and filling in all my gaps. He continues to work on websites for

Trinity and Rison-Dallas Association as well as singing in the choir (He is now the bass section leader for Trinity's choir). He is active in Sunday School (and still enjoying not teaching).

Steven is in his junior year at Auburn. He moved into his first apartment with three friends from the dorm and left his car in

Steven had a few of his “fifteen minutes” of fame. We saw him briefly on TV prior the Auburn/Bama game and the student newspaper, the Auburn Plainsman, had an article about him and his live action Pac Man game. You can find the article on the web at

http://www.theplainsman.com/campus/students_bring_classic_arcade_game_to_life_in_quad

Phillip is in his sophomore year at Buckhorn and starting to receive college applications. He plays clarinet in the band, is learning to play the bass and electric guitar, sings in the Trinity Youth Choir, and remains active in Boy Scouts. He has his driver's license and is making our life easier by ensuring that both he and Laura make it to their activities.



Phillip and Laura at Winfield Marching Band Contest

Phillip remains the Clontz family receptionist and if you call he will most likely answer. Our best Phillip story of the year concerns a call from the Bishop of the North Alabama Conference. I wasn't home and Phillip took the call and I never knew the Bishop had called until he told me that he talked to my son. When I asked Phillip if he had talked to the Bishop, he said he hadn't. When I described the conversation

with the Bishop about math and grades and such, he said, "Oh, was that the Bishop?! Holiness didn't flow through the phone!" So call, but I can only guarantee that Phillip will give me the message if you are the lead singer for a famous rock band.

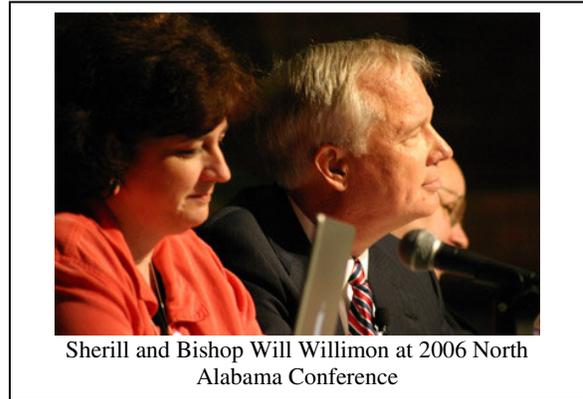
Laura started high school this year. She plays flute and piccolo in the band, sings in the Trinity Youth Choir, rings bells with the Trinity Ringers, and competes with the Scholar's Bowl Team. Between scholar's bowl and her honors classes, she stays very very busy. Laura and Phillip both went to the Mississippi coast over the fall break with a group of youth and adults from local churches to help with hurricane relief.



Easter Sunday at Trinity

This has been another busy year for me with lots of changes (although not as many as last year.) When the Bishop called last January, he called to ask me to serve as the Secretary for the North Alabama Conference. I am the first woman to ever serve in that position. When he asked, I knew little about the position other than the secretary sat with the Bishop at Annual Conference. Now I'm slowly learning what is involved in the job. I am still serving Trinity but I am now the senior associate and I am the primary service pastor for our contemporary service. And the most exciting news is that I was ordained as a full elder in the United

Methodist Church at Annual Conference this year! I went through the process as fast as possible but it still took seven years. Now it seems strange not to have a major goal ahead of me, but I'm too busy to worry too much.



Sherill and Bishop Will Willimon at 2006 North Alabama Conference

In other family news, my brother Rob and his wife Mary had a second son in June, My youngest brother, Tom, is engaged to be married in July.

This past summer, we spent a week at our favorite summer spot. We have fallen in love with Tybee Island, Georgia. My sister and her family, my brother, Rob, and his family and my dad meet us there in a rented house and we have a blast. Since Nick made his debut in June, Rob, Mary and Zack didn't make it this year, but we look forward to seeing them next summer.

Craig has established a web address for us. So you can keep track of our lives during the year at www.fivebandgeeks.com

Our Christmas routine has changed a lot since Steven started college and we have to work around exam and bowl game schedules. But those of us in Huntsville continue to meet each day around our advent wreath and to pray over all of our Christmas cards. We love reading about your lives and pray you are all doing well!

May 2007 be a year of joy for all of you and may God bless you every one!