



Pulse of the Congregation

June, 2019

June Newsletter of 2019

by Sister Cessaries Galusha



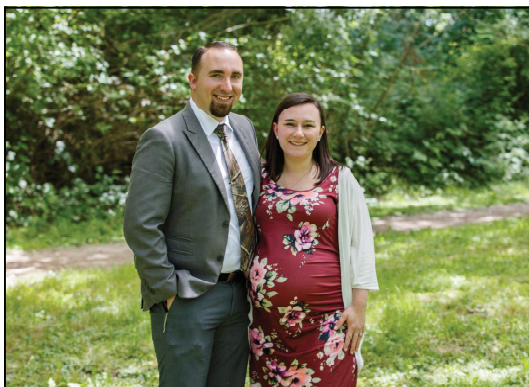
The Lord has truly blessed our congregation and region in abundant ways. Over the years He has provided places of worship, growing membership, strength in relationship with the other congregations in the Northwest, as well as developing connections with saints around the world! Even more precious has been the growth in our understandings of the scriptures through the enlightenment of His Holy Spirit even to expounding the mysteries of His

Kingdom. He continues to change and mold us in our daily walk to be closer to Him. We are truly blessed as a people. Yet, our God has not only stopped in these blessings of abundance, but He has also worked in wonderful ways in our individual lives. Great accomplishments, services, and life changes are happening among us at His direction, and we honor Him just as much in these ways. In this newsletter are featured just a few of these kinds of blessings, as well as articles, summaries, captions and pictures of the many activities the Salem Restoration Branch has enjoyed over the past year. In everything we give thanks and praise to the living God for being so tender in His mercies to us!

Growing Families in the Salem Congregation

by Sister Cessaries Galusha

Our lives change so much from one decade to the next. We start as babes, and then suddenly we are competing in sports and academics. College and life decisions come in our twenties, and then those same children become parents themselves. Even as we watch these happenings in the lives of others, it brings joy to see the fulfillment of God's promises to those who put Him first in their lives. Travis Clark and Lisa Dukes were once those children attending youth camps and growing under their parents' care. As they grew into adulthood and sought God's hand, He brought them companions of the most excellent character, and who have now accepted the gospel of His Restored Church. With joy, we have seen God at work in Aaron's, Lisa's, Travis' and Maddy's lives in finishing their schooling, providing them with stable careers, and homes in Zionit. Now again we rejoice in the great blessing of children to their families! Lillian Patricia Dukes was blessed under the hands of her grandfather, Gary Livingston, and great-grandfather, Robert Livingston, on June 9, 2019. It was a precious service to behold, with the Spirit of tender grace upon all. None could leave that service without recognizing the Spirit's presence upon us



that day. Travis and Maddy Clark will be joined by their little one at the end of July/early August, and we anxiously await to meet this child God has created! We pray for their continued blessings, and recognize God's hand in every step of their lives.



Congratulations are in Order!

by Sister Nancy Curtis

Jamie Leach graduated from a two year accelerated nursing program at Linfield College with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree on May 26, 2019.

Jamie served in the US Air Force as an Air Traffic Controller and as a Wing Scheduler for various bases in the US and overseas for nine years, and during this time she had an opportunity to assist several different times with medical needs of people that she came into contact with. It was those experiences that helped her realize that her passion was nursing.

In 2014 she made the big decision to leave the Air Force and join the Air Guard in Portland as a Medic, where she gained training in Trauma care. In her words, "at Linfield College, I have learned a strong foundation in nursing concepts and principles including client-centered care, holistic care, shared governance, stewardship and advocating for my patients. Additionally, through Linfield, I have had the opportunity to gain clinical experience in different areas of nursing including pediatric school nursing, acute care, mental health, chronic illness and critical care. Through this, I have found a strong passion for caring for critically ill patients and would like to carry this through into my nursing profession".



Jamie and her daughter Evelyn are planning to continue living in Sublimity while she pursues a career in critical care nursing.

[1 Corinthians 10:31](#) whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

[Colossians 3:23-24](#) And whatsoever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the inheritance of the reward; for ye serve the Lord Christ.

Accomplishments and Service of a Young Handmaiden

by Sister Cessaries Galusha

Our beloved sister, Kaitlin Grace Herren turned 14 this past May, and has just graduated from the 8th grade. She will be attending McKay High School in the fall with her sister, Emily, and cousin, Benjamin Herren. Kaitlin is quiet, self-assured, and very accomplished in both her academics and music. It is my delight to share the blessings she has received and in turn, how she has blessed the congregation. In her last band concert of the year, Kaitlin played the alto saxophone in Jazz Band, and second chair flute in Advanced Band. In each instance, she was featured by playing solos on both instruments, which she played beautifully. At the end of the concert the band teacher awarded students for their efforts in each band as well as those outstanding students of the entire year. Kaitlin was awarded one of these for Outstanding 8th Grader of the Year! She has worked hard, and her academic grades show it. She is graduating middle school with a 3.99 GPA.

She has not taken these things lightly, and has chosen to use her gifts particularly to serve the congregation. Beginning in January, Kaitlin has accepted the responsibility of playing for church services once a month, and continues to expand her repertoire of hymns and other music to use in this capacity. This summer she will begin playing for regional events as well, and she has truly shined in her service. Also using her flute, she enjoys playing in flute trios for ministries of music. We have been so blessed at the hands of our dear sister, and God surely delights in the pure service of His handmaiden.



New Employment Testimony

by Brother Michael Livingston



These last couple of years I have been attending Chemeketa Community College and pursuing a degree in Machining Technologies. It is a two-year program, which I just graduated from. During my last two terms I really thought and prayed about what God would like me to do for a career. I went to school to be a machinist, but I wasn't sure if that was what God wanted me to do. So I had been praying for direction and guidance because I wanted to do what God wanted. The time was coming for me to start looking and applying for a job when I graduated.

My dad works in an office of a landscaping business, and he told me that they were looking to hire a couple of people. I thought I should apply for it to see if that was what God wanted me to do. I also wanted to try landscaping because I find it very interesting. I wasn't able to work full-time at that moment because of school, but I put in that I could work Thursday and Friday until I graduated. I didn't know if I should have applied or not because I didn't want to commit myself to it if I found a job in machining, and that was what God wanted me to do. But I decided to apply and leave it in God's hands.

I heard that both positions were filled so I thought I wouldn't get the job. But a little bit later I got an email from the man hiring, and he said he wanted to interview me on the idea of working Thursdays and Fridays until I graduated. I went to the interview and told him that I would still be looking for jobs in machining, and that I might not be able to work there after I graduated. He told me that I would be hired on for Thursdays and Fridays until mid-June, and then see where we were because he couldn't guarantee a full time position for me that summer. He also told me to keep looking for machining jobs, and if one came up I should take it.

Around this time, one of my instructors at school was pulling everyone to the side one by one to tell them how they are doing on their machining and things we should work on. He pulled me to the side and told me I was doing very well and asked me if I had applied for any jobs yet. I told him I hadn't. Then he told me that he thought I would be a really good fit at a company called A-dec. He also told me that they wanted to talk to us about a paid internship that they offered this summer. A couple of weeks later, A-dec came and gave a presentation to us and told us how to apply. This was the second internship they had ever done, and they have been around since the 1960s. That evening I went home and I applied for it right away.

I kept praying for God to guide and direct me to what He would like me to do. I didn't know what would happen or how things would unfold, but I knew I needed to trust God. About a week after I sent my application in to A-dec I got a call from them to schedule a phone interview. After my phone interview I was called back, and learned they wanted me to come in for an in-person interview. About a week after that I got a call from them offering me the job. The job starts right after I graduate. During my interview I asked one of the HR people how many had applied for the job. She told me that nine applied, but they only asked three people to come in for an interview when there were four job openings.

Looking back on everything that happened, I knew God's hands were in everything. I was able to get a job doing landscaping, something I wanted to try and learn how to do, and was able to work on my days off of school and also had the opportunity to look for machining jobs for when I graduated. And also seeing God's hand in the internship by having it start for the first time last summer, and how they came to talk to my class about it for this summer, and being one of three chosen out of nine to come in for an interview. I am so thankful to God for blessing me with the landscaping job and also for my new job in machining. I continue to pray for God's guidance for after the internship is over, but I trust God and I know that He has a plan for me.

Colossians 3:17 *And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.*

Lee's Summit West High School Student-Athlete Cross Country Runner of the Year

from a press release by Gatorade

CHICAGO (January 28, 2019) — In its 34th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Ginger Murnieks of Lee's Summit West High School as its 2018-19 Gatorade Missouri Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year. Murnieks is the first Gatorade Missouri Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from Lee's Summit West High School.



The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the racecourse, distinguishes Murnieks as Missouri's best high school girls cross country runner.

Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year award to be announced in February, Murnieks joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Lukas Verzbicas (2010-11, 2009-10 Carl Sandburg High School, Orland Park, Ill.), Megan Goethals (2009-10, Rochester High School, Rochester Hills, Mich.), Jordan Hasay (2008-09, Mission College Preparatory Catholic High School, San Luis Obispo, Calif.) and Chris Derrick (2007-08, Neuqua Valley High School, Naperville, Ill.).

The 5-foot-2 senior broke the tape at the MSHSAA Class 4 State Championships, clocking the fastest all-class time of the day in 18:35.78 to finish 26.68 seconds ahead of her next-closest competitor. Unbeaten by a Missouri girl all season, Murnieks won six of seven races last fall and ran the state's only sub-18 time by a girl with a 17:53.30 at the Class 4 sectionals. She also finished 34th at the Nike Cross Nationals Midwest Regional championships in 18:29.70.

A senior-year transfer from Oregon, Murnieks has donated her time in Salem, Oregon, by serving dinner at Simonka Place women's shelter and playing piano for Restored Church of Christ, as well as area retirement homes there. In association with the RCC's youth group, she also donated her time roofing and painting for those in need, performing yard work for the elderly, and fundraising to provide presents for children during the holiday season. She also coached youth soccer and served as a peer tutor before moving to Missouri. Murnieks has since joined the Adult/Youth Choir at South Chrysler Restoration church in Independence. "Ginger has been a great addition to our team after transferring to Lee's Summit West from Sprague, Oregon," said Titans head coach Jesse Griffin. "She has been a huge leader on our team and is highly respected by the other girls and the coaches on our staff. Winning Missouri's big class state meet is the highlight of her career."

Murnieks has maintained a weighted 4.11 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in cross country and track and field on scholarship at the University of Missouri this fall.

Blessings in Employment and A New Home!

by Brother Brian Herren

We wish to congratulate Brother Charles Murnieks on receiving tenure in his professorship at Oregon State University. Though the family has relocated to Independence, Missouri, the extra effort and dedication made in Corvallis is sure to open the door to many blessings beyond Oregon State University. Such an achievement is no small matter. It is truly a testament of tireless effort blessed by the gracious hand of a loving Heavenly Father. We are so happy to rejoice with the Murnieks family.

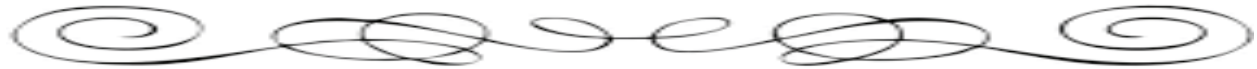
Please note that Sister Delight has recently purchased a new home in Woodburn, Oregon. The home is an answer to many prayers and we thank the Lord for opening the right doors at the right time. Congratulations Sister Delight!!! May the Holy Spirit fill your new home and may the angels be your company in this new home of blessing.



Challenge the Beast!

by Brother Charles Murnieks

“My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into many afflictions” (James 1:2). On September 8, 2018, I had the joy of participating in a Spartan Beast race in Snohomish, Washington with my son Donovan, and my good friend and kindred spirit in obstacle-course racing – Kevin Herren. The Spartan Beast race is not really an affliction, but it is a test of one’s fitness, heart and will. This particular race covered 12+ miles, and was peppered with 32 different obstacles ranging from walls, river and mud crawls, sandbag and atlas stone carries, rope climbs, overhead contraptions, lots of barbed wire, and my favorite of all, the spear throw. The challenge was to run from obstacle to obstacle, over hills, through forests, and across rivers, in a race against the clock. While Donovan was undaunted from the start, Kevin and I both admitted our concerns to one another over the physical nature of such a long course. We had both run shorter races in preparation and had experienced severe cramping. In addition, the weather forecast for the day was rain, which would make an already difficult course even more challenging. But the Lord showed forth his tremendous mercy. “Have I not commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed; for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.” (Joshua 1:9). When we arrived at the course in the morning, the sky was grey but the clouds held their moisture. Praise God for the dry weather. Throughout the race, we were blessed to enjoy the fellowship of one another (and lots of other racers). We proceeded to cover ourselves with sweat and mud for the next three hours, but did so without any severe physical ailments. Praise God again for strengthening and fortifying us. It was a glorious experience of pushing oneself, challenging one’s limits, and overcoming one obstacle after another. In the end, Donovan finished strong (and was easily the first of our team), Kevin crossed next, and I was right behind. It was an unforgettable memory to participate in this race with my son and my brother. Praise the Lord.



Local Business Meeting

Please support the following officers which were elected or appointed for 2019 at the local business meeting:

Pastor:	Elder Brian Herren
Counselors to Pastor:	Elder Gary Livingston Priest Jim Clark
Local Treasurer:	Priest Jim Clark
Local Secretary:	Sister Dorothy Herren
Local Recorder:	Sister Melissa Clark
Youth Commission:	Brother Travis Clark Sister Maddy Clark Sister Cessaries Galusha

Regional Business Meeting

Please support the following officers which were elected or appointed for 2019 at the regional business meeting:

Regional Director:	Elder Brian Herren
Counselors:	Elder Mike Terry Elder Gary Jones
Regional Youth Director:	Teacher Kevin Herren
Regional Women’s Director:	Sister Suzy Herren
Regional Treasurer:	Priest Jim Clark
Regional Secretary:	Sister Melissa Herren
Regional Activities Director:	Brother Aaron Dukes
Regional Music Director:	Sister Cessaries Galusha
Church School Director:	Sister Maddy Clark

2018 Congregational Camping Trip

by Brother Michael Livingston



July 6th through the 8th, we had the wonderful opportunity to camp out and fellowship together as a congregation at Foster Reservoir. It was nice to leave the worldly cares behind us and come together and rough the great outdoors. We had many activities that we were all able to enjoy from tubing to kayaking to just sitting and talking with each other.

We all got there Friday the 6th in the afternoon to get all set up for the weekend. We all helped each other get unpacked and set up our tents. We then had dinner and had campfire afterwards. Melissa Clark and I led the campfire that night. There was such a wonderful spirit there to hear the saints sing those campfire songs all together.

On Saturday we had a lot of activities during the day. The Trammells brought four kayaks because there was a pond right next to our campsite. Many of us took turns on the kayaks to explore the pond and to have kayak races with each other. Some of us went tubing on the reservoir. Some went fishing in the pond and on the boat in the reservoir. Some just sat at the tables and talked with each other, catching up on things that are going on in their lives. We all had a wonderful day with each other. At night we had campfire, which was led by our youth. It's so nice to see the youth worshipping God and lead us in those songs of praise.

On Sunday we had our church service. Kevin and Brian Herren were up front and Kevin gave the sermon. We were sitting under the trees in the morning and it was just so peaceful and beautiful. It was such a nice sermon. Afterwards, we all got packed up and went home.

We had a really wonderful weekend with each other. It was so nice to get away from the things of the world and fellowship together as a congregation. God surely blessed us.

2018 Congregational Picnic

by Brother Gary Livingston

On September 2, 2018, our congregation once again gathered together for our annual congregational picnic at Hoodview Park.

After spending Sunday morning feasting upon the Words of Christ and partaking of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, we spent the afternoon "feasting" upon good food and wonderful fellowship. I was once again reminded of the special love we have for one another in our Salem congregation. Many of us live within a mile radius of one another and all of us look forward to each gathering whether it be Sunday morning service, Sunday evening class, Wednesday evening prayer service, or our many other activities such as congregational camping, congregational picnics, or simply helping one another in service. Each of our gatherings includes lots of handshakes, tons of smiles, and many, many hugs. The Lord certainly is good as He is growing this people in the bountiful arms of His Love.



Builders Car Wash

by Sister Maddy Clark



The 2018 year's theme for the Builders was stewardship, which is an important principle for all to learn, especially our youth. So, while other men and women were about their own work of stewardship helping to roof the home of a neighbor, we set up a carwash station at Jim and Dianna Clark's home. From there any of the saints near about who wanted their vehicle washed could simply bring it by where the Builders were ready for action. We washed many cars that day. It was sunny, but not too hot, ideal for the project at hand. The

Builders took turns rinsing the cars and washing them down with soap. It was a joy and a blessing to be able to provide this service for others and we are grateful that so many trusted us with this task.



Restoration Roofers 2018

by Brother Ron Trammell

What a year for our roofing crew with three new roofs installed. Someone at one of our jobs coined the phrase Restoration Roofers, so I think our crew now has a new name.

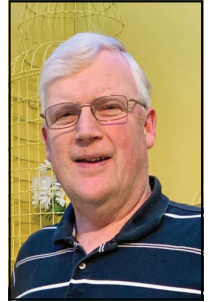
Our first job was a removal and install of a new roof for Jim and Dianna's neighbor Rosalie. Rosalie really appreciated the help and could usually be found picking up the roofing debris around the house during the work. This was just a warm-up for the next two jobs.

The second was Suzy Herren's home and brought on a new set of challenges from replacing two skylights to a steeper pitch that at times made it a challenge to stand on. But with that in mind, I think the tear off was done in record time thanks to the crew of Restoration Roofers for a fast and clean job. We were slowed by a couple of hot afternoons, but with a great supply of water, Gatorade, and great food, we finished.

That brought on our last roof for the year and was our biggest job so far. It was Steve and Traci Scuito's home, which was a shake roof being changed to a composition roof. We removed the shakes and had to install over 100 sheets of plywood, and then install the new shingles.

The summer of 2018 the Restoration Roofers were blessed in so many ways. The weeks around our first two jobs were hot but cooled down when it was time to do the job. At our last job despite a few days of rain, we finished with the help of Steve and Traci's neighbor who helped with his physical labor, but also when our air-nailer quit, he went home and got his own for us to use. Another blessing came when one day a different neighbor of Steve and Traci was out walking her dog and felt that she should stop and pray for our crew, but passed on by and continued her walk. The feeling did not leave her though, so she came back and asked if it would be OK if she said a prayer for us, and it was greatly appreciated. Thanks to all who came willingly to give of their time, effort and expertise to make these jobs successful. These three families were truly blessed by the saints' efforts and will have no worries from the winter rains.

These jobs could not be done without the Lord's help, so we thank our Lord and Savior for the ability to accomplish these goals.



Restoration Roofers

Campfire Class

By Sister Maddy Clark



In June 2018, the Youth Commission held a class for the Builders which centered on leading a campfire. We had several youth in attendance and planned to roast hotdogs over the fire for dinner, have a class that was led by Cessaries, and then roast marshmallows for desert. The evening was a great success. Cessaries provided note cards for all of the youth which included a summary of things that would prove useful if they ever needed to lead a campfire, including how to choose the right type of songs and how to keep a group motivated.

After Cessaries had finished giving the lesson, the kids were split into groups. They each chose three to four songs and took turns leading those songs at our campfire. It was great fun to see them in front of the group leading the songs, and working together when they found that they did not know a certain part as well as they thought. Until that momentous night, I believe the youth didn't quite understand all that goes into leading a campfire service--I know that I did not--but now they certainly understand how it can be both difficult and rewarding. We ended the evening by roasting marshmallows and eating s'mores, and Ben Herren took over the role of chef to make us some Jiffy Pop.



We were blessed to be able to take a couple hours away from the world and spend time in fellowship and song, learning and having fun at the same time.

Lambs Ice Cream June 2018

By Sister Maddy Clark

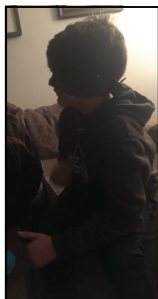


While thinking of ideas for a fun activity for the lambs, I had come across a recipe for homemade ice cream, and decided that it would be a good way to incorporate fun and learning in the same activity. Daniel, Caleb, and Gabriella came over to my house where were joined by Cessaries and Lisa and the fun began. To make this type of ice cream, we mixed rock salt with ice, which causes the ice to get even colder, in a bag. Inside that bag we placed a second one filled with heavy cream and sugar. I am a firm believer that learning should be fun, so I tried to incorporate as much science behind the experiment as I could, and the kids even helped! They are all so curious by nature that it was easy to explain how making ice cream works. After this came the most fun part of the activity--shaking! In order for the cream to thicken it needed to be shaken up and the kids found plenty of ways to do this--playing catch was a favorite. Gabriella even managed to get her bag of ice cream stuck in a tree! I suppose, even more fun than the tossing and playing, is the eating!



*Builders' Scriptural Game Show
showing Daniel in a blindfold
March 9, 2019*

*Lambs and Travis having a Plank
Contest at Lambs' Game Night
February 22, 2019*





Harvest Party

By Sister Lisa Dukas



On October 27th 2019, all of our youth, both Builders and Lambs, came to our house for our annual Harvest Party. This year we did something a little bit different than our traditional party. Earlier in the week the youth came and we passed out fliers to the homes on Happy St. These fliers were to let our neighbors know that we were planning to go trick-or-treating that Saturday. We were not planning to get candy as is what you usually do



when you trick-or-treat, but instead we were collecting canned food and non-perishables for the Marion/Polk Food Share. We only did this for about an hour and for a set number of houses, but by the end we had a full wheelbarrow worth of food to donate.

Afterward the group returned to our house and we had plenty of tasty finger foods. After we ate we painted mini pumpkins followed by a game of trying to eat a donut on a string. This game is similar to bobbing for apples in that you are trying to get a bite out of moving item of food without the use of your hands. Aaron held the string so after all the kids went he got down on his knees so that Ben would be able to hold the string for him to get a turn. The whole thing was very entertaining. By this time it was time to go home. Overall it was a fun party where we were also able to help serve our fellow man.



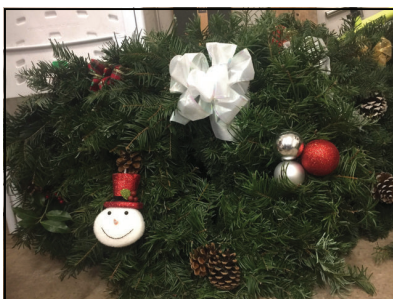
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Builders Yard Work

By Sister Lisa Dukes



On October 13th, 2018 the Builders and Climbers had a service project to assist with some yard work. We had originally planned to do the service project elsewhere but due to a variety of circumstances, that plan fell through. On that date, several of the men were planning to come and assist us with some of the vegetation that had gotten a little wild in our yard and the youth came and helped with that endeavor instead. The youth helped cut up the large branches that were cut down from the trees into smaller pieces so that they could fit in yard debris bins. They also helped pull out bushes and baby trees that were growing out of control, and gathered everything together into piles. Most of the leaves and branches fit into a trailer and the bed of a truck that was hauled away to a burn pile, while the rest we slowly put into our curbside pickup bin each week. Aaron and I both feel very blessed by all of the help that we have received. Neither of us thinks that we would have been able to do that on our own, and we praise the Lord that we have been gifted with such loving people that they would be willing to help us with our labor.

Builders and Lambs trip to the zoo, December 2018



*Lambs Trip to Gilbert House
March 29, 2019*



Ben and Trina Herren painting Suzy Herren's home, January 15, 2019



Sunday Worship Led by Youth

by Sister Maddy Clark



While the men were away at this years Men's Retreat, the youth were provided an opportunity to give a worship service the Sunday that they were gone. Cessaries, the Builders, and I met at Cessaries' home where we worked together to plan a worship for the next day. The Builders were able to brainstorm together and use some of their favorite hymns to help with the morning worship. They planned out the worship service and provided the lambs with an opportunity to be involved as well. Several women in the congregation were asked to share testimonies during the service. It was such a wonderful blessing to see the youth working together to host such a service, particularly because it was much longer than they are used to. They all did a wonderful job! The worship service was something that will stick with me for a while to come and I know it provided much needed ministry to those who were in attendance.



*Lambs play day with horses and
dogs at Maddy's Parents'
August 24, 2018*



*For visiting the elderly, the Lambs
made cookies and cards
September 22, 2018*