

# **F.H. & L.**

**Faith, Hope and Love, and the Greatest of These is Love**

**A Mini-Newsletter From Your Family at Oakhurst United Methodist Church**



## **OAKHURST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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LOVING GOD, LOVING OTHERS, LOVING LIFE

**Our Mission is to make disciples, nurture disciples,  
and spread the Kingdom of Christ.**

Dr. Tim Ehrlich, Senior Pastor  
[tehrlich@aol.com](mailto:tehrlich@aol.com)

Rev. Nathan Carlson, Associate Pastor  
[ncarlson@oakhurstumc.com](mailto:ncarlson@oakhurstumc.com)

•••••  
• Hello to our Friends and Family,  
• Life is full of surprises. No matter how much you plan  
• and prepare, becoming a parent is usually not what you  
• expect. The overwhelming love you realize you feel for  
• that helpless baby can be one of the most magical  
• feelings in your life. It can also be one of the scariest.  
• Seriously, how are you going to be able to feed, clothe,  
• and teach this tiny human as she/he grows. Much less  
• how do you hold a being this fragile without breaking  
• her?

• There are many ways to become a dad. Some become  
• dad in the traditional way supporting your wife through  
• pregnancy and birth. Other's adopt their children by  
• going through the labyrinth of the legal system and all it's  
• convoluted logic. There are foster fathers who agree to  
• act as protector and comforter to children in need. Some  
• of you are dad-by-choice, you have chosen to act as  
• family and/or mentor to someone you know. Each type  
• of father is special and can make a major impact on the  
• life of a young person.

• What do your kids call you? Or what do you call your fa-  
• ther? Dad, Daddy, Pop, Papa? God, too, has many  
• names. We call him Father, Lord, Abba and the list goes  
• on. He is our Heavenly Father, the one who forgives our  
• sins. It is God who teaches fathers about unconditional  
• love. Once you become a father the story of the Prodigal  
• Son is given a whole new meaning. Loving your children  
• through all their good and bad decisions. Supporting  
• them as they learn from those decisions takes patience,  
• wisdom and love. Forgiving them is a lesson we can  
• only learn from God.

• Is there a better gift than your three-year-old proudly  
• giving you the handprint he made in plaster-of-paris?  
• (Maybe it's the new putter your 30 year-old son gives  
• you.) How many of you have "Best Dad" t-shirts and  
• coffee mugs? Well, maybe there is a better gift.... The  
• unconditional love you receive from your kids. The kiss-  
• es goodnight, the "I love you" as you hang up the phone.  
• Fatherhood is a lifetime commitment. Thankfully God  
• has given us an example to follow and will continue to  
• provide us with the love and support needed to get  
• through all of fatherhood's ups and downs.

•  
• In His Joy,  
• Your Pastors and Staff  
•••••

## What Makes a DAD

God took the strength of a mountain,  
The majesty of a tree,  
The warmth of a summer sun,  
The calm of a quiet sea,  
The generous soul of nature  
The comforting arm of night,  
The wisdom of the ages,  
The power of eagle's flight,  
The joy of a mourning in spring  
The faith of a mustard seed,  
The patience of eternity,  
The depth of a family need,  
Then God combined these qualities,  
When there was nothing more to add,  
He knew His masterpiece was complete,  
And so, He called it. . . Dad



*In Loving Memory  
of our Fathers  
who have gone  
before us to walk with God.*



**A DADDY** isn't defined as the man who makes the child, but rather a man who extends his hands and time to help with the child's raising and his heart to love the child through anything!!!! **BLOOD** doesn't always make you a **DADDY**. Being a **DADDY** comes from the heart... any fool can make a baby, it takes a man to raise a child!

### Dad Jokes

Kid: Dad, can you put the dog out.

Dad: I didn't know he was on fire.

Kid: Dad, did you get a haircut

Dad: I got them all cut.

Kid: I'm hungry.

Dad: Hey Hungry, I'm Dad.

### What being a father means to me...

by Rick Jacobson

I coached Little League baseball with my two boys and with them being four years apart in age, I had to let the oldest son, Jeremy, go on and to be mentored by other coaches as I stayed back and began T-ball one more time with our youngest son, Aaron. I can remember their first attempts to throw, catch and hit the ball. There were times that the rules of the game were learned and sportsmanship was learned the hard way. Winning was not always the result of the score of the game but teamwork with other players was always a winning combination.

As we all three have matured, I am still standing on the sidelines or still standing in the "dugout" watching them round the bases of life. I am still watching them play the game of life as I taught them with rules and respect for all team members. They do not need me on the field with them anymore, but I am still shouting words of encouragement to them!

3rd John 1:4, "I could have no greater joy than to hear that my children live in the truth"!

**Georgia and Randy Cirksema have their rhubarb jam canned and ready for Florida. Can't wait until we see them in the fall.**





**The righteous walk in integrity—  
happy are the children who follow them!**

**Proverbs 20:7**

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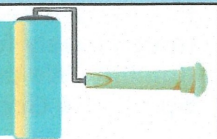


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DAVID L. ROWLAND, D.D.S.

201 107th Ave. • Treasure Island, FL 33706  
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