

FESTIVE OFFICE HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA



EMBRACING THE JOY OF THE SEASON, THE OBLONG CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN HOME STAFF RECENTLY GATHERED FOR OUR OWN CHRISTMAS PARTY. LAUGHTER ECHOED AS WE ADORNED "UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER COOKIES," ENGAGED IN SPIRITED HOLIDAY TRIVIA, AND HAD A HOMEMADE TACO BAR. THROUGH THESE FESTIVITIES, WE STRENGTHENED OUR BONDS AS A CHRIST-CENTERED FAMILY, EMPHASIZING THAT UNITY STARTS WITH FAMILY. AS PSALM 133:1 REMINDS US, "BEHOLD, HOW GOOD AND PLEASANT IT IS WHEN BROTHERS DWELL IN UNITY!" GRATEFUL FOR THE WARMTH OF TOGETHERNESS IN CHRIST.



THE BUILDER



HELP to children
HOPE to families
HEALING through Christ.

A publication of the Oblong Children's Christian Home
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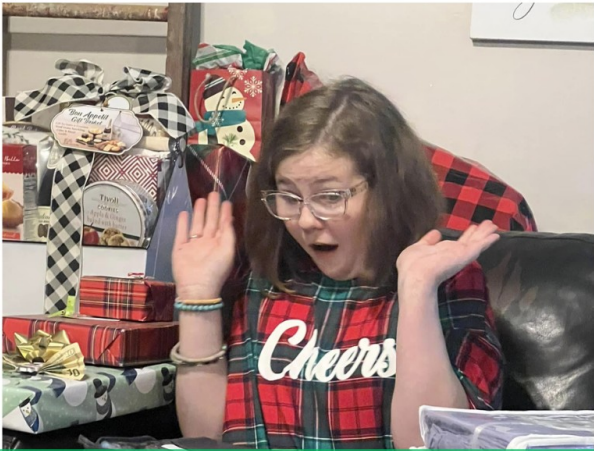
Winter 2024

JANUARY 2024



THE BUILDER

NEWSLETTER OF THE OBLONG CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN HOME



Her face says it all!



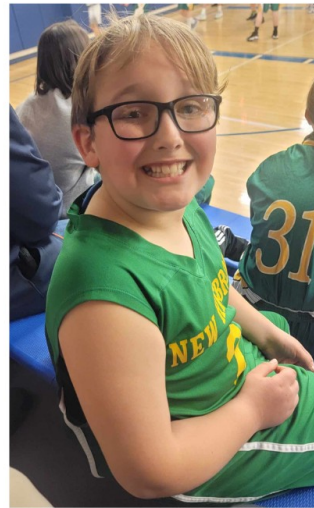
"It's just what I've always wanted!"

This Christmas season at Oblong Children's Christian Home really was something special. Our young people are aglow with gratitude!

Thanks to the heartwarming generosity of our supporters, our youth are unwrapping joy and wonder. Your blessings have made this Christmas truly special, bringing smiles that echo the love you've showered upon us. May your kindness ripple with the warmth of the season, and may the joy you've shared return to you a hundredfold.



May your days be Merry and Bright! Christ is LORD!



Our youth at the Oblong Children's Christian Home are thriving on the basketball court at New Hebron. Blessed to partner with such a nurturing school, our children are not only honing their athletic skills but also experiencing the values of teamwork and discipline. We are so proud of them!



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

BILL OAKLEY IN MEMORY OF BETTY OAKLEY ♥ MARIAN PARISH, CHARLES & MARY MEDSKER, JUDY MEDSKER, BRIAN & DEBBIE MEDSKER, AND MARK & MARILYN MEDSKER IN MEMORY OF JERRY MEDSKER ♥ VERN NORVIEL, STEVE ALLEN AND CHRIS HEINDSELMAN IN MEMORY OF JACK CLARK ♥ JOAN MCCARTY IN MEMORY OF GERALD MCCARTY ♥ LYLE & LINDA BAILEY IN MEMORY OF ROBERT NETHERY ♥ MIKE HENRY IN MEMORY OF JUDY HENRY ♥ MICHAEL ROBISON IN MEMORY OF MIKE & JUDY ROBISON ♥ SARAH ROOT IN MEMORY OF LORETTA BUCKLES ♥ JUDY RATHE IN MEMORY OF ALLAN RATHE ♥ MIKE & JUDY HENRY, JEREMY & LISA BEABOUT, MARK & JULIE BLAGRAVE, DAVID & SCHERRIE CHAMBLIN DEBRA CLETTENBERG, BOB & KOURTNEY COFFMAN, JUDGE & MRS. DAVID CORRELL, JOE CUNNINGHAM, MARCIA ELDER, FIRST ROBINSON SAVINGS BANK, SHARON FROST, DAN & LAURA GALLION, GEORGE & SUE HARRISON, EARL & KATHERINE HATTEN, HENNEGAN & ASSOCIATES, TIM & GLORIA MCDONALD, STEVE & CAROL MCGAHEY, GEORGE & MADONNA ORMSBY, MIKE PHILLIPPE, DAVID & WANDA PLEASANT, STAN & MARJORIE POOL, DAVE & JAN RIKER, DAVID & CHERYL RODRICK, MAX & DEBBIE TEDFORD, STEVE & KYM TRACY, FRANK & WANDA WEBER, DAVID FOOTE, AND PATRICK KEEN IN MEMORY OF JULIE K. THOMAS ♥ JOYCE BOGARD IN MEMORY OF HARRY DALE PHILLIPS AND DORIS PHILLIPS ♥ ROBIN & JAN TRACY IN MEMORY OF WAYNE & DAWN TRACY ♥ GERALD K. JONES IN MEMORY OF SARA BENTON ♥ JESS NEWTON IN MEMORY OF LINDA NEWTON AND JASON NEWTON ♥ CHUCK & JO BELL IN MEMORY OF KENNY BELL ♥ CONNIE JONES IN MEMORY OF DENNIS JONES ♥ ALAN LACKEY IN MEMORY OF DON CORRELL ♥ JOHN & KRISTY BARTON, RON & KATHLEEN DAVINROY, CYNTHIA OWENS, FLOYD SMITH, RICHARD SMITH, PAUL & BETTYGENE TAYLOR, AND PLUMFIELD CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN MEMORY OF CARLA GAYER ♥ RICK & SHARON KIRK IN MEMORY OF JUNE GRAY ♥ MARILYN KING IN MEMORY OF HAL KING ♥ LARRY KETTERMAN IN MEMORY OF ALICE KETTERMAN ♥ HAROLD & DARLENE ANGLE IN MEMORY OF DAVID PRICE ♥ LYLE & LINDA BAILEY IN MEMORY OF SANDY LAYMON ♥ JANE BENTON IN MEMORY OF LYNDEN BALDING ♥ MARILYN BOSECKER IN MEMORY OF NATHAN CHARLES DAVIS ♥ TODD EPPS IN MEMORY OF FRANNIE EPPS ♥ RUTH ANN FLEENOR IN MEMORY OF MEREDITH CLIFFORD ♥ MARILYN KING IN MEMORY OF HAL KING ♥ MICHAEL ROBISON IN MEMORY OF DEBBIE ROBISON ♥ ROBIN & JAN TRACY IN MEMORY OF WAYNE & DAWN TRACY ♥

IN HONOR

STEVE & LINDA CHAPMAN IN HONOR OF LOUISE BLACK ♥ LLOYD MODEN IN HONOR OF ARVIN MODEN ♥ JOHN & AUDREY SPRAY IN HONOR OF THE SPRAY & FEWKES FAMILIES AT CHRISTMAS ♥ ANITA NEWLIN IN HONOR OF RANDY & CHARLOTTE SPRAY ON THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY ♥

Home Ec



Great news echoes from New Life Academy! At the Oblong Children's Christian Home, our students are immersing themselves in the practical world of life skills through our newly introduced home economics class. Beyond the textbooks, they're delving into vital meal preparation techniques and honing their culinary prowess. This hands-on course serves as a cornerstone, empowering our youth with indispensable skills for everyday life. As they embark on this educational journey, we observe with enthusiasm the transformation of our students into confident individuals, learning a lifestyle of independence. We eagerly anticipate witnessing them grow into the adults God has intended them to be, equipped to navigate life's challenges with grace and resilience.



MAKING A JOYFUL NOISE



"OH COME, LET US
SING TO THE LORD!
LET US SHOUT
JOYFULLY TO THE
ROCK OF OUR
SALVATION. LET US
COME BEFORE HIS
PRESENCE WITH
THANKSGIVING;
LET US SHOUT
JOYFULLY TO HIM
WITH PSALMS."

-PSALM 95:1-2

Prayer
Alert!

CALLING ALL PRAYER WARRIORS



We request your intercession for the vital role of houseparents for our second boy's home, the Zion Home. May the Lord guide us to individuals with compassionate hearts and unwavering commitment to nurture and guide these young lives.

In addition to your prayers, we also extend an invitation to consider joining our team. We are currently hiring houseparents and want to share the appeal of this impactful role. Beyond making a lasting change in a child's life through Jesus Christ, we offer a competitive pay package, retirement contributions, fully paid health insurance for you and your spouse, and provide housing, food, and utilities. It's an opportunity to not only work but to truly make a meaningful difference. Join us in this sacred endeavor.

RABBIT THERAPY HIGHLIGHT



At the Oblong Children's Christian Home, the pitter-patter of tiny paws heralds a new and adorable chapter in our therapeutic approach - rabbit therapy. With the recent arrival of baby bunnies, we've witnessed the profound impact of pet ownership on our youth. Caring for these fluffy companions teaches responsibility, compassion, and patience, fostering emotional growth. As our young people engage in the joy of nurturing these gentle creatures, they discover the therapeutic power of unconditional love. The lessons learned extend far beyond the bunny hutch, instilling life skills and building connections that resonate with the values of our Christian home.

CHARLIE BROWN'S PUMPKIN RUN



Our youth giving Arvin Moden a plaque for 25 years of service.

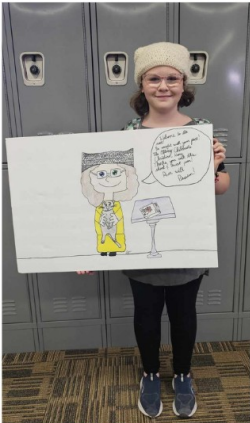
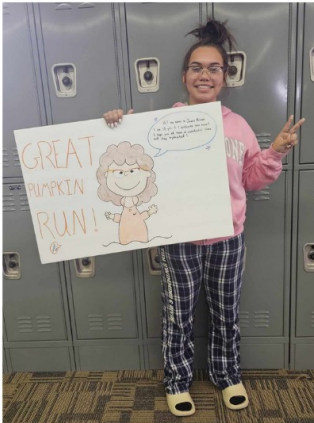
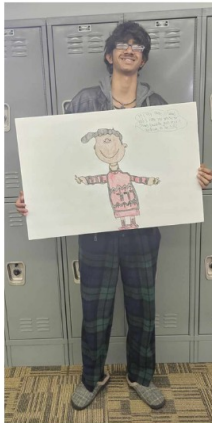
As the year came to a close, the Oblong Children's Christian Home brought the spirit of Charlie Brown to life with our "Great Pumpkin Run" – a 5k charity event that had everyone kicking up their heels. With joy echoing Charlie Brown's resilient spirit, our community, including some spirited youth, laced up their running shoes to inspire health and raise funds for our home. Just like Linus awaiting the Great Pumpkin, our anticipation for this event was met with excitement, laughter, and the warmth that comes from doing good together. It was a festive run that not only energized our bodies but also fueled the mission of bringing hope and happiness to our youth.



Our very own Jordan winning first place (Left) Pastor Josh racing to the finish. (Right)



The community cheering our youth as they cross that finish line. So blessed!



Our New Life Academy students helped decorate the race track by drawing themselves in a very Peanut's style. We think Charles Schulz would be so proud of them! We know we are!

LET'S MEET UP!



The Oblong Children's Christian Home is thrilled to extend an invitation to your church, club, small group, or mission fair for a heartfelt visit.

We bring more than just a presentation; our team is ready to share inspiring testimonies, fill the pulpit with a sermon, and unfold the miraculous works God is orchestrating on our campus. Let's connect, inspire, and unite in His love. Together, let's embrace the joy of sharing His grace and the transformative stories that unfold within the walls of the Oblong Children's Christian Home.

We're eager to be a part of your community, spreading His light and love. Let's make a date and witness the wonders of God's work! Call Brady at 618-592-3633



Recently our cherished alumni came together for a heartwarming reunion. Amidst shared memories and joyous laughter, the significance of these gatherings shines brightly, underscoring the enduring positive impact of our home. Witnessing the success and connections forged over the years, it's a testament to the lasting bonds created within our community. As we celebrate these moments, we reflect on the profound influence of our home, fostering relationships that stand the test of time.