

"God, what are you doing? Couldn't you make better use of all my education?  
I guess you're preparing us for having lots of children."

This is what Annette was thinking when she got a job as a nanny during our first year of marriage. She had finished graduate school and I was just starting when she responded to the following add in the seminary bulletin:

Help needed taking care of 10 and 12 yr. old boys. If interested call....

For four years we took the boys to school and picked them up. Annette bought the groceries and went on errands. I played tag and invented games with the boys. The boys' mother, Christie, became a good friend and wise counselor for Annette. For me, playing with middle school boys was a wonderful counterbalance to the academic environment of seminary. It was a win-win situation.



Annette with Chase, our new landlord

Annette's Grandmother, two nephews and sister



This is the view from where we're living

morning afternoon

We keenly miss our friends in Mexico, but we love that Orlando is also a relationship-rich environment for us. A wide variety of our friends and every one of our family members have already visited us and in the three months that we've been here we've already hosted 20 people in our guest rooms from three different countries. In June we're facilitating the visit of 12 Argentine ministry leaders who will be visiting Northland Church. Who knew Orlando was such a global hub? ☺

We've kept in touch over the years and now that we're living here they're still a big part of our life. Chase, the eldest, is the only one still living in Orlando. We see him several times a week in part because he and his brother, Chris, are letting us live in their condominium. This was a very generous answer to our prayers since the one thing we really needed for this year in the U.S. was a furnished place to live, preferably near the church where we're involved. The condo is only six miles from the church, in our favorite part of town, and two blocks away from Annette's grandmother's house.

We continue to be in awe of and a bit giddy about the way God works... providing relationships that encourage and enrich our lives *and* that meet our needs.

*Tim & Annette*