

# The Church Organ

May 2010/Volume 16 No. 5



## From Your Pastor's Pen

### A Mother's Love

*"But we were gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her children"*

(1 The. 2:7)

When Mother's Day comes around, most people have fond memories of their mother's love (although I am quite aware that some had mothers who found it more difficult to demonstrate love). God has programmed into a woman's makeup a most natural form of love that usually develops toward her children during pregnancy. A mother's love has become a picture of gentle care. In fact, Paul describes his love (as well as that of Timothy and Silvanus) for the Thessalonian church in such terms. He wrote, *"But we were gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her children"* (1 The. 2:7). A gentle, caring for one another is modeled after the loving care of a mother.

Jesus used the care of a mother hen as a picture of his loving concern for Jerusalem, although it was not well received and even rejected. He said, *"How often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing"*

(Mt. 23:37). Jesus said that he cared for the people and wanted to protect them, but the people were unwilling like little chicks who refused to come under their mother's loving protection and who were destroyed because of their error. How much better it would have been if they had responded to her love.

This kind of care and love for her children was recently brought home in very vivid terms. A recent news story told of just such a heroic and loving care of a mother for her children in the recent tornadoes that went through Mississippi. When rescue workers were clearing rubble from a home and looking for survivors, they found a woman laying face down in the rubble, and she had been killed by the falling building. When they looked under her, they found two of her children, alive and unharmed! She loved her children to death. That is a modern example of a mother's love and it calls out to us to love one another like that.

Over the last year, or so, we have kept before us the need to have the kind of love for one another that is in this example of a selfless, caring for one another that is so deep that it would go even to death. First John calls us to remember that God demonstrated his love through his Son's self-offering of his own life. There we are told that *"This is*

*how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers."* Jesus told his disciples, *"Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends"* (John 15:13). Such selflessness is to be the mark of God's children.

Yet, we find it so hard to give of ourselves in this way. People have a hard time getting past themselves, past their own desires, their own pursuits, their own understanding, that the job of loving as the Savior loved is hard to emulate. But emulate it we must! That is our call to arms, our call to service of the Lord, our call to godliness – we are to love as Jesus loved us.

As we approach Mother's Day this year, let us observe the living examples of love as displayed in their tender care of their children and then see how we can follow that example of tender, gentle, warm, and accepting love in the way that we relate to one another as the children of God. Let us embrace one another in these examples of love which God has given to us. Again, let us learn to live in love so that we, as God's people, become known as the most caring and loving people, and our church takes on this sweet aroma of love for the glory of God.

Happy Mother's Day – Pastor Dale

*"...the job of loving as the Savior loved is hard to emulate. But emulate it we must!"*



For about the last year, Sandra Weaver has become a familiar face in our church. Sandra was invited by her sister and her husband, Ann and Tom Bussey, to come with them to Oak Lake. She was also excited about participating in the Community Garden.

Sandra grew up on a farm in southern Nebraska. When she was 13 years old, her father retired and they moved to Beaver City, Nebraska, where Sandra graduated from high school. After attending college for a year, Sandra returned to Beaver City and married her high school sweetheart in 1974.

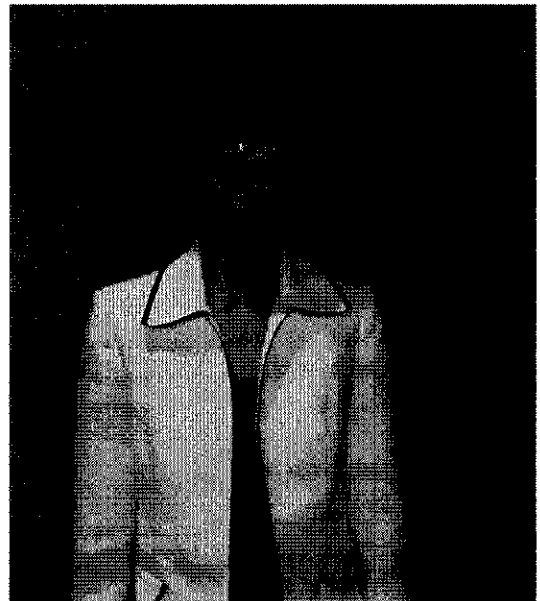
Unfortunately, Sandra's husband, Randy, was killed in a tractor roll over accident in 1995. She was left to raise her 13-year-old son, Nathan, and her 8-year-old daughter, Chelsey. During this time she worked at the Furnas County Assessor's Office in

### ***Branches on the Oak Lake Family Tree***

Beaver City, Nebraska as a deputy assessor. While working, she went back to college and graduated in May 2000 with an associate's degree in Business Administration from Grand Island Central Community College. That same year, Nathan graduated from high school and moved to Lincoln to attend college. Sandra knew at that time that her present job would not pay the bills while her children were in college. She promised God as she prayed that she would go anywhere He chose for her and that she would walk through any doors He opened for her.

Her sister, Ann Bussey, became part of the answer from the Lord. Ann called Sandra and was very excited about a housing development for first time home buyers a block from their home. Sandra made the trip to Lincoln to talk with the builder. Since this gentleman made her an offer she couldn't refuse, she stepped forward in faith, and secured a loan for the home before she even had a job in Lincoln.

The first two weeks in Lincoln were spent getting her new home organized and her daughter, Chelsey, set up in school. Then Sandra started looking for a job. On her way to an interview with the Department of Education, Sandra prayed "God, if this is the job for me, then I want it. If not, show me it is not your will." Sandra had to take a difficult computer test which made her think that she would not get the job. However, during the test, her interviewer interrupted her and said that she wanted to talk with her. She told Sandra, "The minute I saw you, I knew you were the person I wanted." Sandra worked for the Cooperative Education and Tech Prep Departments for one year and loved it. A friend encouraged Sandra to apply for a job with the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects.



Without additional education, Sandra knew she would not be able to advance in her present job at the Department of Education. So, she applied for the new job and it was offered to her. Since that time the Lord has blessed her with three promotions. She now serves as the Administrator for the Board of Engineers and Architects with the State of Nebraska. This Board also administrates regulation and licensure for the Nebraska Board of Geologists and the State Board of Landscape Architects. Again, God knew the income that Sandra needed. Although she has had many trials in her life, Christ has been faithful through them all.

Sandra says that she is a person who never gets bored. She loves gardening, walking, being with her family (which includes 3 grandchildren), reading, cooking, and learning new things. She always had a cat and a dog, but since moving to Lincoln, she has no pets. Maybe someday . . .

(Continued on the back page.)

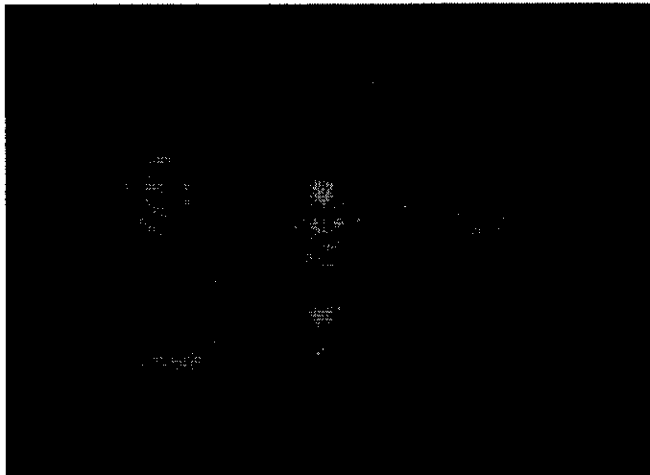
# May 2010

## Oak Lake Evangelical Free Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; margin-right: 20px;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Apr 2010</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Jun 2010</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						Apr 2010							S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		Jun 2010							S	M	T	W	T	F	S			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30				<p><i>1</i></p> <p>Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:15 AM</p> <p>Work Day 8:00 AM</p> <p>Kurt &amp; Nanette Olsen - 1993</p> <p>Nick &amp; Rebekah Meyer - 2001</p>
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<p><i>2</i></p> <p>Communion AM</p> <p>Young Adults @ Steiners</p> <p>Nick Meyer</p>	<p><i>3</i></p>	<p><i>4</i></p> <p>Ann Bussey</p>	<p><i>5</i></p> <p>AWANA 6:55 PM</p> <p>ELL 7:00 PM</p>	<p><i>6</i></p> <p>Investigative Bible Study 1:15 PM</p> <p>Food Distribution 3:00 PM</p>	<p><i>7</i></p> <p>Men's Bible Study 6:30 AM</p> <p>Phares' Small Group - 7:00 PM</p>	<p><i>8</i></p> <p>Music &amp; Worship Committee Meeting 8:30 AM</p> <p>Walt &amp; Mary Haynes - 1955</p>																																																																																																		
<p><i>9</i></p> <p><i>Mother's Day</i></p>	<p><i>10</i></p> <p>Elders' Meeting 6:15 PM</p> <p>Bev Bridgmon Brian Pfeiffer</p>	<p><i>11</i></p> <p>Ladies' Bible Study 9:00 AM</p> <p>Daisy Bright</p>	<p><i>12</i></p> <p>AWANA Awards Celebration 7:00 PM</p> <p>ELL 7:00 PM</p>	<p><i>13</i></p> <p>Investigative Bible Study 1:15 PM</p> <p>Food Distribution 3:00 PM</p>	<p><i>14</i></p> <p>Men's Bible Study 6:30 AM</p>	<p><i>15</i></p> <p>Madisen Bartsch</p> <p>Roni Sherwood</p> <p>Larry &amp; Mia Watson - 2004</p>																																																																																																		
<p><i>16</i></p> <p>Carry-In Dinner</p> <p>Bob Busenitz</p> <p>Butch &amp; Tammy Rosecrans - 1992</p>	<p><i>17</i></p>	<p><i>18</i></p> <p>Lindsey Bartsch</p>	<p><i>19</i></p>	<p><i>20</i></p> <p>Investigative Bible Study 1:15 PM</p> <p>Food Distribution 3:00 PM</p> <p>Grover &amp; Amber Weese - 2009</p>	<p><i>21</i></p> <p>Men's Bible Study 6:30 AM</p> <p>Phares' Small Group 7:00 PM</p>	<p><i>22</i></p> <p>Brent Koenigsman</p>																																																																																																		
<p><i>23</i></p> <p>Anna Watson</p>	<p><i>24</i></p> <p>Elders' Meeting 6:15 PM</p> <p>Julie Dahlberg</p>	<p><i>25</i></p> <p>Ladies' Bible Study 9:00 AM</p> <p>Jerry &amp; Lori Haas - 1991</p>	<p><i>26</i></p> <p>Dale &amp; Caroline Ribble - 1973</p>	<p><i>27</i></p> <p>Investigative Bible Study 1:15 PM</p> <p>Food Distribution 3:00 PM</p> <p>Bruce Duerschner</p>	<p><i>28</i></p> <p>Men's Bible Study 6:30 AM</p> <p>Sidney Weese</p> <p>John &amp; Mary Ann Higgins - 1976</p> <p>Cory &amp; Vikoriya Townsend - 2005</p>	<p><i>29</i></p> <p>Jon &amp; Barb Lee - 1982</p> <p>Tom &amp; Roni Sherwood - 1970</p>																																																																																																		
<p><i>30</i></p> <p>Trenton Townsend</p>	<p><i>31</i></p>																																																																																																							

**AWANA: Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed.** The goal of the AWANA clubs is to reach boys and girls with the Gospel of Christ and to train them to serve Him. What a high and worthy goal. Thanks in great part to Dale Luber, our AWANA commander since 1994, Oak Lake has been striving to do just that.

This has been an interesting AWANA year. The majority of the children coming are from the neighborhood – not from Oak Lake. As you might imagine this has presented some interesting challenges. Thank you, teachers and helpers, for all your time and work.



Once again this year Oak Lake participated in the Bible Quizzing and the AWANA Games. Although team numbers were down it was a great experience for those who participated. The quizzing is divided into two parts -- oral and written. Zach Thompson received a perfect score on the written test and missed only one on the oral part. Congratulations Zach!

One thing that makes working in the AWANA program easier is having enough help. AWANA will be ending this month for the summer break. This is a great time to start thinking and praying about whether you would like to help make a difference in the lives of our Oak Lake and

neighborhood kids next year. What a blessing it would be if all the leaders and helpers needed were in place by the end of August. Contact Dale Luber if you have any questions.

The last meeting of this AWANA year will be Wednesday, May 5, with the annual AWANA awards night on May 12. If you're unsure about all that happens in AWANA consider coming to church on the 12<sup>th</sup> and learning more about this ministry.

(Pictured: Dale Luber, Austin White, Zach Thompson, Joseph Thomson)

**MOTHERS IN THE BIBLE**

L B H A B C H T E B A Z I L E  
 I A H A C L I M C A T H Y D B  
 A T C E V A O A K A R  
 G H A V E L K N Y  
 I S M A R E H N A  
 B E Y A M E T Y N  
 A H E R H A K A J A  
 H A C R A A L A R M I B  
 A G I H R M L O E T A M E  
 I G N A O E S H T U R B H  
 L I U K B H A N N A H A S  
 A T E E E E R E G A H H H  
 H H Z B D R A A E H A A T  
 T B E M E V E H L E H C A R A  
 A J T O R M S A I D O R E H B

ABIGAIL  
 ATHALIAH  
 BATHSHEBA  
 DEBORAH  
 ELIZABETH  
 EUNICE  
 EVE

HAGAR  
 HAGGITH  
 HANNAH  
 HERODIAS  
 JEZEBEL  
 LEAH  
 MAACAH  
 MARY

MILCAH  
 RACHEL  
 RAHAB  
 REBEKAH  
 RUTH  
 SARAH

The New International Version Bible lists the words:

- Mother – 237 times
- Mother-in-law – 18 times
- Mothers – 17 times
- Grandmother – 3 times
- Grandmothers – 1 time

**Solution to *Mothers In the Bible* is found on back page.**

## Oak Lake Activities

### Women's Bible Study: Summer 2010

Summer is the perfect time for fellowship and deep study of God's word. If that's what you are up for this summer, then look no further! We are planning a summer ladies' Bible study in the book of Esther. All are welcome to come and especially those young ladies who are high school seniors through young adult age – married or single, kids or no kids. Let's get together to find out what God has to say in Esther – I guarantee there is more than meets the eye in this exciting tale! We plan to meet beginning in late May through mid-August. Watch the bulletin for more details. Hope you can join us! Questions? Contact Jaci Gustafson at 440-8362 or email her at [jaclynmarie5@yahoo.com](mailto:jaclynmarie5@yahoo.com).



When was the last time you visited our church library? We went through a period when we did not have anyone overseeing the library. It became a catch-all for all kinds of "stuff." Needless to say it was not a very inviting room. Thanks to Sue Block and Bethann Ribble, we are making great progress in de-cluttering the room and organizing the books. If you have not visited the library lately, we would like you to come in and browse. I use the word "browse" because this is the kind of library we now have. We are not any longer using the Dewy Decimal System and card catalog. We now have a browsing library – similar to a book store. We are working on dividing the library into different categories (adult fiction, children's fiction, marriage, etc.) and putting labels on the shelves. This is a work in progress. Please stop by and see if we have a book or books that would interest you. There is a self check-out system that is very simple. Just follow the instructions posted on the wall above the return baskets. Happy reading!

--Diane Smith

### ELL Update

Our ELL (English as a Learned Language) Summer Program will begin May 24 from 6:30-8:00 PM. Monthly meetings are set for June 28, July 26<sup>th</sup> and August 23.

## Oak Lake Digest



The time of high school and college graduations is upon us, and we would like to offer our sincere congratulations to several in our church that are ready for this big step in their lives. Here are the ones who will be graduating:

**Sarah Tripp** is graduating from UNL with her Master's Degree in Education on Friday, May 7. Sarah has her teaching certification in French and English. She has been substitute teaching this past year and she is presently looking for a teaching position. Congratulations Sarah!

**Amy Tucker**, the daughter of Ned and Lori Tucker, is graduating from Lincoln East High School on Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. Amy will be attending the College of Hair Design in the fall. An Open House will be held Saturday, June 5, at the Tucker's home, 2930 S. 74<sup>th</sup> St., from 12:00-2:30 PM in Amy's honor. All are invited to attend.

**Dillon Bridgmon**, the son of Lee and Bev Bridgmon, will be graduating from Lincoln Northstar High School on Saturday, June 5. Dillon's plans include working full time for Wood Brothers Industries beginning this summer. An Open House will be held in his honor. More details will be forth coming. Everyone will be invited to come.

**Kristen Vance**, the daughter of Kirk and Sandy Vance, will be graduating from Lincoln East High School on Sunday, June 6. Kristen is planning on attending UNL in the fall and majoring in early childhood education. Kristen's Open House will be Saturday, June 5, from 3-6:00 PM at Vance's home, 819 Manes Ct. All from Oak Lake are invited to come.

**Ali Dahlberg**, the daughter of Pastor Bryan and Julie Dahlberg, will be graduating from Lincoln Christian High School on Sunday May 23. Ali's college plan's for the fall include attending Grace University in Omaha, Nebraska. An Open House in Ali's honor will be held at the First Evangelical Free Church, 3300 S. 84<sup>th</sup> St., on Sunday, May 23, from 6:00-8:00 PM. Everyone is invited to be there for this occasion.

(Continued on the back page.)

(Branches continued.)

Sandra has been a Christian since she was a young girl. She attended a summer camp each year, where she recommitted her life to Christ more than once. As she's gotten older, she has realized that her salvation is not created by works, but by Christ's own blood and forgiveness. Sandra realizes that nothing we have done makes us deserve this kind of grace.

When asked what her favorite Bible passage was, Sandra pointed to Psalm 139. She has memorized it and often repeats it to herself when life gets tough. Verses 8 through 10 are her favorites. They say, "If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast."

(Digest continued.)

### Thank You!

I wish that I could express how much it's meant to me to have the support of Oak Lake as I have walked through cancer. All of your prayers, cards, and words of encouragement have meant so much to me and our family. We want to say thank you, too, for the delicious meals we've received after my surgery. We praise God for you all and His mercy in causing my cancer to be so found early.

--- Cheri Krahn

### MOTHERS IN THE BIBLE

Solution to *Mothers In The Bible*

Word Puzzle

By Jim Hart

L	B	H	A	B	C	H	T	E	B	A	Z	I	L	E
I	A	H	A	C	L	I	M	C	A	T	H	Y	D	B
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G	H	A	V	E	L	K					N	Y		
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B	E	Y	A	M					E	T	Y	N		
A	H	E	R	H					A	K	A	J	A	
H	A	C	R	A	A				L	A	R	M	I	B
A	G	I	H	R	M	L			O	E	T	A	M	E
I	G	N	A	O	E	S			H	T	U	R	B	H
L	I	U	K	B	H	A	N	N	A	H			A	S
A	T	E	E	E	E	R	E	G	A	H			H	H
H	H	Z	B	D	R	A	A	E	H	A			A	T
T	B	E	M	E	V	E	H	L	E	H	C	A	R	A
A	J	T	O	R	M	S	A	I	D	O	R	E	H	B