

## **AZ Moehring Adventures 2013**

What a year! We had a 2 year old foster son from mid-January to mid-November and got to celebrate a birthday with him. This was our longest placement. He was a pretty good little guy and we are happy that he was reunified and continue to pray that his future will be bright.



Gram and PawPaw came to visit us twice this year; in February for Hannah's 5<sup>th</sup> birthday and in November for Benjamin's 4<sup>th</sup> birthday. Hannah started kindergarten and Benjamin started his second year of preschool. We joined a local homeschool group for field trips and joined a PE co-op in the fall. We've had a lot of fun reading, learning math, field trips, and doing science experiments. In April, we raised six caterpillars and released them as butterflies. It was amazing to watch the cycle!

Nate ran in the Spartan Sprint in February and then he and the kids ran the 1 mile KaPOW obstacle course dressed as superheroes in March. At his company picnic in May, Nate and his fellow teammates took home the sand volleyball trophy and bragging rights for the year. 

We were also able to continue playing co-ed volleyball once a week when we weren't between seasons.

We were able to be very mobile this year with the kids getting older. We took a Texas trip in March when Nate had a conference so the kids could play with both sets of grandparents. Then in May, we were able to visit friends in Los Angeles and dip our toes in the Pacific Ocean. In June, we trekked back to Texas for a wedding and then continued down I-10 to another wedding and our first family trip to the beach in Destin, Florida where we dipped our toes (and the rest of us) in the Atlantic Ocean. The kids got to go to their first state fair and Becca took Hannah to see Cinderella at the ballet in October. We are preparing for another long drive to Tennessee for the Diltz Family Christmas with some stops in Texas along the way. By the time we are done, we'll have seen all but one of our siblings and family.

Our regular weekly activities still include volunteering for nursery or worship at church, hosting small group, attending men's and women's group, and every now and then we get a date night. We celebrated our  $10^{th}$  anniversary in June! We bought a new tent and were able to go camping a few times this fall as well as get out and go hiking in the nice AZ weather. In September, we learned how to install a dishwasher when our old one stopped working. It's harder than they tell you at the store!

We had a couple sad times this year. We lost another baby in May shortly after seeing him on ultrasound with a healthy heartbeat. We don't know causes for certain and are currently undecided about future plans. Prayers appreciated. We also had to put down Hercules in October when his health rapidly failed. He was such a great dog with our kids and our foster children. The kids wanted a bunny, and we soon got Chewbacca (or Chewy for short) from a friend for free. He lives in our backyard and we are training him to come inside for treats a couple times a day.



We pray love and joy will fill your hearts and homes in 2014! Merry Christmas! - Nate, Rebecca, Hannah, and Benjamin

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. - Numbers 6:24-26

