

Cahill Family Newsletter 2022

Dear friends and family,

Welcome to another year in the life of the Cahill's. =)

We started the year off with a bug! (Yes, a bug, not a bang.)

We all got the stomach flu in mid January, and boy is it hard with little people. We were cleaning up messes at all hours of the night, multiple nights in a row. Having kids is hard sometimes, but we survived and life quickly moved on.

I (Marina) started a new culinary adventure in January as well. I started my own sourdough starter. It was fascinating to me how just plain flour and water could turn into this living thing that would eventually make my bread rise. (I also thought it would be super handy if yeast became hard to find in the store again like it was in 2020.) My starter is now hibernating in the back of my fridge until I make time for it again. Hopefully soon.



In February we bought couches for our living room. It is so fun to slowly see the house come together through the years as we slowly figure out our style and implement it.

Another big milestone in February is that Serenity started potty training! It took a few weeks for her to fully grasp the whole process, but it was so nice to have that done!

I had forgotten what it was like to have only one in diapers.

In March I was challenged to read my Bible in a month by some friends. I had done it before, but not since having kids. I decided to go for it and at least try. By waking up earlier, reading a bit during nap time, and finishing in the evening, I was able to do it!



It is amazing how you really see the big picture and how things fit together when you read the Bible through that quickly.

We also started another challenge in March called the Spring 100. It goes from the first day of spring to the last. The goal is to walk or run 100 miles during that time period. We have done this for a few years and have enjoyed the push to get out and exercise. Although it was difficult this year we made our 100 miles—barely. =)





In April our baby girl Haven turned one! She has been such a happy, sweet little blessing in our lives! And sometime between Haven's birthday in April and Cherish's in June, we had to do a photo shoot because we had a 3-, 2-, and 1-yr old. We now have some fun memories captured!

June saw Cherish turn 4! She is growing into quite a good helper for Mama! She is able to get both of her little sisters involved in imaginary games that can sometimes last for hours. She is also very good at helping take care of little Haven. She loves to help her

get water, bring her special blankie when she is sad, push her in the stroller, and can even occasionally cheer her up when she is sad.



Another fun thing that happened over the summer was our church's VBS. I was an assistant teacher and got to be part of the main skit that happened each day. That was a bit of a stretch for me as I generally don't prefer to be up in front of people, but it was a great experience and I would probably do it again if asked. It probably helped that the other

actors were my siblings and a good friend. =)

I also realized that Benj and I had decided to start homeschooling Cherish this year and I hadn't even started looking at curriculum. Thus began a deep dive into homeschool research.

After my research and talking to a few other moms, I finally decided on something to start with so we ordered the curriculum and got Cherish excited about school!

Sometime in August we started school. I didn't know what to expect, but Cherish has been doing so well since we started and she still loves doing school. I am glad I chose the curriculum I did because it is easy and enjoyable for me as well.



I decided to join BSF (Bible Study Fellowship) again this year so that started in September. Sadly, we have missed a lot due to sickness and traveling, but hopefully the new year will have us settled into a normal routine again.

October held two big events for us. One was the yearly Family Camp that Benjamin's work hosts, and the other was a bit more exciting.



A couple days before Family Camp started we found out that I was expecting baby #4!

We can't wait to find out if this will be the boy to end our streak of girls or another little princess to add to the bunch!

This pregnancy has definitely been more rough than the others, especially at the beginning. I had no energy and really bad nausea. It was so bad that we were going to cancel our yearly trip to Virginia because I knew I wouldn't be able to handle it. Things really turned around when I talked to a friend about how I was feeling and she recommended I try a certain supplement. I tried some right away and within a couple days felt functional again! It is such a blessing to have a community of friends in the same stage of life to be able to talk things through with. Anyway, once I started feeling better we decided to go on our trip with only about a week's prep. time. Needless to say, it was a busy week.



While we were up in Virginia, we visited with friends, attended a weekend conference (the reason we visit Virginia every year), and did some sightseeing in D.C. We visited the Lincoln Memorial and Arlington National Cemetery, specifically the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The changing of the guard is a pretty neat ceremony to watch and it is amazing the dedication those men have to do that in all sorts of weather. When we got back, there was no rest for the weary as we attended a few events on campus here and then headed to my family's house to have an early Thanksgiving with my Uncle and cousin who were visiting from California. Then it was off to Benjamin's parents' house to get together with more family. His sister Rachel and her family were there from Colorado, which is always fun.

After all that, we had a couple weeks of sickness make its way through the house. And now it is almost the end of December. How did this year go by so quickly?!

Anyway, we have gotten a couple fun home decor projects done recently and I am in the process of trying to organize all the mounds of kids clothes we have gotten over the years into something more manageable. (If you don't hear from me by the new year, send help. I am probably buried in one of the mounds I decided to take a rest on...)

We love y'all and hope you enjoy our yearly ramblings and seeing a glimpse into our lives. As we look forward to 2023, we want to always be drawing nearer to our precious Savior, Jesus Christ. We are so grateful for how God has blessed our marriage and family these past six and a half years.



Thursday nights with Daddy



Valentine's plane ride surprise!



Stick Horse Rodeo



Helping with our trailer / Surprise piano delivery!



New bike



Summer birthday fun



Cahill summer reunion



Car work with Daddy



New swing set



Hiking in Colorado



Wedding in Virginia



Early morning snuggles



Road trip memories

