

# ***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**



"Knowledge puffs up, but  
love builds up."

-1 Corinthians 8:1

## **OAKHURST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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13400 Park Blvd., Seminole, FL 33776  
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727-391-4769  
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LOVING GOD, LOVING OTHERS, LOVING LIFE

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

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Hello to our Friends and Family,

1 Corinthians 8:1 says "Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up." How many of you have that friend that seems to know everything? That person who always corrects you and knows they are **always** right? 1 Corinthians 8 continues with <sup>2</sup> Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; <sup>3</sup> but anyone who loves God is known by him."

There is a difference between a "know-it-all" and a true genius. A "know-it-all" just thinks they know everything, a true genius probably does know everything in their field of study (and probably a few other areas, too). But more important than facts and figures is living your life to be known by God. Know-it-all or genius, knowledge is nice, but loving God and being known by him is a blessing surpassing knowledge.

As the verse above says, if you love God, He will know you. Isn't that a comfort, all you have to do is love God and He will know you. He will know your heart down to the depths of your soul.

Now those verses are taken a little out of context if you read the whole chapter. The whole chapter is talking about the trials of Christians trying to make sure they are not eating meat sacrificed to idols. Not a problem we have today.

However, that does not diminish the truth of the statement that "love builds up." God's love and knowledge of you supports you and helps you grow each and every day. He is not there to tear you down or break you apart. He knows you and supports you. "When I thought, 'My foot is slipping,' your steadfast love, O Lord, held me up." (Psalm 94:18)

Today, love and believe in God with all your heart so that He may know you.

In His Joy,  
Your Pastors and Staff

## In His Words

<sup>14</sup> **For the Lord will not forsake his people; he will not abandon his heritage;**

<sup>15</sup> **for justice will return to the righteous, and all the upright in heart will follow it.**

<sup>16</sup> **Who rises up for me against the wicked? Who stands up for me against evildoers?**

<sup>17</sup> **If the Lord had not been my help, my soul would soon have lived in the land of silence.**

<sup>18</sup> **When I thought, "My foot is slipping," your steadfast love, O Lord, held me up.**

<sup>19</sup> **When the cares of my heart are many, your consolations cheer my soul.**

## Psalm 94:14-19



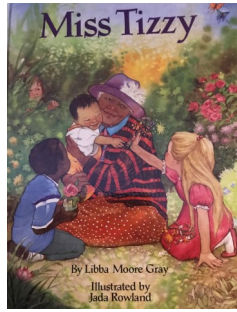
## Spotlight

**Street Ministry:** Prepare, deliver and serve hot supper to 120 to 180 needy people in St. Pete two to three times per month. Due to COVID-19 we are currently donating cash each month.

**Kenya:** Provide financial, provisions and spiritual support for missionary Deb Ralph in Kenya as she helps start a school for children with disabilities. Cash donations greatly appreciated.



Many thanks to our congregation for the over 200 books donated to Cornerstone Family Ministries, a UMW National Mission. In addition, gift cards and financial support were provided to purchase new books for child care centers in the Tampa Bay Area. Special acknowledgment to Lin Johnson who provided a video reading of her favorite children's book, Miss Tizzy, for the Virtual Reading Project. Your books and prayers mean so much to support literacy in our community.



Our very own John Payne celebrated a milestone birthday last week. It looks like his family made it a great one! Happy Birthday, John, from all of us at Oakhurst UMC.

### GIFT BRICK PROGRAM

The gift brick program is a wonderful way to celebrate an accomplishment, a birthday, an anniversary, remember a loved one or honor a veteran.

You can have a custom engraved message on a 4"x8" or an 8"x8" brick paver on our celebration walkway in the front of our church.

If you are interested and/or have any questions about purchasing one of these beautiful pavers, please contact the church office - 727-391-4769 or Kim Hofstra - 727-393-1477.



Our **Take what you need. Leave what you can.** table will be up through August 23. After that date, those in need may go to:



### Back to school Backpacks

We do not know what will happen with back to school this year, but children will still need school supplies. Missions pre-ordered 150 backpacks with school supplies to distribute to our local schools. If you would like to help a child, each backpack filled with supplies cost

**\$9.50** We will give packs to local children who are identified through guidance counselors and teachers. Consider funding school supplies with a donation through [Oakhurst UMC.com](http://OakhurstUMC.com) and mark your contributions "backpacks." Checks can be mailed to the Church at 13400 Park Blvd, Seminole 33776.



**Aldersgate Food Pantry** (donations M,T,W 10-1 (no donations on Th))  
9530 Starkey Rd.

Thursday only 10-1

**Good Samaritan Food Pantry**

6085 Park Blvd  
M, T, Th 9-noon

**RCS**

700 Druid Rd.  
Clearwater  
M-FR 12:30-3:30  
Thurs 12:30-6:45

Donations may be brought to the church office 9-noon M-F



## 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

<sup>4</sup> Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup> it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. <sup>7</sup> It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

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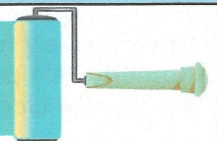


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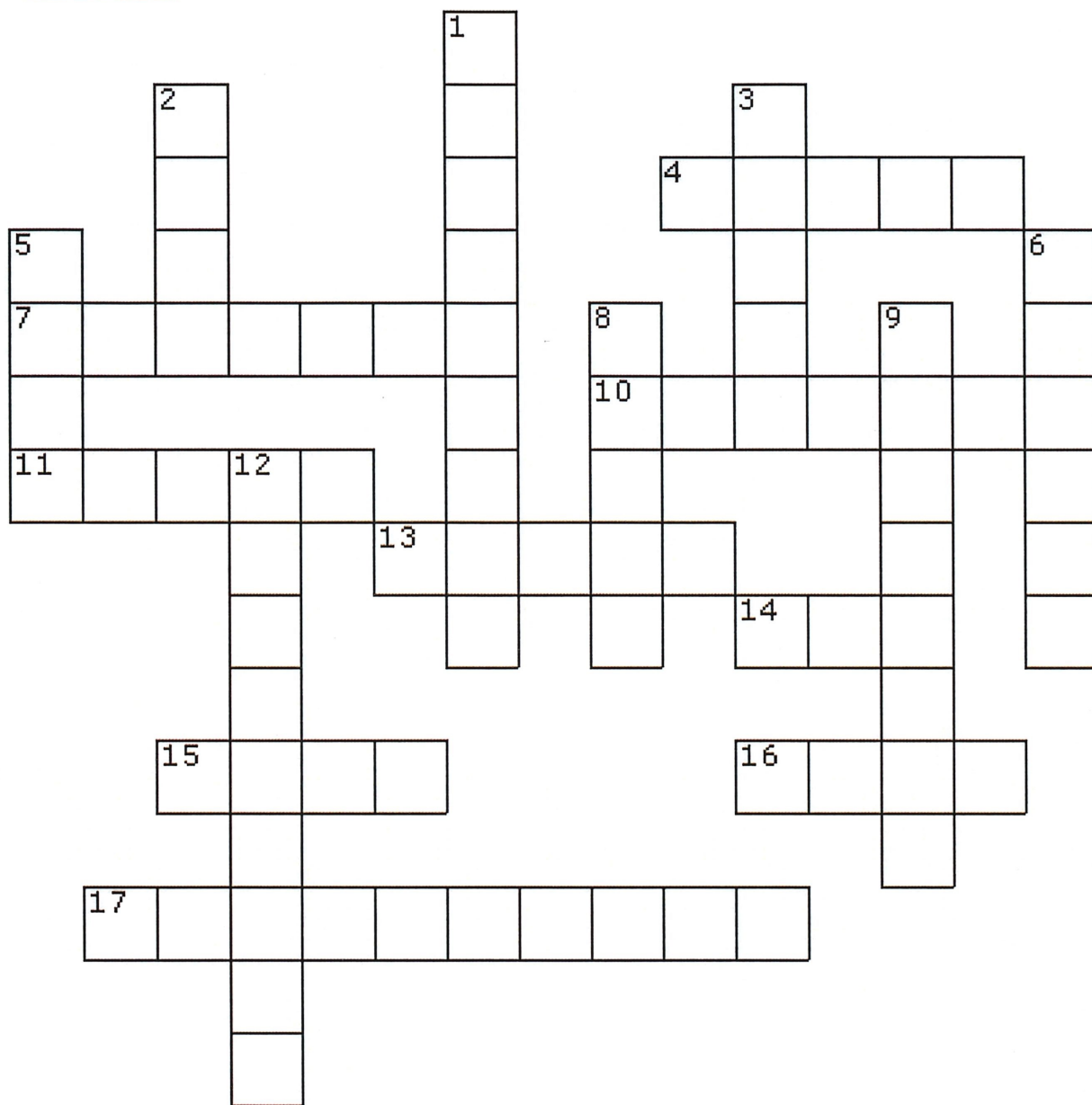
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# WHO SAID THAT?



## ACROSS

- 4 He said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."
- 7 She said, "Tell me the secret of your great strength and how you can be tied up and subdued."
- 10 He said to the Lord, "Will you destroy both innocent and guilty alike? Suppose you find fifty innocent people there within the city – will you destroy it, and not spare it for their sakes?"
- 11 He said, "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"
- 13 He said to the sailors, "Pick me up and throw me into the sea, and it will become calm. I know that it is my fault that this great storm has come upon you."
- 14 She said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."
- 15 She said, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word."
- 16 He said, "Am I my brother's keeper?"
- 17 He said, "You will not surely die, for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." (2 words)

## DOWN

- He said to the wise men, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." (2 words)
- 2 He said, "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud."
- 3 When Jesus asked, "Who do you say I am?", this disciple answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."
- 5 He said, "The woman you put here with me – she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."
- 6 Bracing himself against the central pillars of the temple, He said, "Let me die with the Philistines!"
- 8 When this elderly woman heard talk that she would have a baby, she thought to herself, "After I am worn out and my master is old, will I now have this pleasure?"
- 9 He said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." (2 words)
- 12 She said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear."

## Answer Key

