



Oak Leaves

February
2011

The newsletter of Oak Grove Mennonite Church, West Liberty, OH

Jesus replied: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' – Matthew 22:37-39

The Bad-Tempered Rhino

One of the loneliest creatures in all the outdoors is the grumpy rhinoceros. Not only is he short of friends, but even his enemies stay away.

The rhino has a great deal going against him. Part of his problem is his lack of intelligence. Frankly, he does some dumb things. Another source of trouble is his near-sightedness. He sees very little and therefore doesn't trust anything or anyone.

For example, most animals know when people are around and they get out of the way. Not the rhino. He doesn't know humans are close until they get next to him. Frightened, he will suddenly attack rather than hide. Pity the poor jeep or truck parked nearby. The rhino will ram it into a junk heap.

The rhino even has trouble getting along with boyfriends. If the female sees a male she likes, she backs up and charges him. She knocks him down and steps on him just to say she likes the boy. Kindness doesn't come easily to her.

In spite of his size the rhino isn't slow. He can turn quickly and gain a speed of 30 miles an hour. Not bad for two to four tons.

The rhino begins as a bulky baby. The kangaroo is only the size of a quarter at birth, but the rhinoceros weighs 60 pounds on the first day.

Humans have hunted the rhino until there are few left. A little over 10,000 of these African "tanks" now exist. There are laws to protect the

rhino, but they are often broken. They are sometimes killed just for their horns. There is a story in Asia which says, "Anyone drinking from a rhino horn cannot be poisoned." Those who believe this pay a large amount to buy the useless cup.

Others think dried rhino blood is good medicine. They pay one dollar a pound for it.

There are few happy moments in the life of a rhino. They don't seem to get along with anything, including other rhinos.

The brightest spot in a rhino's life is a little tick bird. These land on the huge monster's back and help him out. This bird eats the tick and other dangerous insects off the rhino's skin.

If he takes a nap (often standing up), the tick bird will be a watch bird. Should danger come, the bird picks itself up and starts screaming. The rhino wakes up immediately. He doesn't know what is coming, but he's ready.

All the rhino knows is how to attack and fight. On more than one occasion they have charged full-speed into moving trains. With all of his bad temper, a little bird has become his only friend.

Our neighborhoods, schools and churches have people who are lonely. They need a good friend who will spend time with them. Someone who won't tease or treat them badly. They are lonely for a friend just like you.

"I have called you friends." (John 15:15, NIV)

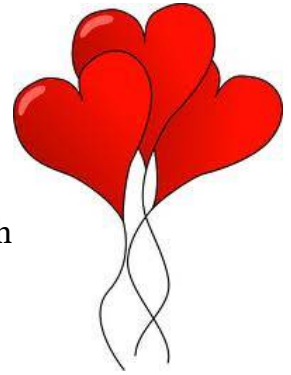
Somebody needs my friendship.

-From Listen to the Animals: Devotionals for families with young children by William Coleman

Announcements

Valentine's Banquet

The annual Valentine's Banquet, open to all adults, will be Feb. 12 at 6:00 pm at church. After the delicious meal, prepared and served by the Youth, there will be a dessert auction. Proceeds from the meal and the dessert auction will go to help pay for the Youth to attend the Mennonite convention in Pittsburgh this summer. Watch your mailbox for the flyer to RSVP or just contact Sam Park.



Book donations for Mercy Memorial Hospital

The Well Child Clinic at Mercy Memorial Hospital benefited from 161 used children's books that Oak Grove donated in 2010. The books, with information labels about Oak Grove, are offered to children who receive medical check-ups. Thank you for putting used children's books in the box under the mailboxes to support this Outreach mission.

ATTENTION TEACHERS

Teachers: I'm enrolling in two Canter self-paced graduate courses to fulfill requirements for renewing my license and would welcome others to sign up too. Total cost for 3 semester hours (through Andrews University) is no more than \$475 if registering early, as other discounts may apply. If you or someone you know would like more info about getting a group rate on the classes I'm taking, please contact me by Feb. 11. – *Andrea Kauffman*

MATCHING COLLEGE GRANT

For parents who will have a son or daughter attending a Mennonite College/University during the 2011-2012 school year please let Esther Witmer know by February 20th.

Next issue of Oak Leaves

We always welcome contributions from anyone in the congregation! **The deadline for the March issue is Sunday, February 20.** You can email them to rv@kauffmanfamily.net or oakleaves@oakgrovemennonite.org or put them in the Oak Leaves mailbox or give them to a committee member: Esther Witmer, Lisa Hershberger, or Valerie Kauffman. Hope to hear from you soon!

Happy Anniversary to:

February:

13-Bryant and Emma Newman
20-Jerry and Lois Coons
26-Jake and Marce Leichty



Happy Birthday to:

February:

1 Randi Nichols	14 Leah Kauffman
3 Ivy Thoman	17 Bruce Schlabach
Trish Kratz	22 Grace Yoder
4 Alan Regier	24 Courtney Neer
Caleb Hershberger	25 Winfred Stoltzfus
6 Cyndi DeVore	26 Josiah Kratz
10 Grace Leichty	28 Chuck Kratz
11 Jake Leichty Sr.	

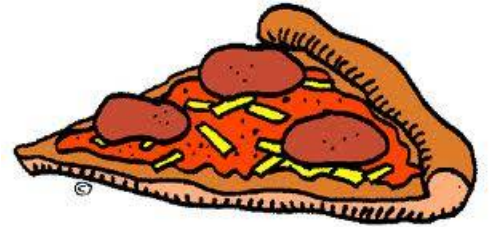


Junior Youth News

Compiled by Lisa Hershberger

Here is what some of our youth had to say about the JYF Retreat at Camp Luz...

“My favorite thing about the Jr. High retreat last weekend was the snowball fight after lunch on Saturday. That was epic. I also loved playing broom ball. While it was extremely fun, I took the toll for it the next day. I didn’t know you could build a golf course from some furniture, masking tape, and a few empty cardboard boxes that used to contain chocolate. I liked being able to sleep in the top bunk. It was fun staying up ‘till midnight talking to my friends in my cabin. The food that they served was delicious! Especially the pizza that they served at 10 o’clock at night! But the definite runner-up was the baked oatmeal with strawberry sauce! We had a snow sculpture building contest! Oak Grove built Noah’s Ark along with an altar with sticks and a lamb, God holding a shovel (the shovel was plastic not snow), an olive tree, a rainbow and 15 pairs of animals! After the judges had seen each church’s sculpture, they announced that with 28.5 out of the possible 30, the winner was..... Oak Grove! I also thoroughly enjoyed the worship services! The speaker was fun to listen to and they had a good selection of songs. The speaker also played guitar. He does a lot of rock climbing and rappelling so that’s what his messages were based mostly on.” ~ *Jacob Regier*



“This year the winter retreat was the best yet. Our youth group won the snow sculpture contest and played on the frozen lake. We also learned about the risks that you take when you go on God’s adventure and how to conquer our fears that may hold us back.” ~ *Christy Kauffman*

“Camp Luz was really great! We got to listen to Andrew’s story about taking risks and adventure! Playing with friends never got old. We did a lot. They cleared off the lake and we all dove and slid on the ice lanes. It was crazy! We played classic Camp Luz games like broomball, carpet pool and gaga ball. All the groups competed in an ice sculpture contest. We made Noah’s Ark and won! Overall we had a great time! Thanks sponsors!” ~ *Isaac Kauffman*

“I had a great time at Camp Luz. We made a snow sculpture of Noah’s Ark and we went ice skating. We also had Andrew Michaels as our speaker and his message was about how God is always there for you and won’t give up on you. We all had a great time at worship and just had a good weekend” ~ *Nicholas Childs*

“I liked being outside and I loved going out on the ice even though I fell a lot. It was nice to be with my friends and having fun with them. I think the best part was playing ga-ga ball.” ~ *Grace Buschur*

Reflection

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Well, February is here and the month of “new beginnings” is over. Did you make any New Year’s resolutions? More to the point, did you keep any of the resolutions you made? It’s not easy is it? Have you ever thought that resolutions are usually made to change things we don’t like about ourselves. They are usually negative. I recently read an essay by Lisa Scottoline about instead of thinking what we don’t like about ourselves, think instead of things you’ve done which make you happy and which you resolve (or as she prefers “you aim”) to keep doing in the new year. Although the essay was meant to be amusing and she gave some funny examples of what she was going to do, it made me start thinking.

As Christians God wants us to be happy and witness to others of the joy that can be found only in Him. Yes, all of us have room for improvement. We can always do things better but we shouldn’t be negative, going around beating ourselves up when we fall short. Instead we can think of all the good things God has done in our lives and continues to do so. Why not make a resolution to be more positive this New Year.

Shan Neer

Who Am I?

I grew up in West Liberty, Ohio.

I have many great childhood memories including annual summer camping trips with my family, Sunday dinners at Grandma and Grandpa's house and visiting my other Grandma and Grandpa in Michigan. I also loved doing things with my cousins. I also remember roller-skating down the aisles at the grocery store.

Some first jobs include filling pop machines and baby-sitting.

My favorite author is Karen Kingsbury. But I'm a sucker for any good romance novel.

I can't whistle or snap my fingers. And I can't turn a cartwheel. I've tried to learn how to do all 3 things numerous times!

I really enjoy taking vacations, but I especially love vacations to the beach. I would like to visit Hawaii sometime, and take another trip to the Caribbean. I would also like to visit Europe, especially the Swiss Alps.



I enjoy reading, scrapbooking, baking, going for walks and spending time with my family.

If I had no responsibilities for the day I would grab a good book, my sunglasses and my lawn chair and go outside and enjoy the sunshine.

A favorite passage of the Bible is Ephesians 2:8-10 ~ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

I am very glad that I'm a part of Oak Grove. I appreciate the warm, friendly atmosphere and I'm thankful for my Sunday School class.

(Answer can be found in this issue of the Oak Leaves marked with an *)

People in Agriculture

*(continued
from last
month)*

Phil Neer

Lived on the family farm most of his life. Cattle and grain farmer.

Shan Neer

Grew up in the city but learned to feed calves and milk cows. Does the record keeping and a lot of running for parts

Earl Hawke

I've been blessed to have worked in agriculture, something I love, most of my life. I was raised on a dairy farm. After college, I worked several years as an accountant. I soon changed careers and have been working with farmers in the silo business for 33 years. Also, Penny and I have had our own farm for 23 years—where we raised our daughters as well as grain, cattle and Christmas trees.



Introductions

Compiled by Lisa Hershberger from the moms

Introducing some of our newest little ones...

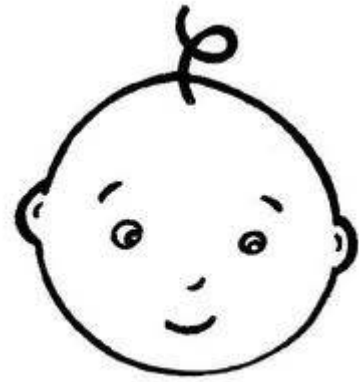
Eli Jones

Age: 5 1/2 months

Parents: Reed & LeAnn Jones

Grandparents: Arlis & Marilyn Gascho

Great-Grandparent: Joan Thoman



Eli Reed joined our family on August 7, 2010. After keeping us waiting an extra week after his due date (which his mother wasn't happy about in the 90 degree August heat!), he still wasn't in a hurry to enter this world. After a very long delivery, we finally had a baby boy! Caleb and Braden couldn't wait to hold and snuggle their new cousin while they waited patiently for their own baby to arrive. In fact, Caleb proved to be an even bigger baby hog than Mina Gascho! Eli keeps us entertained at home. He loves to giggle and talk while he is playing. It doesn't take much to get a smile out of this expressive boy. But don't let him fool you. He has a good set of lungs on him and can scream with the best of them! He loves to play with our dog Moses even though Mommy tries to keep the licking to a minimum! Eli loves reading books, singing songs, and playing with his toys. He also loves to listen to bluegrass music with Daddy. I know Daddy is hoping for a fiddle player one day! Every day is a fun adventure with Eli. It is fun to see him grow and change. We are so thankful for this little gift from God!

Tyler Hershberger

Age: 4 months

Parents: Andy & Lisa Hershberger

Brothers: Caleb & Braden

Grandparents: Arlis & Marilyn Gascho

Great-Grandparent: Joan Thoman

Tyler Adam joined our family on September 19, 2010, 9 days earlier than expected. He was born with a full head of hair and looked very much like his big brothers (especially Braden!). It's fun watching Tyler get more of his own personality these days. Sometimes he can be a little reserved with his smiles and giggles, but he's starting to show them off more and more. Tyler especially smiles and giggles when Caleb makes funny faces for him or when Daddy tickles him. He loves snuggles with Mommy or Daddy and he likes lying on a blanket in the middle of the floor kicking and watching what is going on around him and he is starting to enjoy playing in the exersaucer. He's starting to roll over some now too. But he's still the happiest when someone is holding him. He hates binkies, but you can usually find him sucking on a finger or two. Caleb and Braden love taking turns holding him and helping his "play" with his toys, and they can't wait until he's big enough to join in a game of football (the football has landed in Tyler's lap a time or two already!). For the first few weeks, it seemed like Tyler never slept unless someone was holding him, even at night. Now he's making up for lost time and sleeping great through the night, and that makes Mommy happy! Tyler enjoys being spoiled by having his Papa and Mina Gascho close by, and Aunt LeAnn, Uncle Reed and cousin Eli too. We feel blessed to have added another little boy to our family!

Kendall Nichols

Age: 7 months

Parents: Mark & Rachel Nichols

Sister: Miranda Lynn (Randi)

Kendall Elaine was born on July 6, 2010. She arrived 1 day before her due date but about 5 years late for her sister Randi who started asking for a brother or sister when she was 3 years old! We feel so blessed to have two healthy daughters and it's wonderful to see how much they love each other. Whether Kendall is enjoying her big sister reading her a story or Randi is mimicking her little sister squealing (which can get quite loud), they always have a smile for one another. Kendall loves playing in her exersaucer and she just learned to sit up by herself. She's very good about trying new foods. She already has favorites (peas, carrots, and pears) and some she'd rather not have again like peaches (though the face she makes is so cute when she eats them it's hard not to laugh!) Our little "Lou", as she's nicknamed, likes her sippy cup but would prefer someone else to hold it which isn't a problem since Mark is a pushover for both of his little girls! Mark and I are trying to enjoy every minute because we know that all too soon both of our girls won't be so little anymore, but it will be nice when Kendall starts sleeping through the night!

Carter Pratt

Age: 5 1/2 months

Parents: Ryan & Amy Pratt

Brother: Andrew

Carter James Pratt was welcomed into our family on August 11, 2010, just a couple of days early, but definitely in a hurry to get here. He's had several 'firsts' already-- plane rides, a hike in the mountains, boat rides, bike rides, oh, and all that usual baby stuff (rolling over, first cereal, & starting to sit up all by himself). :- Carter is a little talker--& he's loud (in case you haven't heard him in church). He gets to stay with his Papaw & Grammie in Rosewood 3 days a week, & he goes to play at Green Hills the other 2 days. Carter's happy almost all the time, thank goodness. He loves to watch whatever his big brother Andrew is doing, and Andrew is a fantastic helper! We are having so much fun getting to know our new little buddy, and feel so blessed to have such a happy healthy baby!

Rylan Leichty

Age: 5 months

Brother: Conner

Parents: Jon & Kim Leichty

Grandparents: Jake & Grace Leichty

Great-Grandparents: Jacob & Marce Leichty

Rylan Matthew joined our family on August 25th, 2010 - three weeks early! Since Conner was also an early arrival, we were aware that we could be headed to the hospital at any time, but we (especially his mother) were not mentally prepared for him to arrive quite that early. But, he wasn't concerned with how prepared we were because shortly before noon he arrived somewhat bruised, slightly misshapen and completely beautiful. We are thoroughly enjoying having two little boys in our house, even though the level of chaos has risen considerably. We are trying to help Conner to understand that Rylan isn't capable of catching the balls that he keeps throwing to him and that he won't be interested in wrestling for at least two more years, but we have found that these are hard lessons for our two year old to learn. Rylan is beginning to show us glimpses of his personality through all of his smiles and giggles and he has recently become more content while playing on the floor with his toys. He enjoys his exersaucer as well, but we suspect that is mostly because it helps him to feel protected from his older brother. Jon and I are incredibly thankful for the opportunity to raise these two boys and we pray that God will provide the wisdom needed to help them grow into the men He desires them to be.

Travel story

Christmas in the Tetons

by Esther Witmer

On December 24th I met my friend Dorothy Miller, from Decatur, IL in Indianapolis. From there we flew to Jackson Hole, WY. Christmas Day was a beautiful winter day. There was not much activity in town on that day. We worked on a puzzle and drove out of town to see the Teton Mountains. Ah, they were so beautiful. Our Christmas dinner was interesting. There were no restaurants open, so we went to a grocery store that was open and had a nice deli. We bought a broasted chicken, salads and dessert and had a nice meal in our motel room. Sunday, the 26th we snowmobiled 120 miles in Yellowstone National Park. If you like lots of snow and blue skies, you'd think it was a perfect day to be outdoors. It was just beautiful. The snow was deep and lay heavy on the trees. The roads in Yellowstone are groomed only for snowmobiles and snow coaches. We were with a group and a guide. Having a guide is mandatory to snowmobile in Yellowstone. We had to stop 4-5 times due to bison being on the road. Since we were very close to these animals, our

guide was strict on how to handle these situations so the animals wouldn't charge at us. No problems. We saw bison throughout the park. We did the Canyon section of Yellowstone, so did not see Old Faithful. We saw many mini geysers blowing off steam. Amazing beauty!

For the next couple days we rested, shopped and drove around the area. There is an elk refuge near Jackson Hole. We were privileged to see a large herd of elk. We also saw a number of moose, big horned sheep and eagles. One day we went tubing on one of the mountains. That was a new experience for me and fun.

On Wednesday we spent another day on snowmobiles on a trail outside the park. Again we were with a group and guide. It snowed most of the day. It is hard to describe the beauty, out in the woods with lots of snow. The depth of snow was over 2 feet deep. Our guide led us over a mountain trail that was not very well groomed. Prior to riding this trail the guide gave us instructions how to handle the machines when going uphill. Do not stop!! This was another day out in nature, experiencing God's beautiful creation.

We left Jackson Hole, Thursday December 30th. It was a wonderful trip.

I decided driving a snowmobile is like the rest of life. I have my course set for the day. I have a GUIDE to lead me. I am on course and life is good. THEN, I begin to look around and oops, I veer to the left side of the road. Oh, this is not where I'm supposed to be, so I move my machine toward the right, but get caught in a rut made by previous machines. At this point I know I have to really focus and get my machine back in line with my guide.



Psalm 29

A psalm of David.

1 Ascribe to the LORD, you heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of his[a] holiness. 3 The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD thunders over the mighty waters. 4 The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is majestic. 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon. 6 He makes Lebanon leap like a calf, Sirion[b] like a young wild ox. 7 The voice of the LORD strikes with flashes of lightning. 8 The voice of the LORD shakes the desert; the LORD shakes the Desert of Kadesh. 9 The voice of the LORD twists the oaks[c] and strips the forests bare. And in his temple all cry, "Glory!" 10 The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD is enthroned as King forever. 11 The LORD gives strength to his people; the LORD blesses his people with peace.

Noted

Contributed by Anita Bartlett

Bible Illiteracy

As Christians, you should be able to assume that the majority of us regularly read the book that our faith is based on. However, research shows that this is not the case. Here are some statistics regarding Bible illiteracy in the U.S.:

According to an article published in USA today, Gary Burge, a professor of New Testament studies at Wheaton College discovered the following of students via surveys he administered:

* One-third of the students tested couldn't put the following in sequential order: Abraham, The Old Testament prophets, death of Christ, and Pentecost.

* One-third couldn't identify Matthew as an apostle from a list of New Testament names.

* Eighty percent could not locate the Lord's prayer in the Bible

* Fifty percent of the high school students surveyed thought that Sodom and Gomorrah were married.

These were just some of the eye-opening results. Other studies show that even with 92% of Americans owning a Bible, less than 59% even occasionally read it. That number was closer to 73% in the 1980's. *Lisa Hershberger

Why don't more people read the Bible? According to a survey done by Tyndale House Publishers, 64% of Americans said that they are too busy to read the Bible while 80% said that it's too confusing and hard to understand.

Do you fall into one of these groups of people? If you aren't reading your Bible regularly and would like to, it's not too late. Getting a Bible that is geared towards your age group and gender and written in a translation that you understand will really help. (*From ChristianBookstore.org*)

Valuable Observations

Have you ever noticed that a five percent raise doesn't really change much in your take-home pay? Aren't you just as hungry for breakfast the morning after a \$50.00 meal as after a \$5.00 one? How many of the items in your garage or attic once served a useful purpose inside your actual living space? And why do all of us know these things to be true?

Because we've seen them. We've lived them. If there's one thing we know about money and the things it can buy, it's the fact that we routinely overvalue them. We expect them to be so much more than they typically turn out to be. So God tells us in His Word to give "careful thought" to this: "You have planted much, but harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it" (Haggai 1:5-6).

Don't just know this. Do something with it.

What habits do you need to discontinue based on this common-sense information? How should this insight affect the way you parent or counsel your children? What kind of character traits would have more room to grow in you if you based more of your decisions on this? When money lessons become life lessons, they can do more than just impact your shopping and saving patterns. They can go to work in your heart.

Pray this prayer: Father, I pray for the wisdom to be more thoughtful than I usually am—to base my life on the truths you've so clearly shown us, rather than acting like they don't apply to me. (*From Joe Gibbs' GamePlanForLife.com*)

Hatred stirs up dissension, but love covers over all wrongs. Proverbs 10:12

L – Listening when another is speaking
O – Overlooking petty faults and forgiving all failures
V – Valuing other people for who they are
E – Expressing love in a practical way

-Denis Waitley

What does it look like? It has hands to help others, feet to hasten to the poor and needy, eyes to see misery and want, ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like.” -Augustine

Oak Grove Children and Youth Protection Policy

(This is the 1st of a series of articles regarding the establishment of a Child and Youth Protection Policy for Oak Grove members and its visitors.)

Late in 2010, the Christian Education Commission requested assistance from Church Council to create a committee that would establish an extensive policy to cover all areas of church life, both on and off the premises, in which our children and youth are involved. The recommendation of a Children and Youth Protection Policy was not a result of any known misconduct or allegations from within the congregation, but rather a proactive measure by Oak Grove's leadership to respond to an increasing awareness of the need for safety precautions for children and youth in our care.

This past November, Council appointed a committee to develop the Children and Youth Protection Policy. Members are: Mary Esh (Christian Education chair), Andrea Kauffman, Shawn Childs, Alex Dye (Associate Pastor), and Kelly Taylor. They will provide status updates to Council at monthly meetings and via email when necessary. The committee has met five times up to this point, given a status update at the January Council meeting and continues to move forward through the development process. It is the committee's intent to inform and educate the Oak Grove congregation of how this policy and procedure is established and will be administered and maintained. In the upcoming months, additional information will be shared.

Oak Grove Mennonite Church is a spiritual community, which desires to create a safe environment for all those who worship and fellowship with us, especially for children and youth. It is our responsibility as adults to do all we can to protect them since they are a special gift from God. Oak Grove acknowledges the high value that Jesus placed on children during his earthly ministry, and we seek to make all our church

activities and facilities safe. Sadly, child abuse is a serious problem in today's world. It hurts our children, youth and families, and erodes our society's foundation. This type of mistreatment violates the very image of God. It causes serious damage to the mind, body and spirit of the one abused. It causes harm to the mind and soul of the abuser. Subsequently, abuse damages the holy sanctuary of the church community.

The Child and Youth Protection Policy is a comprehensive effort for the benefit of the entire Oak Grove congregation and to all visitors and participants in our programs and events. Every church employee/volunteer must conduct his/her duties with strict adherence to the policy and procedures outlined within the manual. The Manual will be maintained and updated annually by the designated persons appointed by Council, who will ensure that annual training occurs and will conduct periodic compliance audits so that all materials are appropriately updated and followed.

We seek to adopt the following safeguards reflecting the spirit of God with the ultimate goal of bringing wholeness, healing and integrity to all involved. By adopting the following, we hope to protect the children and youth in our care and those who work and volunteer in our church community.

It is our prayer that this article has brought some clarity to this activity and encourages anyone with additional questions to contact the committee members, Elders and/or Dick and Alex for further clarification.

Did you know? . . .

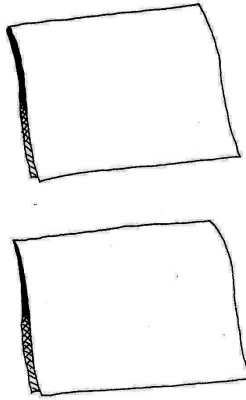
Laughter: The good heart medicine. Health experts now have proof that laughter is good medicine. A good belly laugh can send 20% more blood flowing through your entire body. One study found that when people watched a funny movie, their blood flow increased. That's why laughter might just be the perfect antidote to stress. When you laugh, the lining of your blood vessel walls relaxes and expands, Krasuski says. So have a good giggle. Your heart will thank you.

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. – 1 John 4:9-11

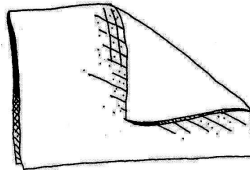
Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. . . And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love. - excerpts from 1 Corinthians 13:4-13

Make a Pop-up Valentine

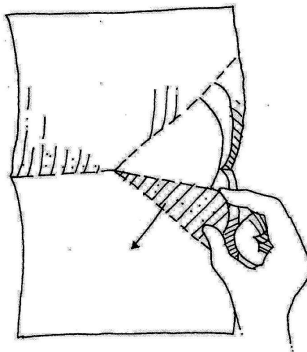
1 Take two pieces of paper, each 21.5 cm x 28 cm (8½ in. x 11 in.). Fold each paper in half. Put one aside.



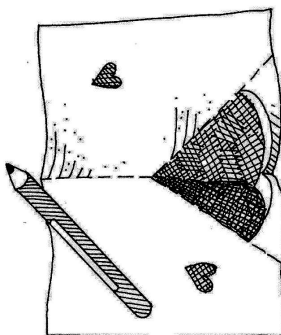
2 Place the other paper so that the folded edge is on your left. Fold the top corner to make a large triangle.



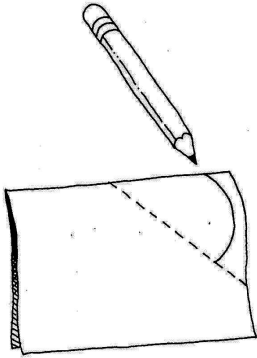
5 Open the card and pull the valentine towards you. Press the fold lines so that the valentine points forward.



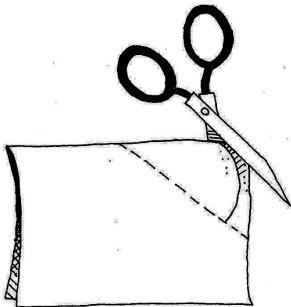
6 Colour the valentine.



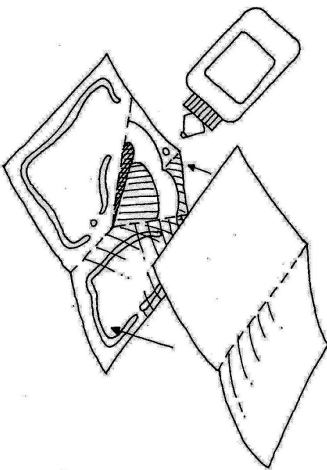
3 Fold back the triangle. Draw the top part of a heart from the folded edge to the triangle fold.



4 Cut the top part of the valentine, stopping at the triangle fold mark.



7 Apply glue to the outside of your card. Glue it to the paper you put aside. Do not apply glue in the area of the pop-up heart.



8 Decorate the front of your card.

