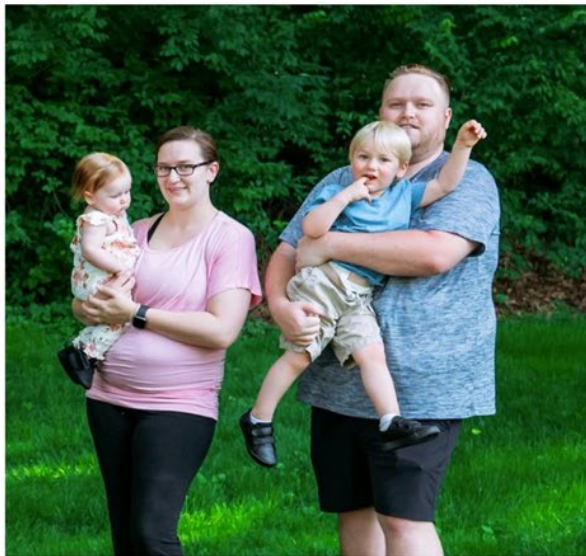


# WELCOMING NEW HOUSEPARENTS



WE WANT TO WELCOME THE BLAKELYS TO CAMPUS! OUR NEW HOUSEPARENTS AT THE ZION HOME, ALEX AND JESSICA BLAKELY, HAVE BEEN FAITHFULLY SERVING THE LORD FOR MANY YEARS. ALEX WAS A YOUTH PASTOR, AND JESSICA WORKED IN CHILDREN'S MINISTRY AND AT DAYCARES. THEY HAVE BEEN MARRIED SINCE 2020 AND HAVE TWO AMAZING CHILDREN, AMYCUS AND ALEXANDRIA, WITH ONE ON THE WAY IN 2025. THEY HAVE A HEART FOR MISSIONS, CHILDREN, AND YOUTH.



# THE BUILDER

NEWSLETTER OF THE OBLONG CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN HOME

## Guiding Young Hearts to Jesus



"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." -Matthew 28:19

### NOW HIRING HOUSEPARENTS

YOU AND YOUR SPOUSE...

- RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTIONS
- FULLY PAID HEALTH INSURANCE
- HOUSING, FOOD AND UTILITIES ARE ALL PROVIDED.
- COMPETITIVE PAY AND BENEFITS

618 592 3633

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# THE BUILDER

A publication of the Oblong Children's Christian Home  
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or visit us on Facebook

## Autumn 2024

HELP to children  
HOPE to families  
HEALING through Christ.



# HOLD YOUR HORSES



The "Hold Your Horses" fundraiser was a huge success, kicking off with a fantastic opening ceremony by the talented Rad Riders, a group of young girl riders who wowed the crowd! We had over 20 incredible riders from across the region, and the event wouldn't have been possible without the generous support of Bob and Pam Hall, our dedicated sponsors. Special thanks to our amazing staff, Chris and Amy Martin, caseworker Shana, judge Wayne, and the wonderful volunteers from Parkview Global and First Christian Church in Marshall.



# ANNUAL NOODLE LUNCH FUNDRAISER



Our post-Labor Day fundraiser is a highlight of rodeo weekend, a cherished time for our community. Right after the Labor Day parade in Palestine, we come together in a big way to support our interest groups for the year, enabling our kids to enjoy exciting trips. Community members look forward to our homemade noodles and delicious desserts, which are always a hit! Your support makes a difference, and we're grateful for everyone who helps make this event special each year.



New Life Academy has successfully transitioned back to a traditional classroom model, emphasizing the strength of textbook learning. This approach fosters deeper understanding and retention, equipping our students with essential knowledge for their future.

# PUMPKIN PAINTING PARTY



This fall, our boys and girls gathered for a joyful pumpkin painting activity, celebrating the season with creativity and tradition. Events like these not only allow the children to express themselves artistically but also build a sense of community and belonging. These cherished traditions create lasting memories and foster friendships within our home.



"But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."  
 — Hebrews 13:16

# HOLD YOUR HORSES

The "Hold Your Horses" event was a blast! Our stick horse racing and pony show brought endless laughter and joy to everyone involved. Thank you to all participants and supporters for making this day unforgettable for our kids and community!



**STICK HORSE RACE!**



**PONY UP A LITTLE!**

*We Thank Our*

## SPONSORS



*Belew Family*



Myerscough Foods



# CAREER CONNECTIONS CLASS



New Life Academy recently conducted its Career Connection class, a course designed to connect our youth with potential careers and the community. During the class, students toured "Flying S" in Palestine, a company specializing in custom metal fabrication, and the Mullens Dressing Factory, also in Palestine.

THEY ALSO HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH AND PRAY FOR POLICE CHIEF WILLIAMSON OF OBLONG, AND THEY ENJOYED AN INSPIRING PRESENTATION FROM REALTOR SUSAN MCDONALD OF PARROTT REALTY. IT WAS A GREAT EXPERIENCE CONNECTING OUR YOUTH TO REAL-WORLD CAREERS!



Feel free to follow us

STAY CONNECTED WITH US ON YOUR FAVORITE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS! WE'RE JUST A CLICK AWAY, READY TO SHARE OUR JOURNEY AND STORIES WITH YOU.  
#STAYCONNECTED #OBLONGCHRISTIANSHOME

## IN LOVING MEMORY



### IN MEMORY

**MICHAEL ROBISON IN MEMORY OF MIKE & JUDY ROBISON AND DEBBIE ROBISON ♥ RICHARD & CHERYL YAGER IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL YAGER ♥ BUSHTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN MEMORY OF PASTOR CHARLIE DUKE ♥ NORMA KEYS IN MEMORY OF CATHY KEYS ♥ ELM STREET CHRISTIAN CHURCH STEPPING STONE CLASS IN MEMORY OF LYNDEN BALDING AND PHYLLIS FEHRENBACHER ♥ RUTH SMITH IN MEMORY OF DEAN SMITH ♥ PETE & GLORIA BELEW IN MEMORY OF JEANETTE NILES ♥ MATTHEW & MANDY HARGIS, GREG & DEANNA HAMILTON, BETHLEHEM CHRISTIAN CHURCH, RANDY & LISA HARGIS, NANCY HARGIS, AND OTHER DONORS IN MEMORY OF FRANK HARGIS ♥ STEPHEN & KATHERYN STARKWEATHER, FREDRICK & RUTH BRAY, SANDRA CARTER, MARK & CHRISTINE GILLETT, JENNIFER GINN, BETSY SCOTT, CAROL TONEY, TIM & LORI TRAVOUS, BRAD & MAURA VOYLES, AND OTHER DONORS IN MEMORY OF HARVY GERTH ♥ PETE & GLORIA BELEW IN MEMORY OF LUCY SHILLINGS ♥ ALICE MULLINAX IN MEMORY OF SARA BENTON ♥ PETE & GLORIA BELEW IN MEMORY OF LUCY SHILLINGS ♥ DOYLE & JEANNE STEFFEY IN MEMORY OF TYLER INBODEN ♥ CONNIE JONES IN MEMORY OF DENNIS JONES ♥ MIKE & PAM CHAPMAN, DON & PHOEBE CORRELL, KEVIN CORRELL, MATT DRAPER & FAMILY, SHARON DRAPER, SHERRY HORTON, BOB & MARLENE JAMIESON, MELVIN & DEBRA KLEINSCHMIDT, JIM & SUE MYERS, TERRY & LYNNE ROCHE, AND RUSTY SWARTZ IN MEMORY OF ALAN BLAIR ♥ RUTH SMITH IN MEMORY OF DEAN SMITH ♥ RICHARD & CHERYL YAGER IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL YAGER ♥ MIKE & LOIS MANN IN MEMORY OF ROBERT WAYNE & EFFIE SNYDER ♥ RANDY & NANCY KEACH IN MEMORY OF JOE & BETTY MIDDLETON ♥ BLESSING HOSPITAL, BRIAN & MARY JO REED, AND STEVEN & KAY GINTHER IN MEMORY OF BILL ROMANS**

### IN HONOR

**ZION CHURCH IN HONOR OF KYLE BAILEY'S 50TH BIRTHDAY ♥**