

The Flame

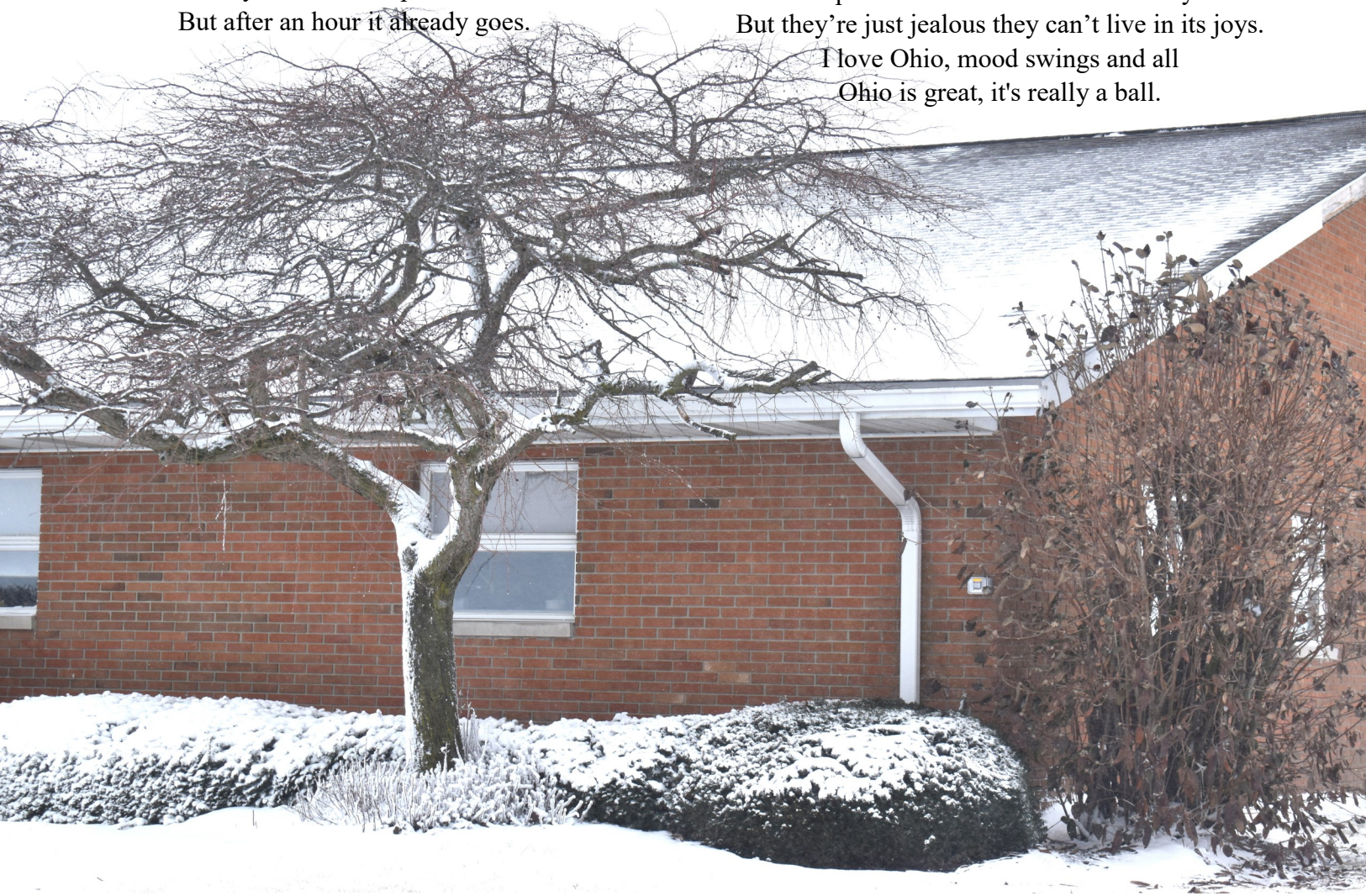
Shekinah Christian School ~ Plain City, Ohio
February 2025 Volume 41/Issue 6

Ohio

~by AnaSophia Schrader (10th)

With all the weather that it brings
Ohio is the king of mood swings.
One day it's cheerful- sunny and warm.
The next it is anxious- blustery, rainy; a storm.
The day after that it up and snows.
But after an hour it already goes.

The sky of Ohio wears a gray blanket of cloud.
Once a month it reveals its face: blue, beautiful, proud.
In Ohio, people wear scarlet and gray
To support the Buckeye's big game on that day.
People make fun of Ohio and its ways
But they're just jealous they can't live in its joys.
I love Ohio, mood swings and all
Ohio is great, it's really a ball.



GOD'S CALLING FOR US

by Elijah Yutzy (12th)

January 29– Jeremy Miller



On January 29th, Shekinah's 6th-12th grade students had the opportunity to hear from Jeremy Miller, President of Rosedale Bible College and Shekinah board member. Jeremy shared about finding God's calling for our lives. He spoke from his own experiences about trying to find his calling in

life. Jeremy said that he wasn't proficient in farming or education like the rest of his family was. Jeremy posed the question, "How does calling work when most of what you see and know doesn't fit?" The answer to this question can be found in Jesus. Jeremy shared Colossians 1:16 which tells us that everything was made for Jesus and for His glory. He also shared Micah 6:8 which tells us to "act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God." Finally Jeremy also shared 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 which tells us to rejoice and pray always and to give thanks in all circumstances. With these passages in mind, Jeremy went on to explain that

God's calling for our lives is first and foremost to be His children and followers. We find ultimate meaning in Christ. The good news of the Gospel is what should guide our lives no matter where we end up. Our jobs, our hobbies, even our families are all secondary to who we are in Christ. In our lives, we should not lean more and more into getting more and more money. We should lean more into Jesus allowing our lives to drift towards the things that add true and proper value



to the lives of others. We as Christians need not have fear and anxiety in our lives when it comes to thinking about our futures. We have the hope and the assurance that no matter what path we take in life, we already have victory in Christ Jesus our Savior.

DNA CHAPEL

On January 29th, Shekinah's elementary students were treated to a chapel talk by Hannah Righter. Hannah came from DNA to speak about serving others. One of the ways we can serve is to volunteer at Daily Needs Assistance, an organization that provides food and other basic necessities to those in need. DNA also plans special events in order to assist our brothers and sisters who are in need. Hannah spoke about the importance of this mission, and what we all can do to help.



IN ONE WORD, DESCRIBE AN AVERAGE SHEKINAH STUDENT

by Alex Bauermeister (12th)

February 5— Jonathan Purdy/Amanda Raines



On Wednesday February 5, after a time of worship led by our worship team, Shekinah board chairman and pastor of Mechanicsburg Baptist Church, Jonathan Purdy, gave the secondary students a motivating message. He

started by having the students write on pieces of paper a word they would use to describe Shekinah students' attitudes. They wrote encouraging words like *Christ-like*, *kind*, *positive*, and *faithful*, but the word that really got our attention was *selfish*. He was glad someone wrote this because his message was focusing on how sometimes as Christians, our views of ourselves are better than we are in reality. Referencing James 1:23-34 and Philippians 2:5-11, he encouraged the students to have the same attitude and obedience that Jesus did. He explained how obedience is the basis for disciple-

ship, and we need to be training for obedience to Christ as a school. We can gain a false sense of security with partial obedience to God confusing it with full obedience. He referenced Philippians 2:14-15 to say we shouldn't complain and argue and that we should obey with a good attitude. He went on to explain how when given a command, we have three options. We can obey, disobey, or partially obey. He urged us to recognize that partial obedience can be worse than disobedience itself because we aren't putting our full trust in God. We need



to be humble servants who follow everything God tells us like Jesus did. This chapel was eye-opening, and encouraging, and spoke to our hearts

The K-5th grade students heard from their chapel speaker, Amanda Raines, mother of Joel (K) and Gwen (5th). She talked about being God's vessel.

CHRIST JESUS: OUR PASSOVER LAMB

by Jacob Newman (12th)

February 12 — Mr. Kallis

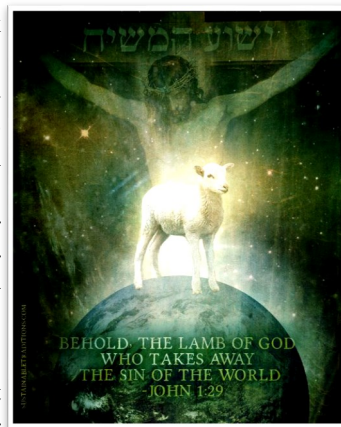
The Shekinah student body, as well as their pastors, were blessed to hear Mr. Kallis speak at the February 12th chapel. Mr. Kallis first told the student body what the chapel would be about. He stated that he was going to preach the gospel we believe using the analogy of the Passover Lamb. Starting in Exodus 12, Mr. Kallis explained how God used Moses to free His people, striking Egypt, who enslaved His people, with ten plagues. In the last of the ten, Moses warned that God would strike down the firstborn of every family. However, God provided an escape for His people. If they were to be safe from this plague, God instructed His people to select an innocent lamb, one without blemish. They were to kill this lamb, and



they were to smear its blood over their doorframes using hyssop. This event and the safety God provided His people through it was so important that God instructed His people to make it a holiday. On this holiday, they were to eat the Passover lamb, and one of the regulations which God placed was to not break any of its bones. It was at this point that Mr. Kallis instructed us to flip to John 19. Here, Mr. Kallis explained that John paints a picture of Jesus as

our Passover Lamb. Christ was crucified on the holiday of Passover. Further, His legs were not

broken, and He drank vinegar from a sponge attached to the end of a hyssop branch. Mr. Kallis explained that John painted this word picture because Jesus is our Passover Lamb. On our own, everyone is guilty before God. All have sinned, and all have inherited Adam's sin. Just as the innocent Passover Lamb died in place of the otherwise condemned firstborn, Jesus died in place of us. Just as the doorframes were covered with the blood of the Passover Lamb, so are we covered with the blood of Christ. This beautifully orchestrated analogy shows that Christ, the ultimate Passover Lamb, took on God's righteous and just wrath for our sins against Him, sacrificing Himself in place of all who believe. This is our gospel. Everyone needs to be covered with the blood of Christ Jesus, our Passover Lamb, to be saved from the consequence and punishment of our sin. Mr. Kallis ended in prayer, thanking God for this gospel, and encouraging students to be grateful and pray for fellow audience members that morning, including our pastors.



HANDS ON LEARNING FOR SHEKINAH STUDENTS

by Emma McDowell (12th)

First Grade Students Celebrate the 100th Day of School on Wednesday, February 12!



Counting out 100 kernels of popcorn



Learning about "Bossy 'R'" in English class

Second Graders Read with High School Speech Students

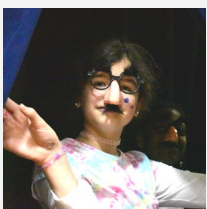


Senior, Ruby Gossard read *The Little Red Hen* by Paul Galdone. Senior, Mia Pierce read Dr. Seuss's *Horton Hears a Who*.

Fourth & Fifth Grade Students' Drama

Laina T.(4th) wrote this narrative poem about one of her friends struggling to get to the right page.

Flipping here. Flipping there.
She could not find her page.
Again, flipping there. Flipping here.
She looked at her planner.
She looked at my planner.
She asked for directions.
No one heard her.
Yes, I heard her.
Crying out for help.
I directed her to the right page, and
She could do her school work!



Fourth & fifth grade students combined their classes to act out a drama using Max Lucado's book, *You Are Special*.

Mrs. Conte wrote, "We recently studied the cell... We mainly learned about the cytoplasm, the nucleus, and cell membrane/cell wall. They drew on the board what an onion sliver looked like with a magnifying glass and also under a microscope lens. Then we created cells with a jello pack for the cytoplasm, fruit rollups for the cell membrane, and a Skittle for the nucleus. Students also drew pictures of what we made and answered questions concerning the cell."



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Sixth Graders

Kindergarten Students "Feel the Love"

Mrs. Lyon's mentoring group made and distributed goodie bags for the Kindergarten class on Valentine's Day.



Write and Present Explanatory Essays



Andrew explains how to make a sandwich.

THIRD, FOURTH & FIFTH GRADES LEARN ROBOTICS WITH EDISON

by Isaac Showalter (12th)



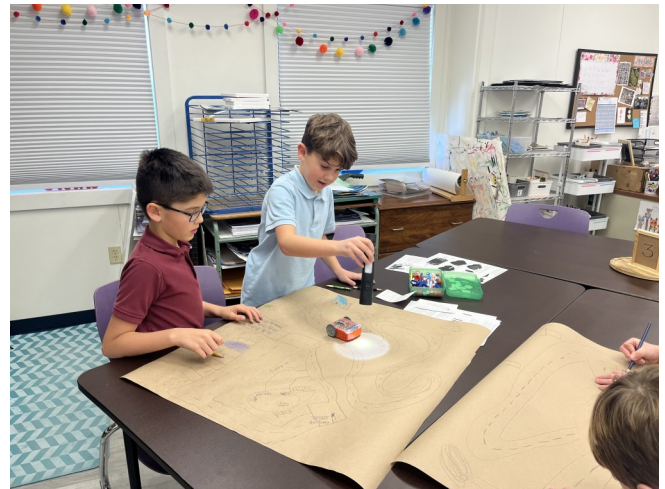
The 3rd through 5th grades are participating in a robotics program using a drag-and-drop coding system to program a little robot named Edison. Since mid-January, students have been meeting on

Wednesday afternoons in 10 groups of two, using Chromebooks to run the Edblocks app to program what they want their robot to do.

Mrs. Chany, the robotics instructor, commented. "The first weeks of Robotics were spent learning about the difference between robots and machines. We studied the capabilities of Edison the robot and how the robot senses its environment, makes a decision based

on the data it collects, then acts according to its program. Students learned about sound and light sensors, how they work, infrared vs. visible light, and light reflection vs absorption. Now that we know what the robot can do and how it works, we are ready to program."

In this robotics class, the children are learning about how to code, how robots work, how different parts of the robot work. When interviewed, the children said that they could program the robot to scan a barcode that would make it move in any direction. They could also program it to move in a certain direction when they clap a certain number of times. Moreover, they were able to program their Edison robot to move along a black line, or they could turn object avoidance mode on, and let Edison adapt to its environment. Most important of all, these children are learning how to get along, building teamwork and engineering skills along the way.



BASKETBALL SPIRIT WEEK (2/10-2/14)

by Aaron Humphries (12th)

In a show of support for Shekinah's basketball teams, the second full week of February was declared a spirit week. Monday (10th) was mismatch day, Tuesday (11th) was color explosion day, Wednesday (12th) was spirit day, Thursday (13th) was student/teacher swap, and Friday's (14th) theme was Valentines' Day. This was the final week of regular season games for the basketball program at Shekinah, and athletes have been preparing for OHSAA tournament play in the coming weeks. Good luck to all athletes!



BASKETBALL SENIOR NIGHT

February 11, 2025

Alex Bauermeister

by Max Kilzer (12th)



favorite memory
team to the
vs. Madison
cheering on

enjoys working on cars in his free time, especially his project car. His favorite verse is I Corinthians 10:31. After graduation, Alex plans to go to The Ohio State University majoring in mechanical engineering.



Alex Bauermeister was with his parents, Nick and Mercedes Bauermeister.

Alex has been playing basketball at Shekinah for seven years. His was going with the Delaware Christian Christian game and Johnny. Alex

Anthony (Mac) Bogenrife



basketball
the van rides
to Joe's

playing NBA Jam. He also enjoys serving at his church and watching sports in his free time. Mac's favorite Bible verse is 1 Timothy 4:12-13. Post-graduation, Mac plans to take a year to work with his dad before attending Columbus State.



Mac Bogenrife walked with his parents, Brad and Amber Bogenrife. Mac has played for Shekinah for four years. His favorite team memories are: going to Findlay camp every summer, to games, and listening commentary while

Ruby Gossard



favorite
camaraderie
the inside

her free time, Ruby enjoys baking, reading and goofing off with her friends. Her favorite passage of scripture is Romans 12:1-2. After graduation she will attend Cedarville University to pursue a degree in Molecular Biology and then Pre-Med.



Ruby Gossard walked with her parents, Andy and Bethanie Gossard, as well as with her sister Roxie '24. Ruby has played basketball for Shekinah for six years. Her memories are building with the girls and all of jokes they share. With

Joseph Henson



program's
Some of his
motor cycle
his friends.

Joseph Henson, accompanied by his parents, Raquel Vasquez and Brian Henson, has played basketball for Shekinah for the past six years. His favorite memories include playing NBA Jam as Mr. Brown and beating the breadstick eating record. hobbies include riding his and playing PC games with His favorite group of verses is Hebrews 2:14-15. After graduation, Joe plans to attend Mount Vernon Nazarene University and pursue a degree in Computer Science.

Maxwell Kilzer



Maxwell Kilzer went with his parents Paul and Scarlett Kilzer. He has played basketball at Shekinah for the past seven years. His favorite team memories include filling his gallon jug with chocolate ice cream and Joe eating 31 bread sticks at Fazoli's. His favorite verse is Colossians 3:17. Max plans to attend Mount Vernon Nazarene University to study Sports Management and Finance and play baseball for MVNU.

Elijah Yutzy



Elijah Yutzy accompanied by his parents, Matt and Darlene Yutzy, has played basketball for eight years. When asked what his favorite memory is while playing basketball at Shekinah, he said "all of it." When he is not in school or basketball, Elijah enjoys fixing anything he can, all things electronics and spending time with friends. His chosen passage from Scripture is Psalm 121. After graduation, Elijah plans to attend Mount Vernon Nazarene University and study something sports-medicine-related.



Pastors' Appreciation Day



February 12, 2025

by Joseph Henson (12th)



We Appreciate Our Pastors!

On Wednesday, February 12, the pastors of Shekinah students were invited to join the administration for breakfast followed by chapel. More than 20 pastors and ministry leaders attended, packing out the bleachers in the gym for a combined chapel. After a time of worship, our secondary Bible teacher, Mr. Kallis, spoke. When chapel ended, students were able to take pictures with their pastors and talk to other pastors to get to know them. The purpose of the morning was to show our pastors that we value them and all that they do for the church and for the community.



Annual Carnation Sale

by Mia Pierce (12th)

The junior class held their annual Carnations Sale from January 21st to January 30th. In addition to the typical carnations, they also sold Anthony Thomas crunch chocolate bars. Because of the increase in numbers of the student body, the junior class was able to sell over 100 more carnations than in previous years.

“It was worth it because it puts smiles on their faces when they receive the carnations and chocolate,” said Junior Class President, Graci H. “This fundraiser makes more money for the junior class to use for the banquet, and the student body gets gifts from their friends.”

Over the course of the two weeks, the class sold 524 carnations and 178 chocolate bars. This fundraiser allowed them to make approximately \$800 which will go towards the Junior Senior Banquet in May. The junior class distributed the carnations to the students during the final period of the day on Valentine’s Day.



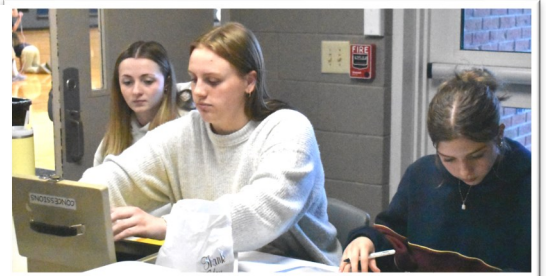
The junior class distributed the carnations on Valentine’s Day, February 14th, during 8th period.



The junior class organized and tagged the flowers and chocolate after school on February 13th.



The junior class sold the carnations and chocolate bars at lunch over the two weeks of January 1st to January 30th.



Students of the Month



Austin H.
**Secondary Student
of
the Month**

Junior, Austin H., was nominated as the February Student of the Month in grades 6th-12th.

Austin stands out for the way he has responded to the disappointment of not being able to play basketball for the last part of his junior year because of an ACL tear and surgery on his knee. His classmates have noticed that “he has an extremely positive attitude in spite of the hardships he’s been going through.” Congratulations, Austin! Thank you for setting a high standard and for being an overcomer !



Aria B.
**Elementary Student
of
the Month**

Fifth grade student, Aria B. was nominated as the February Student of the Month in grades K-5th.

Aria was nominated because “she is such a loyal, kind, and funny friend.” One of those friends says, “Every day she makes me laugh. I am so glad to have her in my life.”

Congratulations on being nominated as the Elementary Student of the Month, Aria!

STUDENT VALUES

Responsibility, Kindness, Excellence, Respect, Persistence, Integrity, Team Player, Empathy, and Commitment

The School Publications Class wants to recognize these values each month. Students can drop their nominations (one from K-5th and one from 6th-12th) into the blue bucket in the cafeteria. Besides naming a person, students need to write why they are nominating that person. Don’t forget to sign your name in case we need to ask for more details.

Alumni News and Notes

Births:

. Kendall and **Emilee (Miller) Yoder ‘16**;
Theodore John (Teddy) born January 24,
2025; first child, first son.

Wedding:

Mandi Scheffel ‘19; and Nathaniel
Troyer married on January 25, 2025.

Attention Alumni !!

We want to hear from you. Send updates about your lives to lshetler@shekinahchristian.org. Tell us about births, marriages, promotions, new jobs, ministry opportunities, and anything else you’d like to share.

If you are receiving this newsletter by mail, we would love to send it to you through email. We would like to save funds on postage and printing.

Help us to keep our database up-to-date by letting us know if you have a change of address or email address. Thank you for staying in touch!

Alumni Marrying Alumni



Married June 21, 1986

Mark '81 and Shana (Yutzy) Gingerich '83



Sixty-eight Shekinah graduates have married each other. That's thirty-four couples in the 47 years of Shekinah's history!

One of the earliest alumni weddings was Mark Gingerich and Shana Yutzy. Mark and Shana took time out of their busy schedules recently to answer some questions about their relationship and lives together.

Shana first "noticed" Mark when he moved to Plain City. She was 14 and he was 16. They had their first date when Shana was 17, and she says, "We quickly knew we were meant for each other."

They married in 1986, and they had five children born from 1988 to 2002. The little family of seven has grown quickly these past years. They are now a family of 25 and soon to be 28 (13 grandchildren with three more on the way). They describe their family gatherings "as loud and crazy as you could imagine!"

Mark and Shana are members at Shiloh Mennonite Church and feel very grateful for their church family. They enjoy being involved in different ways. Mark currently serves on the Men's Ministry team, and Shana is the Children's Ministry Director. They both enjoy teaching Sunday School.

Both Mark and Shana have experienced fruitful careers. Shana taught their five children at home. Mark is a self-employed artist/mason. Check out his art at

Brandt Gallery in Columbus or Berlin Creek Gallery in Holmes County. www.brandt-gallery.com



Besides their work schedules, grand-parenting, and ministry involvements, Mark and Shana run a successful Airbnb in their home.

Approaching 40 years of marriage, Mark and Shana have several perspectives and priorities that have been part of making their marriage work.

1. Make seeking God your highest priority.
2. Read the Word. Discuss what you are reading and learning and pray together often.
3. Life is short! Appreciate each other. Find activities you both enjoy and have fun together regularly.

(Some of the activities they enjoy together are swimming/working out at the gym, walking, riding their e-bikes, playing games, and traveling.)

Mark your calendars.....

February

12—Pastors' Appreciation Breakfast

17—No SCHOOL Presidents' Day

March

3-7—Spiritual Emphasis Week

14—Elementary Grandparents' Day

14—12:30 Dismissal End of 3rd Quarter

19-22—7th-8th Grade D.C. Trip

19-26—Senior trip to Costa Rica

24-28—NO SCHOOL Spring Break

January Challenge Winner

Which number continues this sequence?

252 124 60 28 12 ?

The correct answer to this challenge was 4. Thank you to everyone who took the time to respond correctly. Congratulations to Max Kilzer who won the drawing for a \$10 Chick-Fil-A gift card!

**The Student Activity Booster Club
would like to thank our Sponsors
for their generous support!**

GOLD

Clean Cars Ohio

Country Closet, IT made REAL

Jessica Photography, Miller Cabinet Company

Mill West Amish Furniture

P.C. Animal Hospital, P.C. Village Market

Red 1 Realty, R & T Yoder Electric,

TL Builders, WJ Plumbing & Heating

Yutzy's Farm Market

SILVER

Cooley Custom Cabinet, Integrity Door Sales

Lyon & Sons Body Shop, Purdy Farms

Rosedale Bible College, Smiles to Love

BRONZE

Yutzy Pastures

February Challenge

If M plus N equals 25 and M times N equals 66, what is M minus N? Send the correct answer to 614-873-3143 and have your name put in a drawing for a free 2025 yearbook!

* Editor : Linda Shetler * Student Editors: School Publications Class

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