

THE CAMPEN FAMILY

Christmas 2020



2020 in review

Oh, what a year 2020 has been! I'm sure you all are aware of world/national/local news so we will just catch you up on our family news. It feels like our year exists in two different times/places... "Way back before March" (i.e. pre-pandemic) and "March and after"

Way back before March (pre-pandemic) news...

We started the year off heading to Florida for a vacation! With Jacob, Hannah and Amira all on different school schedules that was the one time calendars aligned to have a vacation with all of us. Highlights of the trip were the Kennedy Space Center and The Wizarding World of Harry Potter at Universal Studios.

At the end of February we started the process to have a new house built! This is why you are getting our Christmas letter so early. Our new address is: **1670 131st CT W, Rosemount MN 55068**.

March and after news...

We probably would not have chosen to build a new house/move during a pandemic but we are happy to report it all worked out. Our old house sold the first day it was on the market and we moved at the end of August as planned. The new house is less than two miles from our old house and is a rambler style so the plan is not to move for a really long time!

Jacob and Hannah both moved home from college mid-March and finished out the year remotely. Amira's school also went all on-line. Dave's job went remote as well and will stay that way for the foreseeable future. Our dog, Cooper, got very spoiled with everyone home and lots of walks as we were all looking for excuses to get out of the house.

For Jacob, finishing his college career learning from his bedroom and celebrating graduation with a virtual ceremony and a drive-by parade was unfortunately anticlimactic. Yet, his accomplishment isn't diminished even if the celebration had to be on a smaller scale.

Hannah spent her summer nannying for a family in Rosemount and has moved back to the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. She is living off-campus in a house. Hopefully that will minimize her risk and allow her to stay near school, even if they end up needing to learn remotely again this school year.

Amira missed all her normal summer camps and activities, but we found a few safe socially distanced things she could participate in including an outdoor theater camp where she was Thumbelina in the Thumbelina musical and playing soccer. This fall she made a big transition and is attending Minnehaha Academy for 5th grade. So far she is loving it!

This summer brought the bittersweet sale of the Peterson family cabin. The cabin has a special place for generations for Marci's side of the family and was dear to our family. But it was time to allow the happy memories to carry on before the burden of responsibility and upkeep overshadowed the joy.

We miss seeing all of you and hoping for safer gatherings in the near future. Thankful for our health and praying for healing and health for the world around us, in so many areas.

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Jacob

Hi everyone! I think we can all agree it has been quite a year. Earlier this year, I finished up my degree at Iowa State University, graduating cum laude in Electrical Engineering, with a minor in music. While the last half of my last semester wound up being virtual, I was glad to have some interesting classes and not too hard of a time finishing up, but I definitely missed the excitement and festivities of a live (as opposed to live-streamed) graduation. After graduation, I started work as an Electrical Engineer at Ecolab, which keeps me close to home, and although starting work from home has been an interesting experience, I'm enjoying my job! I've also moved to my own apartment this past summer. While this year hasn't turned out at all how I expected, I'm thankful for the opportunities and milestones in my life, and hope to soon be able to experience life on my own in a non-pandemic time. Stay safe and healthy, have a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year! My new address: 1330 High Site Dr #111, Eagan, MN 55121

Jacob's Jottings



Hannah

Happy Holidays to everyone! What a crazy year it has been so far, I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy during these times. As everything in the past 9 months has changed pretty drastically, I am thankful to be in a hybrid class model at the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire. I am currently a sophomore, so I'm not too bummed about the whole situation but it has still been interesting adapting to this type of class style. It is so nice to have somewhat of a normal college experience where I am able to go to class and hang out with friends. I recently switched my major to Public Health, which is more than ever fitting in the world we are living in right now! One of my favorite moments of this year was way back in January, when I performed in a musical review called Cabaret at my school, that was one of the best experiences of my life and I am so grateful I got to be apart of an amazing production like that. It's hard to believe that happened this year, what an absolutely crazy year it has been! I wish everyone a safe and **healthy** holiday season!

Hannah's Happenings



Amira

Hello! I am in 5th grade this year and started a new school. I started at Minnehaha Academy and I love it. I've made a lot of new friends, well I mean two is a lot right? My new sport is karate. I go to USA Karate in Rosemount. I am a future black belt (currently, I'm an advanced blue belt.) I have made good friends with the people in my cul-de-sac. I like my new neighborhood and house. My hobbies are: anything space related/science, art, and spending time with family (that includes Cooper) and friends. Happy Holidays!!!

Amira's Anecdotes



We hope everyone has a very Merry Christmas and a safe, healthy, and peaceful New Year!!!

Dave & Marci