

2022 Meeker Family Christmas Newsletter 2022

Dear friends,

This has certainly been a year of change; and change is not my strong suit. This year, we've had two homes, two graduations, two children leaving the nest in two different ways, all sprinkled with lots of adventures along the way. We look forward to sharing our year with you here.

Piper completed her third (but senior in hours) year at Anderson University and could have graduated in May, but I encouraged her to stay an additional semester - she will still graduate a semester early, with not only an Environmental Science major/Honors minor but with an additional Business minor. She had a great summer serving the Lord through her church's "Summer LINK" program, where she served Treasuring Christ Church in Michigan and worked there with the children and families. She loves working in the church! She graduates in December from Anderson University and begins Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in January. She and John got engaged in September and are getting married in January 2023! Wedding planning began quickly, and the Lord looked out for her as everything fell into place. We have had fun finding a beautiful dress, tasting cake, choosing music, finding the perfect location, etc. She and John have found and signed a lease on their own apartment and are really happy! Lots of exciting times as she spreads her wings to fly and begin her adult life. So proud of her!



Amber completed her senior year at Hammond and graduated in May, an honors graduate who also received her PPSC (Public Policy for Social Change) pin after completing that program. She left the country for the first time and traveled for an amazing Costa Rica experience where she got to help with Sea Turtle research, a local service project, and rappelling 170 ft down a waterfall! She rode for her equestrian team at IEA Nationals where she received one of five senior scholarships! We took a graduation trip to Disney with friends Alysa and Marci. She also rode in a few last NRHA shows with Smiley before starting a summer position at Shandon-Wood Animal Clinic as a veterinary assistant. Her summer was exciting - filled with 40-42-hour work weeks as she learned everything that she could about being a veterinarian. She began Oklahoma State University in the fall and applied for their School of Veterinary Medicine's Early Admission program and was one of 40 accepted! When she completes the program and her undergraduate degree, she will have a guaranteed seat in the School of Veterinary Medicine. College life has treated her well - she intends to major in Zoology/pre-vet and minor in Biochemistry and Computer Science. She is a member of the pre-vet club and is on the Board of Directors for her dorm; she plans events for both organizations. She also volunteers at a Therapeutic Riding Barn and works with "Operation Cat-nip" to capture, spay/neuter, and release feral cats in Stillwater. She's made many friends there already.





This year, Lee and I celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary. It was, as always, in the middle of a busy season so we did not get to really celebrate as much as we would have liked. We have moved to upstate SC, where we are both now much closer to work. We live in Anderson and are enjoying our new home. Our home in Irmo has not yet sold, however, so we are waiting on God's timing to send a buyer our way. Smiley has also moved to a nearby barn to have some vacation/down time and enjoy being able to run and play for a while without showing. Snowball, Oreo, and Fynn are liking the new home - windows are low enough for them to look out and the yard has a great hill for them to run up and down. We also now have a two-year old colt being trained by Steven named Gibbs - I love how his ears perk up when he sees me! Our new address is 122 Jones Creek Circle, Anderson, SC 29621, where we celebrated Thanksgiving with our family. We are enjoying the wildlife nearby, which includes beavers, wood chucks, chipmunks, deer, and of course - squirrels. Our neighbors are great and we are looking forward to getting to know them better. Paige helped Anderson University add two new majors in Coding: App Development and Game Development over the last year. Lee continued to enjoy his work at Raytheon.

We want to wish you all a very Merry Christmas! Our complete newsletter and lots more photos are online at <https://meekerchristmassite.shutterfly.com/> - we "scrapbook/catalogue" our entire year there to help preserve special memories and include many more photos and details. Feel free to check it out! May God bless you and keep you during the New Year!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Love,

Lee, Paige, Piper, Amber, Snowball, Oreo, Fynn, Fancy, Smiley, Gibbs, and Duke!

