



## 2016 Flynn Family Year in Review

*"And the angel said to them, 'Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.'"*

Luke 2: 10-11

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! For our family, 2016 was the year that Logan and Mia transitioned from calling us Mommy & Daddy to calling us Mom & Dad, Mia learned to ride a bike, Logan was tasked with doing his own laundry, Chantal got reading glasses, and Mia began orthodontics. Yay!

Our lives continue to revolve around home, school, work and church. In March, we ran/walked the 5K portion of the Baylor Bearathon as a family. Over the past year, Live Oak renovated a downtown building to become our new Grammar School building for Junior Kindergarten through Grammar 4 (Grammar 5 & 6 are in portable buildings a/k/a The Cottages). At various times over the summer we all helped pack, move-in, unpack and organize in preparation for the new building to open in August. Our summer was also filled with Chantal working part-time at school, swimming, playdates and birthday parties. At the end of July, we had a last hurrah of summer and spent 4 days in San Antonio, enjoying the Institute of Texan Cultures, the Zoo, and the Natural Bridge Caverns. After a 2-year hiatus, we've rejoined a Life Group at church. This fall we cheered on Live Oak to a state runner-up title in volleyball and our first TAPPS state title in football. In November, another pre-owned & gently used chinchilla named Pepper was adopted into our family (this brings our total chinchilla count to 4, for those of you keeping track). And on December 12, we celebrate 24 years of marriage!

Logan (11) is in Grammar 6 at Live Oak and happily rides to school with Chantal each morning. He's fallen in love with 20th century history and world geography, and enjoys computer gaming as often as we allow. This past summer he participated in Live Oak's basketball and football camps, took a Live Oak Summer Session enrichment class on Science Fair, and participated in our church's summer Parents Day Out and VBS Sports Camp. In July, Logan flew by himself for the first time to spend a week with his grandparents in Arizona, then spent the following week at church camp. This fall, Logan practiced 1-2 mornings a week with Live Oak's Cross Country team, competed in one Cross Country meet and played Grammar 6 football. He's also taking an after school Robotics class and starting Grammar 6 basketball.

Mia (8) is in Grammar 3 at Live Oak. She enjoys science and loves rocks, gems and minerals. This past summer she took a Live Oak Summer Session enrichment class on gardening, participated in our church's summer Parents Day Out and VBS Sports Camp, and participated in a gymnastics camp. Mia started orthodontics in July with a butterfly expander on the roof of her mouth (to create more space) and partial braces. This fall she participated in Live Oak's Lil' Leaders



Cheer Clinic in preparation for the Homecoming game. She loves cheetah prints, imaginative play and asking lots of questions.

Chantal has started her 5th year as Office Manager for Logic/Rhetoric (the junior high/senior high school grades) at Live Oak. She gained a few wonderful new administrators this year, and still says she can't believe she gets paid to have this much fun. She loves the students and enjoys laughing 'til she cries with her co-workers and colleagues. She tries to do Zumba 1-2 times a week, but often Flynn family life and the joy of sleeping in on Saturday mornings with Carl thwart her attempts. She and the kids often have spontaneous dance parties in the kitchen on school mornings. She strives to be a good wife, mother and friend; does laundry regularly; tries to "adult" whenever possible; and admits her love of Outlander – both the books and TV series.

Carl continues to balance his work as Director of Marketing and Communications for ITS and Libraries at Baylor with being husband and Dad, helping to direct and teach in Crestview's adult education ministry, and coaching in Live Oak's volleyball program. The past six months at Baylor has been interesting – to say the least – but the university is moving forward and will be better for its failures. He loves helping the kids with schoolwork, playing games with them and having fun conversations. He also loves the moments he gets to spend with Chantal, seeing her every morning at Live Oak after drop off, listening to stories from the day and tales from Outlander, and simply doing life together. His JV volleyball team grew a lot this season and on the varsity side of things we once again advanced to the TAPPS 2A state title game, only to come up just a few points short in the fourth set. We are already planning to reload and make the journey back next year with another strong chance at a state title.

After what has been an anxiety-filled 2016 for many, we pray that each of you – our friends and family – will be a source of peace, hope, joy and love for everyone you encounter during the Christmas season and throughout the New Year.

With blessings for a wonderful Christmas and an amazing New Year!

Chantal Carl Logan Mia

Address/Phone: 2208 Real Drive, Waco, TX, 76712 • (254) 366-4432 (Carl's iPhone) • (805) 338-8775 (Chantal's iPhone)

Carl: Facebook, @carlflynn (Twitter), @cfflynn (Instagram), @cfflynn (Snapchat) and blog (carlflynn.net)

Chantal: Facebook