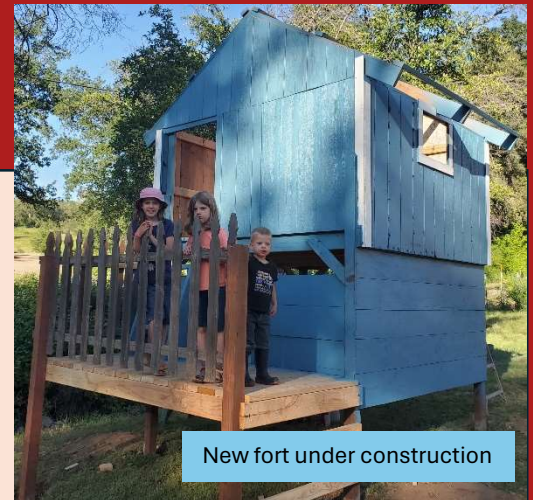


# Bushey Family Update

Merry Christmas! Moo goes the cow, and moo goes the Bushey family at the neighbors wandering by in the middle of the night. This spring we got to have fun building a fort out in the yard and enjoyed camping out in the fort before summer. For some odd reason our family's idea of fun was hiding in the dark of the fort and mooing into the night while neighbors wandered by. I'm sure your family never does odd things like this but every now and then these things seem to fall out of our family's day.



Our family is going on our 13<sup>th</sup> year here at Wolf Mountain Camp in northern California. We are so blessed by the Lord to get the privilege to enjoy His creation in the foothills. The kids love playing outside and we are thankful to have the space to wander through the woods around us as the weather allows.

Josiah is now 5 and started kindergarten this fall. He has enjoyed school and has been working hard at his numbers and letters. This past week he has even started to read short words. Josiah continues to love anything construction. He even has an area outside that is his "construction site" and he is always excited for the rain as it allows him to dig in the mud better. This past summer Josiah got his first real Lego sets and loved playing with them. He is still learning to put them together himself but loves to take them apart. His favorite line right now is "will you play with me?" to anyone that will listen to him.

Maggie is 9 and in fourth grade. She is developing a love of music and started piano lessons this year. While they are not her easiest classes, she loves history and science because of how interesting they are to her. Maggie has also worked hard at learning to ride a rip stick and now does it quite well. She has also taken to jump roping, and her record is 232 times in a row without stopping.

Lyla is 11 and working through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. It is hard to believe in a year she will be moving into



the church youth group and Jr. High. Lyla loves reading and anything to do with horses. This past summer she had the privilege of attending a horsemanship camp for a week. She loved it and excelled at riding many different horses throughout the week. Penny was her favorite horse to ride. She can't wait for her upcoming spring when we are going to try and get her into some riding lessons. Outside of horses Lyla enjoys drawing and we see some maturity in her learning that if she studies more in school, she can get better grades. Amazing how the things a parent will say many times over may take years to finally sink into a mind 😊

Amber has been busy multiplying her chicken flock this year from 10 to 31. Those small little dinosaurs have multiplied fast enough this year that we have had the privilege of enjoying some of them for dinner before they become a bobcat's dinner. We have wrapped up most of our gardening for the year as the winter sets in with hard freezes. Amber has done well at trying many different plants and branched into many flowers this year in addition to the normal vegetables.



Daniel is continuing to expand his beehives to 5 this year. We got to enjoy the harvest of over 8 gallons of honey this year. The hope is to keep seeing that increase as the hives get well established and flowers bloom well in the area. We have enjoyed the addition of some technology in the backyard by way of wireless cameras giving us an idea of the number of animals that wander through at night. Bobcats, deer, coyotes, foxes, raccoons, skunks and more. We are always amazed at how much wildlife is out at night in our backyard area.

We are thankful for the continued blessing of God in our lives as we continue serving at Wolf Mountain Camp. Our areas of responsibility at camp have stayed very similar this year with Amber still managing the kitchen ordering, and meal planning for all camp meals along with running our souvenir shop. Daniel continues to work with our bookkeeping and works with many of the areas on our operations team and project building. The Lord has blessed this past year with good ministry in our summer camp to many young people, and throughout the rest of the year we have had the opportunity to minister to many schools and churches through retreats for men, woman, and kids. It is always a blessing to see God working in the lives of so many as they take advantage of the opportunity to get away from normal life and distractions to focus on God, His Word, and fellowship with other believers. It is a challenge even to me in the busyness of life, how do I slow down, pause, and find a quite distraction free time to allow God to speak?

The Christmas season we are now running head long through can offer that opportunity if we allow. There is nothing like holidays, traditions, or memories to cause our mind to think back to what really matters in our lives. I love at this point in my year to stop and remind myself what really is the value of my life? What is the purpose of everything I've accomplished this past year? My prayer for you is that you find your purpose in life in something that lasts for eternity. As the Christmas season reminds you of the baby that came in a manger so long ago, remember the reason He came. To die and offer us salvation from our sins. Would you find the greatest purpose in your life today by accepting that gift and finding a value in your life because of Christ's love for you?

As many of you know we do not find ourselves as nationwide travelers at this stage in our lives. Some day we will travel across the country and visit all our friends everywhere. But if you find yourselves traveling on the west coast anywhere near the Sacramento or Reno area, please reach out to us. We are hidden away in the foothills between the two and would love to connect to any of you coming through this area.

With Love,

Daniel, Amber, Lyla, Maggie, and Josiah Bushey

