

Oak Leaves

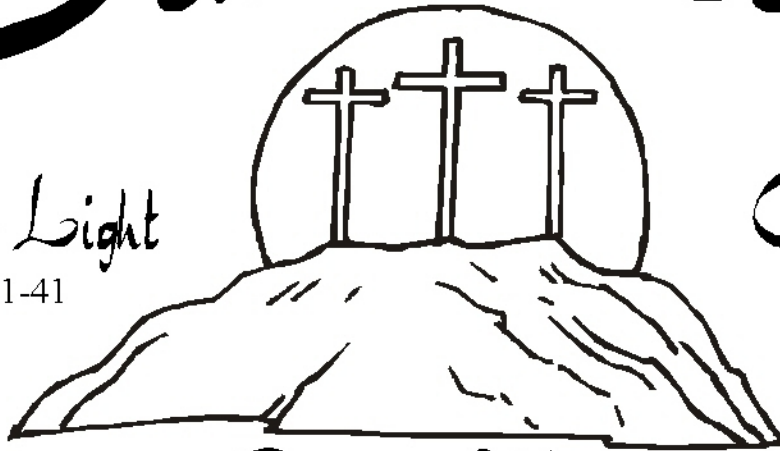
April 2011

Called to Light

John 9: 1-41

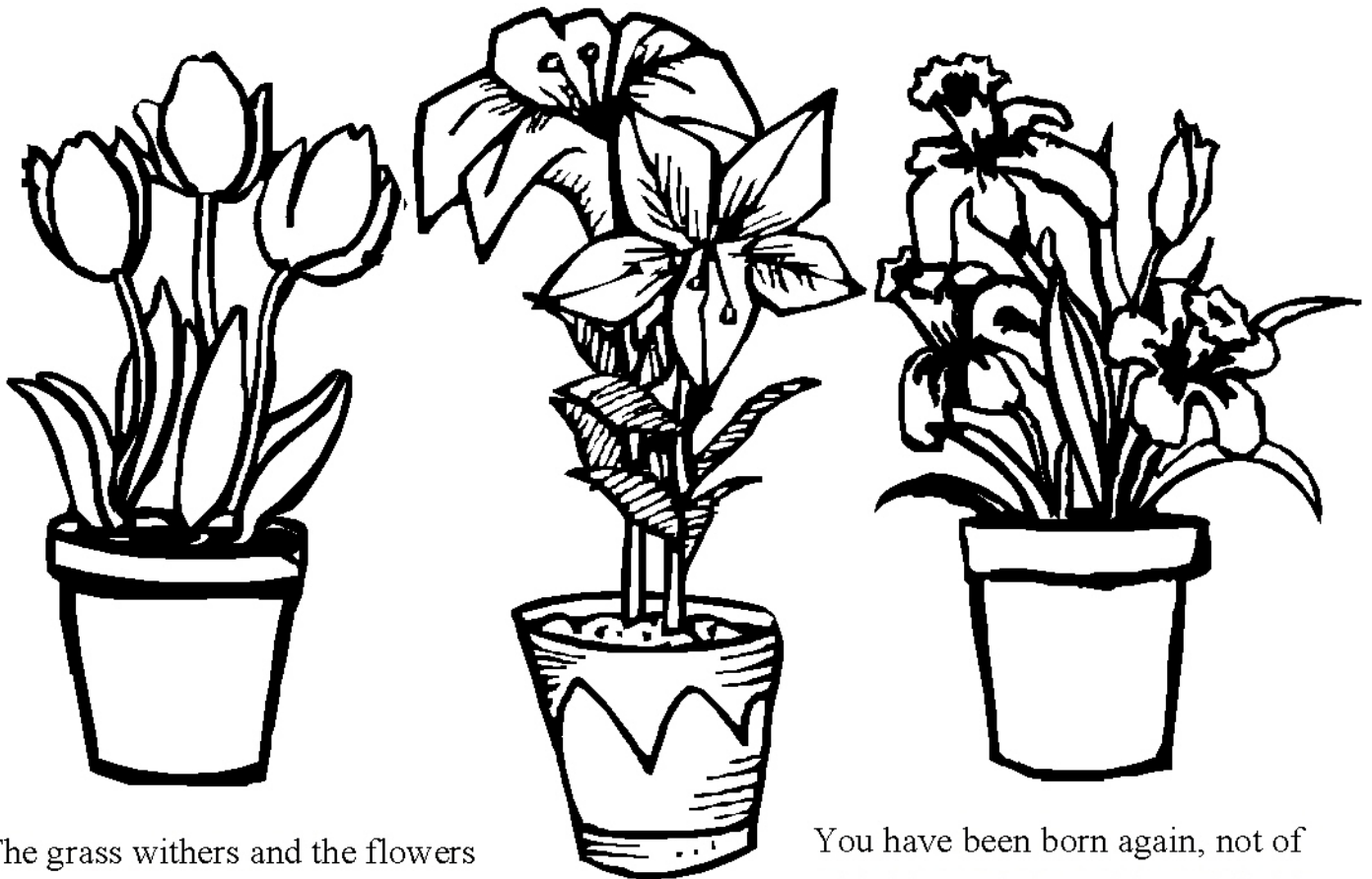
Called to Life

John 11: 1-45



Called to Worship

Matthew 21:1-11



The grass withers and the flowers
fall, but the word of our God
stands forever.

Isaiah 40:8

You have been born again, not of
perishable seed, but of imperishable,
through the living and enduring word of

God. 1 Peter 1:23

Thanks to Anita Bartlett for the cover design!

The Dignity of Man

Do you ever go through seasons when you just don't feel like your life counts for very much? Everything seems about as pointless as a first-quarter NBA score in November. People treat you with less interest than a flight attendant's lecture on oxygen masks and exit doors.

But what's easy to forget at times like these is that your value is not something other people can assign to you. They don't get to grade this. You have been given great worth by your Creator. Your significance is inborn.

Think of the dignity you possess, merely by being a product of God's design. You're able to reason and make choices. You can appreciate beauty and feel emotion. You have the ability within your reach to bless others, to extend your influence and impact into another person's life.

You have even been given the privilege of communicating with your heavenly Father—a right he wasn't obligated to offer you, but one he freely extends because of his rich, abiding love for you. Everything about you has been "woven together" in his all-wise mind and heart. Each day of your life has been "written" down by the one who made you. (Psalm 139:15-16). That's how valuable you are to him.

Instead of being bombarded by all the ways life has mistreated you or what a mess you've made, make this a day to celebrate what God has invested in you. You are worth far more than you realize.

Pray this prayer: I do get down on myself a lot, Lord. I have a hard time imagining that you love me. Would you remind me today? I could really use that.

Please visit Joe Gibbs' Website at www.GamePlanForLife.com for Joe's Video Blog and more!

Thriving Family magazine

Thriving Family is a Focus on the Family magazine with the goal of encouraging, teaching, celebrating and inspiring families to thrive in Christ. It has relevant and biblically based guidance for families with children of all ages. Focus on the Family is now offering Thriving Family free of charge to anyone that wants to receive it! Call 800-A-FAMILY (232-6459) to start receiving your subscription today. Also check out ThrivingFamily.com for more articles and webcasts. I have enjoyed receiving this magazine at home and I'll also be placing a copy in the library. -Lisa Hershberger

News from Everence

- 1. Act before mid April.** Consider contributing to an IRA before the tax-filing deadline. Saving helps you live below your means and lessens anxiety so you can focus on your life's calling. Learn more from Everence Financial, which helps you integrate faith and finances, at Everence.com or your Everence office.
- 2. Living more with less.** The classic, Living More with Less, is now available in a 30th anniversary edition for 15 dollars. It is a primer for simple, sane and healthy living at a time when many people lack basic life necessities. To order, visit <http://bookstore.everence.com> or call (800) 348-7468, ext. 3269.
- 3. Journey Awards go local.** Everence Journey Awards honor people for acts of stewardship. Now nine regional awards have been added. The national award is a 5,000 dollar charitable contribution, the regional one, 500 dollars. For guidelines, visit Everence.com or call (800) 348-7468, ext. 3388.

Medicine of the Month campaign for Haiti mission

Just a reminder, when you are out shopping, to consider picking up some over-the-counter medicines to be sent to Haiti. You can put them in the box in the narthex. Cash donations may also be put there or given to Kelly Taylor. **Medicines that are needed are:** Multi-Vitamins, Children's Vitamins, Vitamin infant drops, Acetaminophen, Ibuprofen, Acet/Ibu Liquid, Antacid (chewable), Zantac/Tagamet, Eye Drops (saline or w/THZ), Antifungal skin cream, Topical cortisone cream, Topical antibiotic cream, Vaginal antifungal cream, Skin lotion/Burn cream, Bandages, gauze, tape, etc. *Medicines must be sealed and have an expiration date well beyond October 2011. THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!*

Sunday school offerings for Haiti

From now through the summer, the offerings from the primary Sunday school classes will be going to the Haiti mission.

Sunday school class news

The 3rd and 4th grade Sunday School classes made Salt and Light Candles recently. They are fun to make and are nice to light family devotional time.

You will need: waxed paper to cover work surface, medium baby food jars or small pickle or olive jars, white glitter to resemble salt, colored tissue paper, white glue, tea candles, small colored beads.

What you do: Pour some white glue into a margarine container and add a tiny bit of water to thin it. Use a paint brush (or a cut bit of sponge clipped in a clothespin) to cover the outside of the jar with the thinned glue. This is easily accomplished by spreading 2 fingers inside the jar to hold it securely. Cover the gluey jar with bits of torn colored tissue paper. You may want to write "Be Salt & Light" on one piece of tissue with permanent marker. (Encourage the kids to overlap tissue a little but try to make it a thin layer so the candlelight will come through better.) Paint glue over the paper to make it smooth. Next, while your glue is still wet, sprinkle on glitter. This adds a textured sparkle. Glue pretty beads around the top. Set them aside to dry on waxed paper. Put a tea candle inside.

"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men. You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:13-16

Also, in March the children in this class each decorated 10 tiny gingerbread men with icing and colored sugar to take home where they could share the story of Jesus healing the ten lepers. We laughed about licking off the colored sugar that represented the leprosy when we knew from our Bible lesson that God had wiped away the disease. Praise God for His care and healing and for our responses of thanksgiving.

Anita Bartlett

Books for Mercy Well Child Clinic

Do you have some gently used children's books you no longer need? Consider donating them to the Mercy Memorial Hospital Well Child Clinic. Just put them in the box near the mailboxes.

Free garden seed

Want some free garden seed?
It was saved from Jim & Anita's 2010 garden.
Contact them for any of the following.

Salvia- red or blue
Marigold- mixed orange or white
4 O'Clocks- fuchsia
Impatiens- orange and white mix
Honeyrock Melon
Pumpkins- Big, medium, small, mini and small warty.
Gourds- mixed
Indian corn- mixed colors

Get a grip on married bliss by incorporating these twenty-five **LOVE HANDLES** into your marriage! Free for you, each of these 25 LOVE HANDLES cards contains a different marriage issue, sheds light on how SHE and HE views the issue, and then gives the PERFECT BLEND action steps to help you come to a more perfect union on the subject! Fill out the form on the website listed below to receive your FREE LOVE HANDLES cards from David Jeremiah, author of *What the Bible Says about Love, Marriage & Sex*.

<http://www.salememail.com/SpecialOffers/TurningPointLoveHandles/default.aspx>

Ride for the Red

100K/50K & FAMILY RIDE

SATURDAY APRIL 30, 2011

The Ride for the Red is a cycling fundraising event for the American Red Cross of Logan County, Ohio. The ride will be held rain or shine on April 30th 2011. Registration is being hosted by the historic Holland Theatre - 127 E Columbus Ave. Bellefontaine, Ohio. * Due to safety concerns, only riders 14 years of age and older may ride alone. All children 13 years and under must be accompanied by a responsible adult. See this website for more info: http://www.madriverredcross.org/index.php?pr=Logan_County

OHIO CONFERENCE NEWS

Oak Grove well-represented at Ohio Conference Annual Conference Assembly

Dick Barrett, Alex Dye, Reed Jones, Alan Kauffman, Shawn Childs, Jake Leichty, Grace Leichty and Kelly Taylor participated in the Annual Conference Assembly (ACA) of the Ohio Conference of Mennonite USA March 11-12 in Kidron, Ohio. Kelly Taylor from the Outreach Committee, participated in the Ministry Fair, which was an opportunity to share what Oak Grove has been doing and to learn from other churches. Erin Dye also gave a talk about Adriel at a Mennonite Women breakfast.

Delegate Report: Jake Leichty

The Ohio Conference of the Mennonite Church met at Central Christian High School in Kidron, Ohio, this year on March 11 and 12.. The main focus for this year's conference was on the regional pastors and the amount of work that they do among the 78 congregations that make up conference. About 335 delegates plus many other guests assembled this year for the Ohio Conference.

Our regional pastor, Andy Stoner, had responsibility of about 2/3rds of the congregations as a full-time position and Matt Hamsher had oversight of the other third in a half-time role. With Andy Stoner retiring the first of April, conference leadership felt that some changes needed to be made. Conference approved adding another half-time position for the regional pastors. So conference is expanding those positions to two full time positions from 1 1/2. Funding had been the issue for cutting back on the regional pastoral positions and a spending plan was proposed that included ways in which conference will work at paying for the extra half time position.

The overwhelming majority of delegates realized the importance of the regional pastor positions and approved the spending plan that included this expansion. When the new pastors were introduced and 22 new pastors were up on the stage it became obvious that we had overworked our regional pastors this past year. The exciting part of this is seeing all the younger pastors being installed in the Ohio Conference including our own Alex Dye. Generally only about half that many or less are newly installed each year.

Several years ago conference realized the need to try and promote younger people being involved with conference. It was approved at that time that each congregation could have an extra delegate age 30 or under represent them at conference. It is exciting to see the results of that initiative. It is obvious by looking over the delegate group that there are more younger delegates attending now than 3 years ago. From our congregation Andy Hershberger represented Oak Grove for 2 years and this year Reed Jones was our young adult representative.

Jake Leichty, delegate

Giftng assets to charitable causes

At Annual Conference Assembly last weekend, I attended two sessions which were led by persons from Everence, formerly MMA. The emphasis of the seminars was to give information regarding gifting of assets to charitable causes while receiving lifetime incomes from your investments. Many people are able to give to their church and/or missions while also receiving life incomes from their investments. Everence representatives are always available to help with this kind of planning. I will be happy to share information received. Myron Yoder is a contact for this from Oak Grove.

-Grace Leichty

ACA video summary ready for viewing

Three hundred thirty-five people participated in the 2011 Annual Conference Assembly (ACA) March 11-12 at Central Christian School in Kidron. A brief video summary of the 2011 ACA is now available on YouTube. To view this video, which is about five minutes long, go to www.youtube.com/watch?v=-QHPMWyeNvY. You can also find Assembly photos at: www.facebook.com/OhioConferenceMCUSA and Assembly documents at: www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

On Friday, March 11th and Saturday, March 12th eight of us from Oak Grove attended the Ohio Conference of Mennonite Church USA's Annual Assembly at Central Christian School in Kidron, Ohio. Myself, Alex, Jake & Grace Leichty, Alan Kauffman, Shawn Childs, and Reed Jones served as Oak Grove's delegates while Kelly Taylor set up a video display at the Ministry Fair highlighting Oak Grove's outreach efforts in our community and around the world. Overall there were some 335 delegates representing Ohio Conference's 78 congregations.

The conference included times of worship, delegate sessions, workshops and time for fellowship. This year's theme was *Abide, Love & Grow*, taken from John 15:1-17 depicting the kingdom of God as a garden, with God as the master gardener, Jesus the vine, and we the branches. Conference Minister Tom Kauffman shared how he sees Ohio Conference as a trellis, the wooden structure which helps hold up the vine and supports the branches. For many who attend Oak Grove, Ohio Conference is a rather invisible entity, which we only hear about when we read the *Ohio Evangel*, which comes in our mailboxes once every two months, or when our Regional Pastor, Andy Stoner, has the opportunity to speak, usually at pastoral transitions like Alex's commissioning late last summer.

This year's main business item was to increase the staffing level of the regional pastors from 1.5 full time equivalent positions to 2.0 full time equivalent positions. The staffing level of the regional pastors was cut several years ago due to budget shortfalls. However, over the course of the past several years there has been a strong sense from the majority of the congregations in the conference of just how important the regional pastors are and the need to increase the staffing level. The regional pastors not only help the congregations during pastoral transition but also during times of struggle and conflict and support the pastors on a regular basis, including monthly meetings. It was the common feeling among many of us that our churches are only as strong as our pastors and our conference. I am pleased to say that Oak Grove has been one of the congregations that financially supports Ohio Conference on a regular basis.

Both a highlight and a sad part of this year's conference was the acknowledgment of Andy Stoner's ten years of serving as regional pastor and the announcement of his leaving this coming June as he and his wife Anita take a voluntary service position at the Mennonite Hospitality Center/House in Washington, D.C. Over the past ten years Andy has done a lot for Oak Grove, assisting in both mine and Alex' calling to Oak Grove and being there for support whenever we needed it. He will be missed. He will be with us one more time, on Sunday, June 5th, as we hope to celebrate Alex's licensing.

Ohio Conference Annual Assembly, much like the Mennonite Church USA Convention to be held this July in Pittsburgh, is a reminder that we are not just one congregation of similar believers in Jesus Christ, but one of many. We can accomplish a lot more together than we can as one and we can learn from our fellow brothers and sisters in Mennonite Church USA, not only in Ohio, but also our nation, and throughout other countries of the world.

Sharing the Love of Christ in our community and around the world,
Pastor Dick

Prayer Vine

This website provides daily prayer requests from Mennonite Missions workers around the world. To download the April calendar visit this website:

<http://www.mennonitemission.net/Tools/prayer/PrayerVine/Pages/Home.aspx> or just Google

"Mennonite Mission Prayer Vine." You can also commit to being a prayer partner.

(Sorry, this probably wouldn't photocopy well, but if you need a printed copy, let Oak Leaves know and we'll be happy to give you one.)

"The nicest thing about the promise of Spring is that sooner or later she'll have to keep it."

Black Swamp Benefit set for June 17-18

The 10th annual Black Swamp Benefit will be held at the Fulton County Fairgrounds June 17-18. Proceeds from the benefit will support Sunshine Inc. of Northwest Ohio and also assist with international disaster relief efforts through MCC (Mennonite Central Committee). The activities are designed to encourage sharing with persons in need around the globe as well as persons with disabilities in the area. The centerpiece of the two-day fundraising event is the quilt and wood auction, and quality items are still needed. This main auction features handcrafted quilts and wall hangings in a wide variety of sizes and colors, handmade wood furniture and accessories, antiques and other merchandise. Visitors to the Black Swamp Benefit will also enjoy more than 20 food booths, an extensive craft area, handcrafts from world artisans at the Ten Thousand Villages shop, a huge children's activity area and children's toy auction, a silent auction and much more. For those interested in previewing the auction items, please visit the new Black Swamp Web site at www.blackswampbenefit.org. Friday night activities include many food booths, an outdoor praise and worship concert, along with the silent auction and mini-auction of specialty wood and craft items. Returning events include the well-received Bullfrog 5k Run as well as the "Oozeball" Mud Volleyball Tournament on Saturday morning. There are games and activities planned for the young along with the annual Children's Auction on Saturday morning. New this year will be the Pick-A-Prize, a raffle and a silent auction. The 2011 Black Swamp Benefit promotional DVD is available and will allow you to share information and enthusiasm with your church groups (youth group, quilters, senior citizens, children's Sunday school, worship leaders), community organization and others. To request a copy of the 2011 DVD call (419) 335-3763, ext. 10. You may get directions for out-of-town guests, learn more about the event, and preview items up for bid at the main auction by visiting the Black Swamp Web site at www.blackswampbenefit.org.

Charlotte's Web at the Holland Theatre

Center Stage Productions will be performing *Charlotte's Web*, based on the beloved children's book, on April 15 and 16. Some shows are in the morning, some in the evening. Call Monica at 937-292-7650 to confirm show times and to reserve your tickets: \$5.00 for morning tickets and \$8.00 for evening tickets

**Ohio Mennonite Women
Spring Day of
Inspiration**
Saturday, April 9
Jubilee Mennonite Church
Bellefontaine
Show up at 9:45 am and stay as
long as you want to!

Happy Anniversary to . . .

April:

4 Tim & Beth Lamb
9 Alan & Tisha Kauffman
11 Jerry & Roxanne Kauffman
14 Merle & Ev Hostetler

Happy Birthday to . . .

April:

2 Garrett King
4 Surena Neer
7 Ryan Kauffman
9 Neva Cramer
10 Hannah Classen
Steve Park
Gladys Brown
12 Daniel Neer
14 Lois Coons
15 Sonya Yoder
Joan Yoder
16 Emily Patterson Bougher
18 Sarah Childs
20 Steve Neer
Mark Nichols
23 Jacob Childs
Esther Witmer
25 Tim Lamb
27 Shawn Childs
28 Anna Kratz
29 Brian Yoder

YOU'RE INVITED!

What: Oak Grove Annual Church Retreat

Where: Camp Cotubic, 2158 Rd 25N, Bellefontaine

When: Friday, Aug. 12-Sunday, Aug. 14, 2011

Who: All Oak Grovers regardless of age

Why: To give us an opportunity to relax and fellowship in a peaceful setting, to get to know our fellow Oak Grovers better, and to enjoy God's handiwork.

Please plan to join us! More information will be coming soon.

WHO AM I? (answer found hidden in Oak Leaves with an *) *-compiled by Lisa Hershberger*

- ✓ I was born at Mary Rutan Hospital in Bellefontaine and grew up in West Liberty.
- ✓ My first job was working at Thoman's IGA.
- ✓ I am currently reading "Normalization" by Wolf Wolfensburger (I'm not kidding. That's a name only a mother could love!)
- ✓ Not many people know that I really enjoy reading research and learning sign language.
- ✓ I would like to visit Alaska someday.
- ✓ Hobbies? Who has time for hobbies?
- ✓ If I had no responsibilities for the day, I'd go for a nice quiet jog, treat myself to coffee from the Depot or Cream and Sugar and paint a room in my home.
- ✓ I appreciate the vast array of musical talent at Oak Grove.
- ✓ A meaningful passage of scripture to me is Numbers 6:24 - 26. The pastor at my previous church ended every service with these verses. ²⁴ "The LORD bless you and keep you; ²⁵ the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; ²⁶ the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace."

Getting to know the Junior Youth:

-compiled by Lisa Hershberger

CHRISTY KAUFFMAN

Parents: Jerry & Roxanne Kauffman

Brother: Matthew

- I am 14 years old and am an 8th grader at West Liberty – Salem.
- My favorite class this year is computer, and I don't like Spanish.
- Right now I am involved in Bible Quizzing. I play soccer in the fall and am starting track this spring.
- I enjoy riding my horse, Taco, bareback.
- Something my family enjoys doing together is traveling.
- If I could travel anywhere in the world, I would go to Lesotho, a little country surrounded by South Africa. I would do missionary work.
- A favorite past family vacation was a trip to Colorado and Wyoming in 2004. I was only 7, but I remember that it was lots of fun. We went with my grandparents and aunt and uncle.
- This summer I'm looking forward to a trip to North Carolina with my parents to visit the Perazas. I really miss Emily!
- I like that Oak Grove is small and I know everyone. A favorite memory that I have is getting baptized in the lake at Camp Cotubic.
- My favorite Bible story is the story of Joseph in Genesis. We are studying that for Bible Quizzing this year.

KATIE HARTSEL

Parents: Joe & Julie

Sisters: Hannah & Addy

- I am 12 years old, and am a 6th grader at West Liberty- Salem
- My favorite subject in school is reading, my least favorite is band.
- I am involved in baton, dance and cheering. I especially like doing baton.
- My favorite food to eat is popcorn.
- Our family enjoys playing Wii together.
- A favorite past vacation I've taken is going to Florida with my cousins.
- This summer I am looking forward to going to Camp Luz.
- I like Oak Grove, I enjoy being with my friends.
- Psalm 23 is a favorite Bible passage.

JASON YODER

Parents: Rod & Billie

Sister: Sonya

- I am 11 years old. I'm in 5th grade at Riverside Local Schools
- My favorite subject is math and my least favorite is reading.
- I am involved in basketball and baseball. I am a high school sport manager and I play the trumpet
- My favorite food is pizza!
- I like to collect bobble-heads and sports cards.
- My family enjoys playing games together and going on vacation.
- I would really like to visit Boston, Mass. A favorite past vacation was a trip to Florida.
- If I could pick what I wanted to do for a day, I would go golfing and mini golfing.
- This summer I'm looking forward to going to a family reunion.
- I like knowing everybody at Oak Grove and having great friends. A favorite memory for me is getting baptized.
- JOHN 3:16-19 is a favorite Bible passage of mine ~ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. 19 This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.

LEAH KAUFFMAN

Parents: Alan & Tisha

Sisters: Anna & Emma

- I am 11 years old and in 5th grade at West Liberty-Salem.
- My favorite subject is Social Studies.
- My least favorite subjects are Spelling or Reading.
- I am involved in gymnastics, band, volleyball, 4H and piano.
- My favorite food is Sloppy Joes.
- My hobbies are reading, drawing and solving word searches.
- My family enjoys eating popcorn and watching a movie on Sunday night together.
- If I could travel anywhere I would go to India.
- My favorite vacation in the past was when I went to Colorado.
- If I had no school, no chores, and no responsibilities for the whole day, I would read and practice volleyball.
- This summer, I'm looking forward to my cousins coming back from India for awhile.
- What I like most about Oak Grove Church is that I know some of the kids from school.
- My favorite Bible story is Esther.

JACOB REGIER

Parents: Alan & Kari

Sister: Alyse

- I am 12 years old and am a 6th grader at Graham Middle School.
- My favorite subject is Science and my least favorite is Social Studies.
- I play trumpet in the band.
- My love eating any kind of pasta but Penne Rigate is my favorite.
- I enjoy communicating - any form - and cooking
- My family enjoys ice skating together.
- I would love to go to Venice, Italy
- My favorite vacation was a small one-day trip to Cincinnati
- If I could pick what I wanted to do for a day, I would bake some brownies and relax. I would make

pasta for lunch and call my friends.

- This summer I am looking forward to my thirteenth birthday and a vacation to Kansas
- I like the people at Oak Grove. I always feel welcome and appreciated.

LAURA NEER

Parents: Steve & Surena

Siblings: Courtney, Brittany & Daniel

- I am 11 years old.
- I am in 5th grade at West Liberty-Salem.
- My favorite subject is social studies.
- My least favorite subject is reading.
- I am involved in soccer, basketball, softball, piano, drummer, and mile club
- My favorite food is donuts.
- My hobbies are sports, and garden / farming.
- My family enjoys biking, going to the lake, having picnics, and eating meals together.
- If I could travel anywhere, I would go to Paris, France.
- My favorite past vacation was going to Idaho to visit cousins.
- If I had no school, no chores, and no responsibilities for the whole day, I would text and play the Wii.
- This summer I am looking forward to water skiing
- What I like about Oak Grove Church are family life activities.
- My favorite memory at Oak Grove is getting baptized.
- My favorite Bible passage is Psalm 23.

GRACE BUSCHUR

Parents: Todd & Barbara

Brother: Christopher

- I am 13 years old and a 7th grader at West Liberty.
- I sing in choir and run cross country.
- My favorite subject in school is Language Arts and my least favorite is Math.
- My favorite food is Beef Stroganoff.
- My hobbies are riding horses, reading and I would like to learn archery. If I could travel anywhere, I would like to visit Rome, Italy to learn about the ancient Romans.
- My favorite verse from the Bible is Luke 11:2 "The Lord's Prayer."
- What I like most about Oak Grove are the people.

LILYANA (LILY) YODER

Parents: Brian & Sherrie

Brother: Nikolas

- I am 12 years old and am in the 6th grade at West Liberty – Salem.
- My favorite subject is math and my least favorite is Spanish.
- I am in the school band and I enjoy playing basketball.
- My favorite foods to eat are hamloaf and anything from Subway.
- My family likes to do things outdoors together.
- If I could travel anywhere I would go to Antarctica and Bulgaria.
- A favorite past vacation was a trip to Utah.
- If I could do anything I wanted all day I would spend my time watching TV and reading.
- I am looking forward to going to California this summer.
- I like Oak Grove and Pastor Dick and Pastor Alex.
- I enjoy going to Camp Luz with my church friends.
- A favorite verse of mine is John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life

JOSIAH KRATZ

Parents: Chuck & Trish

Siblings: Bekah, Josh, Peter & Anna

- I am 12 years old and am in the 6th grade at Calvary Christian School.
- My favorite class in school is Gym and my least favorite is Language Arts.
- I play soccer and basketball, sing in the choir, play trombone in the band and take piano lessons.
- My favorite food to eat is steak.
- I like to play Nintendo DS in my spare time.
- My family enjoys watching movies together.
- If I could travel anywhere I would go to Africa.
- A favorite past vacation was a trip to my Uncle's cabin in Northern PA.
- If I could do anything I wanted to for the day I would spend all day playing different things.
- I am looking forward to summer, taking a vacation and going to the fair.
- I like the youth group at Oak Grove and a favorite memory is going to the Jr High Youth Retreat.

KAYLA KING

Parents: Tony & Cynthia

Siblings: Garret, Hayden, Silas & Samantha

- I'm 14 years old and in the 8th grade at West Liberty.
- My favorite subjects in school are gym and lunch.
- My least favorite subject is pre-algebra.
- I play basketball, run track, show cows and go to youth group.
- My favorite food is mac and cheese.
- My hobbies are showing cows and playing with my brothers and sister and texting my friends.
- My family enjoys going out to eat and being together at fairs.
- If I could go anywhere it would be Canada.
- My favorite past vacation is a few years ago to Panama City Beach.
- If I had a free day, I would play basketball and go to Chuck E. Cheese, then go to the mall and try on weird clothes with my friends.
- This summer I am looking forward to state fair and county fair, also going houseboating with my family and hanging out with friends and possibly going camping.
- What I like about Oak Grove is everything! It's my second family.
- My favorite memory at Oak Grove is the amazing race! Or maybe when me, Christy, and Katie had to sing a song during the Christmas play!
- My favorite verse is Genesis 15:1.

Guess these proverbs/sayings:

- If a large solid-hoofed mammal becomes available to you without compensation, refrain from casting your faculty for seeing into the oral cavity of such a creature.
 - Each vaporous mass suspended in the firmament has an interior decoration of metallic hue.
 - It is not advantageous to place the sum total of your barnyard collections into the same wicker receptacle.
 - A red fruit of the Maius family absorbed into the digestive system every 1,440 minutes or 86,400 seconds, keeps a physician from your presence.
 - It is more desirable to arrive in the medium of time which constitutes a later than desirable hour or date than not to arrive at all.
 - That which is acquired without difficulty is dispersed with equal facility.
 - A maximum amount of purposeful activity and a minimum amount of disport and dalliance cause Jack to become a dim-witted, stagnant dunce of the male species.
 - Lack of what is required is the matriarch of inspiration.
 - Allow somnolent quadrupeds that are homo sapien's greatest comrades to remain reclining.
 - Perambulate in moccasins, and shoulder a gargantuan wooden rail.
 - Hemoglobin is more viscous than H₂O
- Read more at: <http://kids.niehs.nih.gov/doublesp.htm>*

Don't underestimate the little ones:

LOT 'S WIFE

The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, 'My Mommy looked back once while she was driving,' he announced triumphantly, 'and she turned into a telephone pole!'

GOOD SAMARITAN

A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan. She asked the class, 'If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?' A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence, 'I think I'd throw up.'

DID NOAH FISH?

A Sunday school teacher asked, 'Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?' 'No,' replied Johnny. 'How could he, with just two worms.'

HIGHER POWER

A Sunday school teacher said to her children, 'We have been learning how powerful kings and queens were in Bible times. But, there is a Higher Power. Can anybody tell me what it is?' *Emily Reminder One child blurted out, 'Aces!'

MOSES AND THE RED SEA

Nine-year-old Joey was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday School. 'Well, Mom, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his army build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely. Then he radioed headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved.' 'Now, Joey, is that really what your teacher taught you?' his Mother asked. 'Well, no, Mom... But, if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!'

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the chapter. Little Rick was excited about the task - but he just couldn't remember the psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first line. On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Ricky was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, 'The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know.'

UNANSWERED PRAYER

The preacher's 5 year-old daughter noticed that her father always paused and bowed his head for a moment before starting his sermon. One day, she asked him why. 'Well, Honey,' he began, proud that his daughter was so observant of his messages. 'I'm asking the Lord to help me preach a good sermon.' 'How come He doesn't answer it?' she asked.

BEING THANKFUL

A Rabbi said to a precocious six-year-old boy, 'So your mother says your prayers for you each night? That's very commendable. What does she say?' The little boy replied, 'Thank God he's in bed!'

UNTIMELY ANSWERED PRAYER

During the minister's prayer one Sunday, there was a loud whistle from one of the back pews. Tommy's mother was horrified. She pinched him into silence and, after church, asked, 'Tommy, whatever made you do such a thing?' Tommy answered soberly, 'I asked God to teach me to whistle, and He did!'

TIME TO PRAY

A pastor asked a little boy if he said his prayers every night. 'Yes, sir.' the boy replied. 'And, do you always say them in the morning, too?' the pastor asked... 'No sir,' the boy replied. 'I ain't scared in the daytime.'

ALL MEN / ALL GIRLS

When my daughter, Kelli, said her bedtime prayers, she would bless every family member, every friend, and every animal (current and past). For several weeks, after we had finished the nightly prayer, Kelli would say, 'And all girls.' This soon became part of her nightly routine, to include this closing. My curiosity got the best of me and I asked her, 'Kelli, why do you always add the part about all girls?' Her response, 'Because everybody always finish their prayers by saying 'All Men!'

SAY A PRAYER

Little Johnny and his family were having Sunday dinner at his Grandmother's house. Everyone was seated around the table as the food was being served. When Little Johnny received his plate, he started eating right away. 'Johnny! Please wait until we say our prayer.' said his mother. 'I don't need to,' the boy replied. 'Of course, you do.' his mother insisted. 'We always say a prayer before eating at our house.' 'That's at our house.' Johnny explained. 'But this is Grandma's house and she knows how to cook!'

So if I were starting my family again, I would laugh more at myself, my mistakes, my failures. So many of the tensions of life, particularly in the family, arise because we take ourselves so seriously. Then we can be hurt too easily.

I now believe that there needs to be the intermingling of work and play and laughter. And when we learn to laugh together we also learn to love and work together. If the important things of life are experienced by the child in the atmosphere of joy, he will not be as easily drawn to the frivolous or worldly fare by its blinding lights and suggestions for happiness.

Fenelon wrote many years ago: "Beware of fatiguing them by ill-judged exactness. If virtue offers itself to the child under a melancholy and contrained aspect, while liberty and license present themselves under an agreeable form, all is lost, and your labor is in vain."

-John Drescher from book *If I Were Starting My Family Again*, 1979.

EARLY BIRD

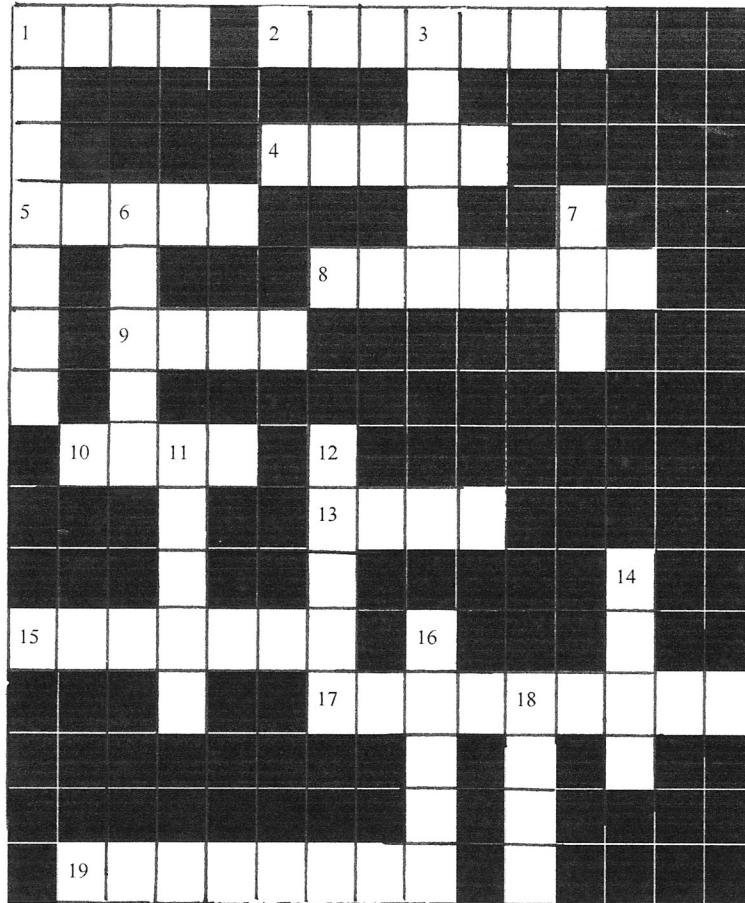
-Shel Silverstein

Oh, if you're a bird, be an early bird
And catch a worm for your breakfast plate.
If you're a bird, be an early early bird--
But if you're a worm, sleep late.

Anger is an acid that can do more harm to the vessel in which it is stored than to anything on which it is poured.
-Mark Twain

Oak Grove Crossword Puzzle
(First names or one word title)

-Anita Bartlett



ACROSS

- 1. 1st & 2nd grade S.S. teacher
- 2. Serves on Music Committee
- 4. Bible Bonanza leader
- 5. Leads Pathfinders class
- 8. Patrick serves as....
- 9. Plays 2nd service bass guitar
- 10. Nursery director
- 13. 1st service usher
- 15. Primary Superintendent
- 17. Joel serves as...
- 19. A 1st grader in S.S.

DOWN

- 1. Administrative Assistant
- 3. A JHF Sponsor
- 6. Secretary
- 7. An elder
- 11. Youngest baby
- 12. A Librarian
- 14. 2nd service usher
- 16. Outreach Director
- 18. Nurture & Fellowship Director

ACROSS 1. Mary, 2. Barbara, 4. Julie, 5. Arlis, 8. Janitor, 9. Davi, 10. Kate, 13. Alan, 15. Valerie, 17. treasurer, 19. Brittany.

DOWN 1. Melanie, 3. Brian, 6. Lydia, 7. Rod, 11. Tyler, 12. Janet, 14. Kirk, 16. Kelly, 18. Shan.