

# Toomey Times

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In August, **Jonathan** (20) was called to serve a three month short-term proselyting mission in the Texas Dallas Mission. Though the mission was difficult at times, Elder Toomey remained positive. At one point he wrote, "The mission is good, and full of growing experiences! I love my mission even though in many cases it would be easier to just be at home with a job... The easy way is rarely the best way, and in this case the mission is the best way, but it isn't a walk through the park. I would encourage ALL of you to Push Forward in Faith, and to strive to be your best... Always be trying to improve yourself. Texas Dallas Mission President Durrant has this saying, 'Put so much time and effort into improving yourself, that you don't have time to criticize others.'"

In November, Jonathan accepted the call to serve a full-time two year proselyting mission in the Washington Tacoma Mission. He spent three weeks in the Missionary Training Center in Utah and is now in Washington. He is loving his mission experience!

**Andrew** (17) has been very busy this year, lettering in both Theatre and Football, and breaking the same ankle twice! He is currently Historian for his high school's chapter of the International Thespian Society (ITS). He competed in the group acting division at the ITS State Festival



down in Houston in early December performing in a scene from "Blythe Spirit." Andrew absolutely loved mountain biking in Colorado for High Adventure, 4-wheeling with his uncle Ron and cousin Chantelle, painting the cars at Cadillac Ranch, and seeing David, cousins, and Micah during summer vacation.

What does **Heather** (13) like about school and life? Good grades (A-and better) and friends. She is very happy that she finally learned how to whistle. She still plays the trombone, and she has begun drawing, mostly "My Little Pony."



Heather loved climbing Mt. Timpanogos last summer, but she warns: "Never climb from the steep side!" She, Jonathan, Dad, and Uncle Don "started hiking at 7am and ended at 11pm. "I cried four times. Still, no regrets from that." Heather is very pleased that she has kept up with her spiritual journal, and that she began her first year of AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination). What are her dreams/aspirations? She is interested in becoming "something in the design field" and wants to be the BEST MOM EVER!

**David** (24) stayed in Utah this year to attend school. He is transferring from BYU to Utah Valley University in January, because he likes some of its programs. David continues to work as a Certified Nurse Assistant. He currently began working selling the Living Scriptures. This past summer, he went to Arkansas and worked as a Home Security Technician. He is enjoying being around lots of family and making new friends.



**Harold** was promoted to Principal Product Security Architect. He now works with McAfee engineers to help them build security into all of their products. This year, Harold ran three 5Ks, one 10K, seven ½ Marathons, four full marathons, and one ultra-marathon (in Bangalore, India—75K or 47miles). Roxy (Pomeranian) ran several ½ marathons with Harold and has three medals. Harold has run over 900 miles since July 2011 and has lost 50 lbs.



Harold has kept busy serving on the Scout District Eagle board and in McKinney 5<sup>th</sup> Ward as Executive Secretary, VP of ISSA North Texas Chapter, and tutoring 850+ hours for Wyzant. He was elected President of the ISSA Chapter for 2013.



This year **Holly** was called on a service mission to the Dallas Temple Distribution Center; so when the kids are at school, she can usually be found either there or at Sunrise Senior Living of Frisco (where she works as needed). She enjoys both responsibilities because she is helping people, and she loves those she works with.

Special things about this year have been seeing David, family, and friends during summer vacation, and knocking "4-Wheeling" off her bucket list. Another high-light was seeing Jonathan off on BOTH of his missions. In 2013, Holly is actually looking forward to turning "50," because that's when she'll get all the benefits at the McKinney Senior Center (like their swimming pool)! Woohoo!

As we love each of you, you are often in our thoughts and prayers. We hope that this Christmas and New Year hold many wonderful experiences for you. May you always strive to become closer to our Heavenly Father and His only begotten son, Jesus Christ.

With love from, the **Texas Toomeys**

Check out our 26 years of family photos and newsletters at: [www.toomey.org/family/times](http://www.toomey.org/family/times)

To keep up with us year-round, friend us on Facebook.

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**Merry Christmas!**





Harold visits the Taj Mahal



Heather never goes anywhere without her goose.



"Look! No Hands," says Holly.



Jonathan adjusts his helmet.



Andrew, "One-Upping" his cartoonist friend.



David's stomach is transparent!