



INTRODUCING:  
**THE GEARINGS**

A NEW CCS FAMILY PROFILE

## THIS OR THAT!

HOME MOVIE NIGHT OR  
MOVIE THEATRE

WINTER OR SUMMER

DOGS OR CATS OR BOTH!?

MOUNTAINS OR BEACH

SINGING OR DANCING

RAIN OR SNOW

INDOORS OR OUTDOORS

BIKING OR RUNNING

**Tell us about your family. Who is in your family? What are the CCS students' names and grades, any other children?**

There are 5 humans in our family and 2 cats (diplocats!). Faye and Jon have three kids: Joel in 6th grade, Anna in 4th grade, and Titus in 2nd grade. The cats are Cheetachoo who is a 16 year old Siberian, and Rajah who is a 3 year old Siamese.

**What languages does your family speak?**

We are mostly fluent in English. We recently moved after spending 2 years in Shanghai, so we can speak some Mandarin. Jon also knows some Russian, but unfortunately you are most likely to hear him combine Russian and Mandarin into a weird and unintelligible sentence if you try to converse with him in either language.

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### What is your favourite family meal?

We can never go wrong with Taco Pie followed by Jesus' Birthday Cake for dessert! Close runners up are Chicken Goop (basically a chicken pot pie served over biscuits) and a Cheese and Bacon Quiche. The recipe for Taco Pie is basic and easy: Line a 9x13 inch pan with crescent rolls (flattened) and bake until the crescent rolls are golden brown. Meanwhile, brown some ground beef and season with taco seasoning. Add in black beans, corn, anything else that sounds good. Layer the 9x13 pan with refried beans, the meat and beans mixture, salsa, sour cream, and top with shredded cheese. Pop it back in the oven to melt the cheese, and then serve when ready! Cake recipe attached (SEE INSET): 2 layers of moist, dark chocolate cake with a layer of amaretto cheesecake in between. Smother with dark chocolate buttercream icing and decorate as you wish!

### What is your favourite landmark/activity in Calgary?

This is a bit hard, since COVID restrictions have severely hampered our ability to enjoy much of Calgary. However, we have absolutely loved going in to the mountains to ride bikes, hike and go whitewater rafting. We're all looking forward to ski season and hopefully hitting the slopes multiple times over the winter!

### Does your family have any favourite sports teams?

Jon's family moved to Atlanta, GA from Michigan, so he is a lifelong (tortured) Atlanta Braves and Falcons fan. In addition, he roots for the University of Michigan football and basketball team. The kids have the fortune of spending their early childhood years in Wichita, KS. As a result, they are diehard Kansas City Chiefs fans and also root for the Kansas City Royals.

### What is your favourite activity/pastime to do together as a family?

We have always enjoyed going out into nature and exploring, whether it was the mountains of North Georgia and North Carolina, the Gulf Coast and Atlantic beaches, or the vast plains of Kansas. God's creation is pretty awesome!

### What are the students' favourite school subjects and are they the same as the parents?

Titus absolutely loves science, Joel really enjoys history and reading, and Anna gets a thrill out of social studies! These are pretty similar to their parents, although Jon did enjoy math (for the most part)

### Does your family have any pets at home?

Yes, the 2 cats mentioned above! Cheetachoo has lived in 7 cities and 5 countries across 2 continents. Rajah is vainly attempting to catch up to his older 'brother'. Both are very much like family to us :-).

### What are some holidays that you celebrate and what are some of your family traditions?

We love Thanksgiving. Gathering with family to reminisce and be thankful of all the Lord has done for us is a wonderful thing. We also enjoy playing pickup games of American football during this holiday. Christmas is a huge deal in our household. We love 'camping out' under the Christmas tree, baking sweets together, laying out Christmas stockings for the kids to open first thing in the morning, and eating a big Christmas breakfast together. We also love celebrating Easter (He is risen!) and of course, shooting off lots of fireworks on the 4th of July!

### Is there a Bible verse that is meaningful or representative to your family?

Genesis 12:1 "The Lord had said to Abram, 'Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you.'" As diplomats who move every few years, never quite knowing where we will be sent next, we love this verse. It illustrates how sometimes God just tells you to go without any further instruction or direction. Fortunately, we know that He knows the plans He has for us, and that is a comforting thought indeed!

## CHEESECAKE FOR JESUS' BIRTHDAY CAKE

2 (8 OZ.) PKG. CREAM CHEESE  
1 (14 OZ.) CAN SWEETENED CONDENSED MILK  
3 EGGS  
1 T. VANILLA EXTRACT  
1 T. ALMOND EXTRACT (TO GET AMARETTO TASTE OTHERWISE INCREASE VANILLA TO 2 T.)  
OR  
3 T. FLOUR  
3 T. AMARETTO LIQUOR

IN MIXING BOWL BEAT CREAM CHEESE UNTIL FLUFFY. GRADUALLY BEAT IN SWEETENED CONDENSED MILK, UNTIL SMOOTH. ADD EGGS AND VANILLA. MIX WELL.

YIELD: 1- 9" LAYER FOR CAKE. BE SURE AND LINE CAKE PAN WITH ALUMINUM FOIL. BAKE AT 350 UNTIL CENTER IS SET, APPROX. 15 MIN

ALSO WILL YIELD ADDITIONAL 18 CUPCAKES. BE SURE AND USE PAPER LINERS FOR CUPCAKES AND EITHER SPRINKLE SOME GRAHAM CRACKER CRUMBS IN BOTTOM FOR CRUST OR USE 1 VANILLA WAFER ON BOTTOM FOR CRUST. FREEZE AFTER BAKING TO ENJOY LATER AS MINI CHEESECAKES. BAKE AT 350 UNTIL SET; APPROX. 15 MIN