

All the best this season!
Geoff, Jill, Grace &
Madelyn

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2018



Even with the girls' activities and a major house project, we fit in plenty of family fun. Trips to the cabin, visits to family, and relaxing around our fire pit filled in our down time.



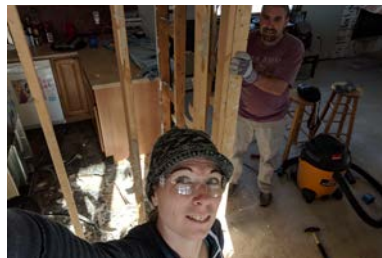
Madelyn, age 7, is in 2nd grade this year. She's still our little singer, performing a solo at her spring recital and joining Ames Children's Choir this fall. Madelyn likes to be fancy, and it's not uncommon to catch her trying out make-up or wearing her high heels. She also likes playing outside with neighbors and friends.



2018 marked our biggest year of home improvement yet! We began demolition on New Year's eve, and most of the winter was a sprint to put it all back together. The end result after 9 full months is a new kitchen and great room space that we absolutely love!



After a winter of remodel work, we took a relaxing summer vacation to the North Shore at Grand Marais, MN. All of us loved the beauty of the big lake. Hiking, visiting the Canadian border, eating ice cream daily, and playing games at our campsite kept us busy having family fun.



9-year-old Grace continues to grow up before our eyes. 4th grade has given her a chance to expand her interests. She began playing viola this fall and is taking her first dance class. Grace is also becoming quite the helper around the house, cooking, and eager to share her opinion at every moment!



No major changes for Geoff or Jill in our work this year. We find our lives center around these beautiful girls...and piano lessons, swim team, gymnastics, & all that make up this stage of life!



As we drove along the shore to come home, we decided we weren't ready for our vacation to end. Rather than return to laundry and unpacking, we spontaneously chartered a sailboat for the weekend! It was our first sailing trip as a family of four, and the girls proved they could be Captain Daddy's crew.