



Sharing about our life and ministry at **BIG SKY**
BIBLE CAMP

the Kerst Family Chronicles – Christmas 2019

It is amazing what can happen in one year!

Greetings from Bigfork, Montana!! The year of 2019 will long be remembered by the Kerst family. Packing up and leaving friends, family and ministry in Colorado and making our way to Big Sky Bible Camp in Montana was an experience that is hard to convey in words. Bittersweet is certainly an appropriate term. Exciting, sad, joyous, difficult and overwhelming are all accurate terms as well. Above all, we believe that God led us to make this monumental move. This new adventure has certainly been tough at times, but we have also had amazing experiences that have been a huge blessing and have given us clear confirmations that God lead us here. It is abundantly clear to us that God brought us here to do a good work, both in us and through us.

BSBC and Camp Promise News:

There were some exciting changes that happened at Big Sky this past year, and many more developments are anticipated! We've enclosed a copy of the Big Sky Bible Camp Winter Newsletter. As you can see, there is much happening around here and we are anticipating great things in the future. To learn more about BSBC, go to www.bigskybiblecamp.org, and be sure to check out the Director's Blog under Get Involved.

BCM International News:

We are also amazed at the wonderful ways that BCM International and the missionaries serving through them are impacting the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ! Having now gone through the process of being appointed a BCM missionary, we can attest to their wholehearted devotion to reaching children and developing churches around the world. You can learn more about the ministry of BCM at <https://bcmintl.org/>.

Looking toward the future:

While we certainly have much to reflect on from 2019, the year 2020 appears to be shaping up to be full of big challenges and opportunities for our family. We undoubtedly need prayers, support and encouragement from our friends and family as we continue to serve at BSBC, build a cabin for our family to live in, home-school our children, and seek to grow in the knowledge and grace of Christ.

Family News:

Isabel, now 15 and a sophomore in high school, is tackling one of her hardest academic years with courage and determination! She not only is powering through her most intense school year yet through Classical Conversations, but is also involved in a young ladies Bible Study, and Grace Institute (a theology class through our church). On top the academics, she continues to excel in speech and debate, 4H, piano, and theater, and recently began volleyball as well. Moving to a new state in high school is certainly tough and there have been challenges, but God is faithful. She is finding her groove and developing some wonderful relationships. She amazes us!

Adelyn is 13 and is embracing the teenage years like a champion! She really is becoming a wonderfully responsible and hardworking young lady. She is tackling her Challenge B year as a diligent student. She loves playing the piano and has recently taken up fiddle as well. Once again, she is her sister's STOA debate partner, and of course is preparing some dynamic speeches for the STOA tournaments we hope to attend in the coming months. She also competed in photography and dairy goat showmanship for 4H this past summer. She worked hard and did a great job, even winning Champion with one of kids tried out for a local children's chosen to play teen beyond proud!



Reserve Grand her photos! All four production of Frozen at theater, and Adelyn was Elsa. We are obviously

Annaliese is 9 and has Essentials in CC. It is a challenges for her, but well. Mom is pretty

be a chip off the old block and loves to diagram sentences. Yep, we are weird grammar nerds! While she didn't get a part in Frozen, she got the opportunity to be on the tech crew and run a spotlight. That proved to be a highlight of the fall for her! She continues to play the piano, and with her big sister took up volleyball this fall as well. Her compassion and sweet demeanor are such a joy, and it didn't take long for her to find herself surrounded by a really precious group of girls her age at church. We love her tender heart!

started her first year of big step up in academic she is mastering it so proud that she seems to

Emmeline, a vivacious 7-year-old, is growing up faster than her parents are ready for. She is still the "spice" of our family, but we wouldn't have it any other way! We shake our heads often at the things that she says and does (refer to the above picture), and we never know what might come out of her mouth. She doesn't have a shy bone in her body, which means she too has quickly found a group of girls at both CC and church that are wonderful friends. While she is too young for volleyball, she also tried out for Frozen, and got the part of a snowflake. It was precious! She loves to sing and play with her sisters, and generally just loves life, at least MOST of the time! Life would be boring without her!