

Herzog Herd Newsletter

January 2024

Weather update

January has been a bit mild from what we hear. It sure makes for putting out hay every day quite a challenge with all the thawing and mud. Highs have been in the mid 40's to mid 30's with the lows down to the upper 20's-low 30's. There was one cold snap (it got down into the single digits!) that provided for a fun snow day! We received about 6-8 inches! So fun and so beautiful!!



Exciting times

Millie & her horse Arrow, welcomed a little filly on January 4. She looks just like her mama and was named Shoshone Rose. She has 3 black boots and 1 white boot and a beautiful white spot on her forehead.



Jury duty

Martin's prayers were answered when he was chosen to be on a jury this month! It was a good learning experience for him and the 3 oldest girls as they got to go with him. We are so proud of him! He was able to grant someone forgiveness which isn't always the case. It reminds me of God's love and forgiveness toward us even when we don't deserve it. The kids each got a coffee and some KFC after they made some stops in town before they headed home. It's hard to believe they are all growing up so fast and able to handle so much! We are so thankful for each of them!



Snow much fun!

We played as much as we could in the beautiful snow! From sledding to skiing and snowboarding to building snowmen, to snowball fights...they did it all! The kids have been looking forward to playing in the snow ever since we found out we were moving up here. There is just such a beauty about the fresh pure white snow! We also got invited to go sledding at some friends house and had a wonderful afternoon! The snow is just beautiful and everyone wishes it lasted longer. It's been so fun getting to experience so many different things!

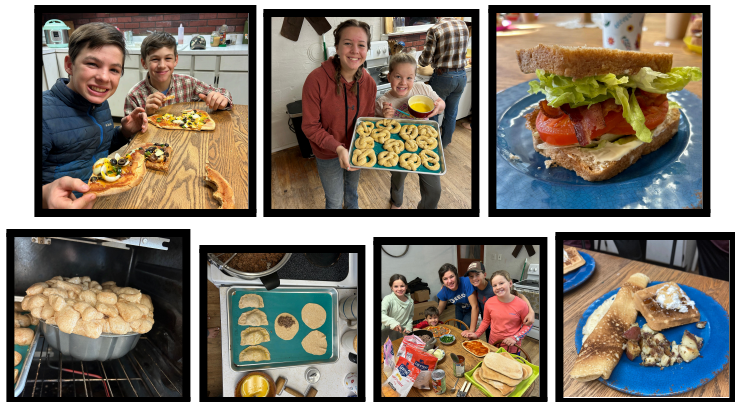


Praise

Teddy got bitten by something and had a bad reaction to it which caused intense pain in his legs and muscles. We researched, evaluated and treated him for a spider bite and within 24 hours he was so much better! Praise the Lord!

Fun foods

Some things we have regularly enjoyed this season are fresh hot homemade pretzels, cinnamon rolls and sourdough bread! We have soups often and even had homemade personal pizzas one time. Meat pies and monkey bread, BLT's, crepes with strawberry sauce and waffles were also yummy experiments! Makes the grey days fun when you have yummy things to eat.



Working with Stephen

The kids enjoy rotating who gets to work with Stephen. They bundle up and enjoy every minute of it! Some of them ride with him when he puts out the hay. Others ride on 4 wheelers as they search for cows up in the mountains. One ride ended in Bella driving the side-by in reverse all the way home since the by drive line broke and it couldn't go forward. What an adventure!



Coyote hunting

One Sunday after church the oldest 7 went with a friend to do some coyote hunting. Unfortunately they didn't see anything, but that didn't mean they didn't have stories! That's one thing I love about things up here. There are always stories! They had a really good time, got some target practice in and managed to get the excursion quite stuck. It was an adventure getting it out, but thank the Lord for good friends willing to help! They managed to jerk it out and up the hill and made it safely home.



Church

One Sunday at church the 4 oldest had the opportunity to lead worship! Elaina played her violin (which is just beautiful and adds so much!), they sang a special and led in the congregational singing of a few other hymns. Bella also started a children's choir! She is learning a lot and does so good at whatever she puts her mind to. I'm so proud of our children and it is truly a blessing to watch them grow up, learn, serve, work hard, interact with others and just live life!



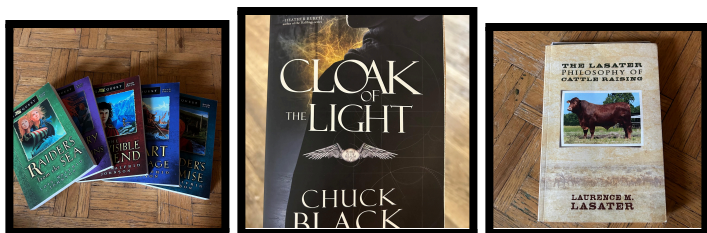
My 41st birthday!

The kids made my birthday so special. They prepared amazing BLT's for lunch. It was the quietest lunch I think we've ever had. Everyone was so focused on eating and enjoying food. Then we had egg rolls and orange chicken and homemade fortune cookies for supper! They were wonderful! I was hugged and loved and sung to and felt so special. They gave me some sweet treats and my favorite dessert-cheesecake! What a day! I also had a lovely time going on a horse ride with Stephen. I think it's been about 16 years since I've ridden. The sun came out, the temperature was about 42 and it was a beautiful day! We rode to the neighboring ranch where Martin works and stopped in and saw him for a few minutes. It was special.



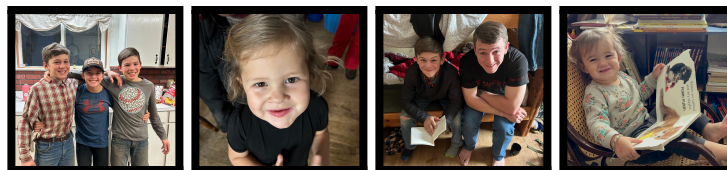
Books we are enjoying

I have been enjoying reading to the family most evenings (or at least as many as we can) before bed. I love the time when we can all enjoy things together and reading on the shorter winter days has been a wonderful way to fill that time! Here are some of the series we have been going through:



Daily life

There are so many things that happen on a daily basis. Things like, school, child training, household chores, horse training, milking, watching horse training videos, making silly videos, babysitting and so much more! One of the favorites is the 3 oldest girls getting to spend time with and train their horses. They were given them this past Christmas and have enjoyed every minute up at the horse barn! Another joy is watching Martin and Gus as they have been working together on reading!



Conclusion

Overall January has been a good month! It hasn't come without its unique challenges, but we are seeking the Lord daily for His wisdom and pray we can accomplish what He wants for us to do!

We are learning so much. We enjoy family time where we study things together, work hard together and rest together. We try and find a good balance. We have some precious children and want to do as much as we can together!

We hope this finds everyone well! Please feel free to pass along any prayer requests you may have, as we purpose as a family to be praying more for those we know and love and miss. Love to everyone!!



Christina for the Herzog Herd

