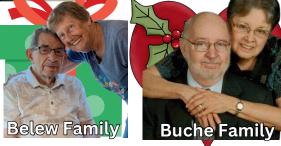
(JUST SOME) OF OUR HOLIDAY HEROES!



A huge thank you to our incredible "holiday heroes" who bless us each year with their generosity! Chuck and Jo Bell, the Berlin family for raising a hog and donating pork, Bill for always providing turkeys, our "grandparents from Texas," Pete and Gloria Belew, Ken Hart and the Mad Ravens, Barbara Martin, and everyone at The Christian Church in LaCrosse, along with Bill and Debby McCarter, our friends from the First Christian Church in Marshall, they have all made this holiday season brighter for our community. There are so many others to thank that it would fill every newsletter we've ever had (and then some)! We are so grateful for each of you and your kindness.





A publication of the Oblong Children's Christian Home 4094 E 1050th Ave., Oblong IL 62449 (618)-592-3633

> www.oblongchristianhome.org or visit us on Facebook

THE BUILDER



HELP to children
HOPE to families
HEALING through Christ.

Winter 2025



NEWSLETTER OF THE OBLONG CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN HOME









Mirade in The Manger



In a miraculous show of faith, local believers, led by John Lehman and his family, partnered with Oblong Children's Christian Home to create a stunning live nativity just in time for Christmas. Hundreds gathered to witness the choir of children angels singing, worship music filling the air, and even a newborn lamb. All came together to celebrate the true reason for the season: the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.



"Then the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid, for behold,
I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people." -Luke 2:10



College Bound!









Our students recently toured Lincoln Trail College, a local community college offering affordable two-year degrees. The college provides a variety of programs, including a renowned nursing program, technical degrees in trades, and opportunities in sports, theater, and music. With an evergrowing campus, Lincoln Trail College offers a comprehensive education that prepares students for diverse career paths. This visit underscores our commitment to guiding our young people in considering their futures and exploring educational opportunities that align with their aspirations.



Every year, our young men, guided by houseparent Missy, have volunteered at the "Madrigal Feast at the Fife," embracing the spirit of giving back. They humbly serve guests, embodying true gentlemanly qualities, and contribute to a joyful evening while supporting the community and singing Christ's praises!



A LITTLE HORSE PLAY



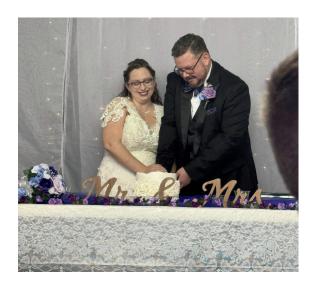




We are truly blessed to have the McCoy Riding Arena, a gift from the McCoy family, whose generosity made it possible for our young riders to work with horses year-round. Thanks to their legacy, Shana and the kids can continue their work, even during the winter months.



CONGRATULATIONS MR. BONHAM!





CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. BONHAM, ONE OF OUR DEDICATED AND TALENTED TEACHERS AT NEW LIFE ACADEMY, ON HIS RECENT MARRIAGE TO DANIELLE! MR. BONHAM WORKS TIRELESSLY TO SUPPORT AND INSPIRE OUR STUDENTS. POURING HIS HEART INTO TEACHING AND ALWAYS GOING THE EXTRA MILE TO ENSURE THEIR SUCCESS. BEYOND THE CLASSROOM, HE'S KNOWN FOR HIS INCREDIBLE CULINARY SKILLS, OFTEN BLESSING THE KIDS WITH DELICIOUS BREAKFASTS MADE WITH LOVE AND CARE. HIS WIFE, DANIELLE, IS A WONDERFUL FRIEND TO OUR MINISTRY AND LEADS REDEEMING LOVE MINISTRY, A NEARBY CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTER THAT PROVIDES HOPE AND SUPPORT TO YOUNG WOMEN. WE ARE THRILLED FOR THIS AMAZING COUPLE AND PRAY FOR ABUNDANT BLESSINGS ON THEIR JOURNEY TOGETHER!

DRESSED TO IMPRESS



Our kids had a blast at a recent costume party, and the cutest costume of all was a darling Cruella De Vil with her Dalmatians, alongside a super cool Jango Fett from Star Wars! They truly stole the show with their creativity and charm.





All So Worth It

We serve to share Christ's love, and we're blessed to witness Phoebe and Callen accept Him as their Savior.

All glory to God!
This is why we do what we do. Thank you for your support.





IN LOVING MEMORY



ROGER & EVELYN BARE IN MEMORY OF ERIKA BARE AUMOCK JOYCE BOGARD IN MEMORY OF HARRY DALE PHILLIPS AND DORIS PHILLIPS KATHY CHAMBLIN, MICHAEL & JUDY HENRY, WARREN & MARY JO PARKER, SANDRA GOODWIN, OBLONG CLASS OF 1964, REYNOLD AND COLLEEN BECKER AND BILL & PAM ROSBOROUGH IN MEMORY OF ROGER HENRY DAVID & JUDY DIX AND CHUCK & PAULA MIDGETT IN MEMORY OF JOHN COLLINGS (GRANDPA JOHN) GROSSI IN MEMORY OF GEORGE LAMBIRD AND EZIO GROSSI GARY & PAMELA GARRISON AND LARRY & LOIS STONE IN MEMORY OF TEX AND SUE RUDNICKE NORMA HARGIS IN MEMORY OF LARRY KETTERMAN IN MEMORY OF ALICE KETTERMAN MEMORY OF HAL KING GERALD JONES IN MEMORY OF SARA BENTON ANTONIN & PAMELA KORENEK IN MEMORY OF THEIR CHILD JOAN LAMBERT IN MEMORY OF CLYDE & ERMA WINTER **CLARK & JAN PULLIAM IN MEMORY OF DAVID PULLIAM** MEMORY OF ALLAN RATHE MICHAEL ROBISON IN MEMORY OF DEBBIE ROBISON TWILA DAVIS IN MEMORY OF LANORA SATTERFIELD ROBIN TRACY IN MEMORY OF WAYNE & DAWN TRACY RANDALL & ELLEN COLLINS, NANCY RUMSEY, KATHY PAUL, PHIL & SHIRLEY ATKINS, JOAN <u>SLICHENMYER, STEVE & SHIRLEY KEEN, SAM & EMALEEN COLLINS, DANNY & ANGIE WISNER, ED &</u> TAMMY RIGGS, STEVE & MARIDEL SCHONERT, ZACH HOLDER, FAYRENE WRIGHT, MORRIS FEUTZ, RAY & MARCIA VAUGHN, JANET WILL, BILL & DEB WEILER, JULIA EICHHORST, JANET JONES, CHUCK & CAROL DIEL, WEESNER FAMILY, ROBERT & MARLA YOUNG, RUTH YONAKA, ELAINE GRIMES, LINDA WILLIAMS, AND WABASH VALLEY SERVICE COMPANY IN MEMORY OF BONNIE JANE BENTON JOHN STEPHENS, SUSAN MITCHELL AND DANNY HARTHOUT IN MEMORY OF ROY STEVE & GERI EZELL, ERIC & LORI EUBANK AND LINCOLN LAND AGRI-ENERGY LLC IN MEMORY OF ESTELL KEYS LARRY KEELER

IN HONOR

MARTHA BOURNE IN HONOR OF LOUISE BLACK AT CHRISTMAS

DRIBBLING TOWARD SUCCESS



Basketball season at New Hebron Christian School is in full swing, with our young players showing great effort and teamwork. Relief houseparent Chris Martin offers invaluable pointers, mentoring our youth not just in sports but in all areas of life.



The staff Christmas party was a wonderful time of fellowship, laughter, and celebration, strengthening the bonds we share as a team. It's a blessing to work together in such a supportive, joyful environment.