

A Very Merry Christmas from the Petersons! Although this year has been a rough one for all of us, we count ourselves blessed and watched over by the loving hand of God as we have seen him work his tender mercies in our lives countless times this year. Here's a little peak into our lives in 2020:

Matt has been so busy this year with work. As the Director of IT at a doctor's office, you can imagine what switching to telehealth (because of covid) did to his schedule! Wow! But he did an amazing job and because of it, his company actually has done better during the quarantine than before! His calling as Sunday school president has been very low key because of covid, but he sends out emails to keep the lessons going! He hit the "next tier" of age when he turned 45 in Dec. He's not sure he likes that! He has gone fishing several times this year and really enjoyed picking that hobby back up. He loves to fish!



Alicia has had lots of adventures this year! Spent 11 weeks in Utah with her 4 youngest kids, travelling to a new time share or Airbnb each week! She thoroughly enjoyed the cooler weather (and the Nielsen's Frozen Custard)! She started taking horseback riding lessons this fall and has loved every minute of it! Canterng is the best! Her calling in the Primary Presidency has been slow because of covid, but she planned a covid-style "unbirthday party" for the end of the year and it was a huge success! She just began a new adventure working part time for the same company as Matt. She works from home for 8 hours a week, mostly to pay for her new horse addiction!

David (21) returned home from the Montana Billings Mission in April, three months earlier than expected because of covid. He loved the mission, the cold weather and the people so much. After getting home, he got a job at Amazon as well as teaching private swimming lessons. Then he got the Coronavirus! He is the only one in our family to get it. He was mildly sick for about 2 weeks and now he gets to make bank donating "convalescent plasma"! He's currently up at BYU Provo and loving college life! He works as a janitor part time and manages a FB page called: Latter-Day Saint Food for Thought.



Dean (21) also returned home in April, from the California Roseville Mission. He served with the Hmong people and absolutely loved it! He loves all things Hmong now, the people, culture, language, etc. He even translated two general conference talks into Hmong! He worked part time this summer as a physical therapy tech and loved the people. He's now in school up at BYU Provo and works in a lab on campus and also has a small janitorial job. He loves hanging with his friends and girlfriend. He hopes to get a job at the MTC next year teaching Hmong!

Trent (18) graduated from Liberty High School with honors! Had his papers for a mission turned in, but then was advised by the church to put them on hold. He now attends BYU Provo, but virtually, at home! He is enjoying his classes and his part time job as a cafeteria worker in a local elementary school. He also enjoys going to singles ward, hot tubbing with friends, DMing D&D sessions, and he's discovered a new love in Manga and Anime!



Jacob (16) is now a junior at Liberty High School. He has had many new adventures this year. He attended an 11 week course on managing anxiety and that helped him immensely. He got his driver's license this summer and is excited to say that he can now drive anyone! He has been on a couple dates and enjoys that! He grew a pretty awesome beard this year! He also started Horseback Riding Lessons! He's learning Equestrian Riding and has already started jumping! He loves being with horses and is so grateful for this opportunity that literally dropped in his lap! Even though he's been thrown 3 times, he still keeps getting back on! Jacob sings in 2 choirs at school and would fill his whole schedule with choir if he could!

Jared (14) is an 8th grader at Zuni Hills. He actually has done virtual school this year and will continue through the end of the school year. He really enjoys not having to haul his papers and books back and forth to school. Although he misses seeing his friends, they've had quite lively conversations over teams! Jared also started riding horses and is really enjoying his lessons. He spent 9 weeks in Utah this summer and got to see snow fall for the first time in JUNE in Park City! Jared wants to get back to more D&D, but covid has made that a bit difficult. Reading is still a passion of his! Back in January Jared received his Eagle Scout Award! We are so proud of him!



Alora (7) is also at Zuni Hills in 2nd grade. She loves school and loves to socialize. This summer when we went to some new parks in new areas, she would immediately go up to anyone playing and say, "Hi! Want to be friends?" That is Alora to a tee. Her drawing skills have really developed this year! It's pretty sad when she has better perspective than her mom! She has a lovely voice and her piano and gymnastics skills have improved a lot this year! She also enjoyed 10 weeks in Utah and loved the cooler weather and making new friends. Hiking and sledding in Brian Head was definitely top on the list! She got glasses this year, but decided they weren't as fun as she thought they'd be!

Alexis (5) started Kindergarten this year, virtually! Luckily it went back in person after only a few weeks. She loves to play with baby dolls and Barbies. She is very good at her princess video games and enjoys playing video games with her daddy so much! She loves to ride bikes and went on several LONG bike rides (like 2-3 miles) with her mom when covid shut us all down back in March. Although she did ask, "Mom why do we have to have up hills?" There's a lesson in that question! She started piano lessons this year and is loving it! You should see her on the trampoline! She also LOVES to pretend text/call on an old cell phone we have!



We wish you all a very peaceful and normalizing new year! We count our blessings that we have testimonies in our Savior, Jesus Christ, where true peace and love come from.

Lots of love, The Petersons

10625 W. Adela Dr., Peoria, AZ 85383, Hm: 623-825-5492, alicia@mattsfamily.com, Matt@mattsfamily.com (and all the boys have emails just like their parents, same format)