

THE ROPER FAMILY



2014

YEAR IN REVIEW

2014 GIFTS:

Highlights we are thankful for...

Snow Fun

In February, we enjoyed a weekend in the snow with my family. This is always a highlight for the boys.

Graduation

In May, Memphis finished Kindergarten and the co-op had a graduation/promotion ceremony and they even had cute little graduation caps for the Kindergartners.

Motorcycle camping

In June, we went to Nevada with all of Aaron's family to ride our motorcycles. This year we got to go for 4 days! Memphis and Morgan can both ride independently now with training wheels and also enjoy riding on the little track at Aaron's parents' house.

Swimming

We loved swimming in our small temporary pool all summer!

The Lake House

In August, we enjoyed our annual trip to my Uncle's lake house with my family. It is just the perfect family summer getaway and we are so thankful for it every year.

A's Games

We celebrated our 11th anniversary by going to an A's game, my first ever major league game and Aaron's first since he was a kid. We had such a good time, we came back a few weeks later with the boys.

Memphis

Memphis is 6 and in 1st grade, doing school at home. We really enjoyed the Kindergarten curriculum that we finished in May. In 1st grade, we are learning all about the Bible and it is so neat to hear him read books on his own to me. He is taking an art class and a games class with the homeschool co-op. We all enjoy a picnic lunch and playtime with friends outside afterwards. Memphis had a great time playing baseball in the spring with other 5 and 6 year old 'rookies'. Then in the Fall he moved up to the Farm level and played with the 7 and 8 year olds. It made for some exciting games as the kids pitch and they even get to steal bases. Both seasons, Memphis was given the game ball at the first game which was really neat. As the eldest child he can be pretty bossy sometimes but he also has his father's traits of working hard and methodically.

Favorite things - Daddy, baseball, nerf wars, Star Wars legos, catching frogs, his dog

Morgan

Morgan is 4 and wants to do everything his big brother does. He can't wait to play baseball himself this Spring. He loves going to Cubbies at church and storytime at the library. He still has the cutest voice and is Momma's boy, always making me feel very loved. He and Memphis are best buds and do everything together. I know he loves having his big brother home with him during the day. He does some school with us and goes to two preschool classes (one of which I teach) on Mondays with the homeschool co-op, but he also enjoys lots of play time. He and Memphis have been playing a lot of board games this Fall and their current favorites are checkers and chess.

Favorite things - Momma, baseball, video games, chess, mustard, Batman legos

Lincoln

Lincoln turned 2 in September. That was a tough milestone for me as it means we are leaving the baby stage behind for good. Not that he is in any hurry. He finally started walking at 18 months, guess he just enjoyed scooting on his rear too much! Like Morgan was at this age, he is still not talking, beyond a few words. It's funny though how we can have whole conversations anyway. He also tells a great knock knock joke. He is best buds with his dog Owen and they spend a lot of time together. He is still such a lover and we have such sweet cuddle times together. There's just something about your last baby that captures your heart.

Favorite things - Momma, doggies, baseball, trains, jokes

2014 GIFTS:

Highlights we are thankful for...

Beach Camping

In October, we camped at New Brighton Beach in Capitola. We had 2 days of the most incredibly warm weather, felt like Southern CA. It was even warm enough for me to swim, just wonderful.

Six Flags

Aaron got season passes for the 2 of us for my birthday and we enjoyed going a couple times just the two of us and riding the roller coasters (though I must be getting old as they really wore me out!) and also took the kids a couple times to see the animals and go on rides.

Field Trips

We went to Daffodill Hill and Indian Grinding rock, the Cosumnes River Preserve, the Mud Mill and the Van Egmond's dairy farm.

Everyday Life at Home

- Instruction and learning at our school table
- Reading lots of books on the couch
- Bike rides and walking the dog
- Rest times in the afternoons
- Chores and lots of free play time

Aaron

Aaron continues to work with his father and brother at R&M Electric. We are grateful for gainful employment and continued business for the company. They have been very busy this Fall and we are thankful but we have also missed Daddy very much when he has worked Saturdays and extra hours during the week. It has been a growth opportunity and challenge for me to maintain a good attitude when he is gone so much but we look forward to things slowing down a little come January. Aaron is also busy at church. The Galt Bible Church youth group has seen growth this year and they have a great game time, wonderful worship and solid teaching from the Word. Aaron and his brothers and the youth group led worship several times at church this year and they really enjoyed doing that. One Sunday that the Pastor was out of town, Aaron was asked to preach and delivered his first sermon to the congregation. What a special Sunday it was as many friends and family joined us. In the summer he enjoyed playing softball with the church team again.

Favorite things - Momma, his boys, leading the youth group, the A's, Fun family movie night

Christina

After looking for a hobby for some years, I picked up painting several months ago and have been enjoying acrylic landscape painting, mostly using youtube instructional videos. Aaron was a sport and even made frames for a few of them, though they sure look better from a little distance away then up close! This year I will finish reading the Bible all the way through in a year for the first time. I never thought it was possible but the One Year Study Bible I used made it completely doable and I have learned so much. I continue to lead a moms group at church that meets every other week on Wednesday mornings. We read and discussed *The Resolution for Women* and now are slowly working our way through the book of John. I am thankful for this community and for the lovely women that provide our childcare. In November, I was blessed with the opportunity to coordinate a winter clothing drive for Iraqi Christian refugees with Indigenous Ministries. As a mother of 3 young children I often feel helpless to do anything that really makes a difference for the kingdom so to get to do something tangible was a real answer to prayer. School at home is fun and hard and rewarding and challenging all in one. I am so thankful to have several good friends who also home-school as well as a wonderful co-op to be a part of.

Favorite things - Daddy, snuggling my boys, reading, being outside, sunsets, my paintings, time with friends

"BUT GIVING THANKS IS A SACRIFICE THAT TRULY HONORS ME.
IF YOU KEEP TO MY PATH, I WILL REVEAL TO YOU THE SALVATION OF GOD." PSALMS 50:23