



• Since 1902 •

~ January 2019 ~

Change

Mariah Daninger

One of the most valued times of day on the farm is in the morning, as the sun is rising and the promise of a new day is approaching. This consistency of the orange-pink sky as the sun lights up each acre of land is a reminder of the days filled with hard work from those who came before us and gives hope for those who will continue our farm's mission to serve God and our community through stewardship of our cattle and land.

While consistency is welcomed and enjoyed, the only sure-thing on the farm is inconsistency; in new challenges each day brings, prices for struggling dairy farmers around the nation, and opportunities to learn.

Through all of this, we have learned that change, while often uncomfortable and difficult, is necessary to make our farm prosper for generations to come. June brought a time of uncertainty in the typical daily routine for us as construction began to remodel our tie-stall milking barn to a parlor and build a new free-stall housing barn. These changes allow us to continue making the farm and creamery an option for the years to come, and while it all sounds great on paper, it has brought its share of challenges. Whether it's been financially, learning a process of milking cows foreign to us, or working through the quirks of a new system for the people and cows, we have learned to become comfortable in the uncomfortable, knowing the fate of our farm and livelihoods is not in our hands, but rather someone much more powerful. How wonderful it is to know we are not in control! As we give up the desire to manage every detail in our lives and businesses, we will find peace, comfort, and contentment in where we are and what we are doing. We will continue to faithfully serve and give this life our best, while enduring the challenges and changes that we go through.

As we begin a new year, we want to thank you for your loyal support of our farm and family. It is because of you we have the opportunity to do what we love each day. Looking into 2019, we are optimistic that continuing to do this work for others, rather than ourselves, will help this farm succeed and see the next generation prosper. So tomorrow, enjoy the consistency of the sunrise, and take heart in the opportunity to learn and grow through whatever unexpected changes and challenges come your way.



In this time of gathering with friends and family, we wanted to share our newest members of the family with you. We have seen three babies arrive this year and have enjoyed sharing time with all of the family. Members of the family from left to right: Aly & Nathan (holding their 3 mo. old twins, Josephine and Bennett), Sharlene & Pat (holding Micah & Erin's 8 mo. old, Ruth), Mariah, Grandma Florence, Erin & Micah, and Kayla & Luke.

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