



# Bihl Bugle



## Happy New Year!

Here is a condensed recap of our 2025...

The highlight of our year was a Spring Break trip to Broken Bow, OK. We rented a cabin for four days and invited Amy's parents to join us. We had fun touring Hochatown and admiring the beautiful scenery. We even (possibly) heard Big Foot at night while sitting around the campfire! ;)

At the end of May, Amy's older brother, Daniel, and his family (who live in Puerto Rico), came to visit for a few days in Waco. Amy's Aunt Cendy and Grandfather Jim traveled in from Missouri to join the mini family reunion. Grandpa Jim turned 99 this month! Amy's 96 year-old Gran (Wilma) moved to an Assisted Living Center in August, and we are blessed to get to visit with her whenever we are in Fort Worth.



**Caleb** had a busy year, filled with school and band. He won the Excellence Award (for band) at the end of his Freshman year in May. During the Summer, he attended his first Quinceanera, and he had six weeks of daily workouts (at school), Football Camp (2 weeks), and Band Camp (2 weeks). He also attended a week-long church camp in Glenrose, TX with his cousin, Jacob, and he travelled to San Antonio with some friends to watch the DCI (Drum Corps International) Competition. He obtained his Learner's Permit in July, and he can't wait to get his license in February!

In the Fall, we resumed our "Friday Night Lights" routine. The day before school started, Caleb decided to step away from football and focus on band and academics. Caleb earned the solo performance in the marching band's halftime show, and he passed All-Region ATSSB, placing 1<sup>st</sup> Chair in his 3A Division. This Fall was the first in many years that McGregor had a Homecoming Dance, and Caleb enjoyed going with his friends and his girlfriend, Payton. Lastly, on December 22, he got braces! Not a fun moment, but a noteworthy milestone, nonetheless.



**Aden** is enjoying the fourth grade. He played soccer with the YMCA during the Spring and Summer seasons, and he attended our church's VBS over the Summer. In the Fall, he accepted a small acting role in our church's KREW (kids choir) musical, including singing in a rap trio. He enjoys playing video games at home and playing soccer with his school friends during recess. The highlight of the year was getting baptized on Dec. 28 by his grandfather ("Papi"), a moment we will treasure forever. He was also gifted a kitten for Christmas! *Kitty cuteness on next page...*

I, **Amy**, am still a social worker at [Therapy 2000/Green Apple Therapy](#). Jan 10 will complete 15 years with the company, which is now the largest pediatric home health agency in Texas, and they are preparing to expand to outpatient clinics and other states in the coming year. I enjoyed traveling to Austin in February and presenting on the topic of health literacy at the TAHC (Texas Association of Home Care and Hospice) Winter Conference. I am also still Board President of [Chari-T2000](#); this year we donated over \$78,000 to children with special needs.

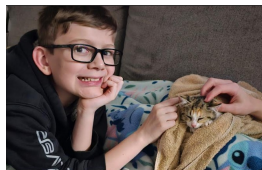
In March, I stepped down from teaching children's Sunday School and also from the Praise Team, but I still sing in our adult church choir and still teach PreK Choir on Wednesday nights. I also joined our church's brand new (revived) Handbell Choir in August and enjoyed playing Christmas handbell arrangements at four separate events in December. In July, I released my very first picture book, [Harley Hedgehog](#) (a collection of five faith-filled stories for children), a project that prayerfully began in 2014. Find it on Amazon!

**Danny** started working at [Full Armor/Service Squad](#) in April. It's a growing, independent business that serves residential and commercial property maintenance and renovation needs, as well as fire protection and security needs. He gets to use his passion of woodworking, in addition to his fire training and home improvement skills. In July, Danny partnered again with last year's pyrotechnic crew (led by my twin brother's brother-in-law) in Burleson, TX for the annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks show. The boys and I drove up on July 4 for the festivities. In August, Danny began volunteering with our church's Safety & Medical Team, where he "stands guard" one Sunday a month to protect our church and to help anyone who has medical needs. We also celebrated our 20<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in November, and Danny sweetly surprised me with tickets to the 2025 Vienna Light Orchestra Christmas Tour Concert, preceded by a delicious meal at Casa do Brazil (a Brazilian steakhouse).

**Ho-Ho-Hold on!** There's one more jolly thing to share! Danny enjoyed playing "Santa" at Caleb's Christmas Band Concert a couple of weeks ago. It was for a fundraiser for the band booster club. The kids (and adults) loved it!

### Our "other kids"...

In April, after two years of raising backyard chickens, we sadly said goodbye to our six Australorps and sold our coop that Danny had hand-built from scratch. It has felt odd buying eggs again at the grocery store. They definitely don't taste the same! Noelle (4) and Pappy (1) have enjoyed more freedom and space in the backyard, and the chickens are enjoying a much larger grazing area as well at their new home. Pappy and Noelle have become great companions for each other. Their personalities are completely different, but they make a loving mother-and-son duo. We also (surprisingly) adopted a 9 week-old Calico kitten on Dec. 17 from a friend of Danny's. Aden has been begging us for a cat for years, and we finally gave in. We've named her "Cali," and we are smitten!



**Blessings to you all in 2026!** Previous newsletters are at <https://muskrattracks.com/eng/amy.htm>