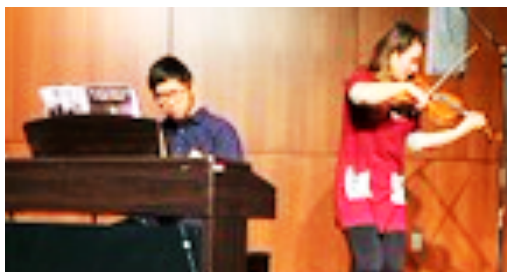


OK CONNECTION

January – February 2024



These folks enjoyed Christmas caroling to shut-ins Dec. 18. Thirty-three (33) plates of cookies prepared by ladies on the care team were given to folks visited that day.



OK Christmas featured piano/violin duo by Kevin & Heidi Cheng.

Gum drop people were made for graham cracker nativities.



mark  your **Calendar**

9 am, Sat., Jan. 27

OK Fellowship
Breakfast & Bible Bingo

~ ~ ~

12 pm, Sat., Feb. 24

OK Birthday Party!

~ ~ ~

6 pm, Wed., Mar. 27

OK Fellowship Potluck
Feature - Rock Solid Kids

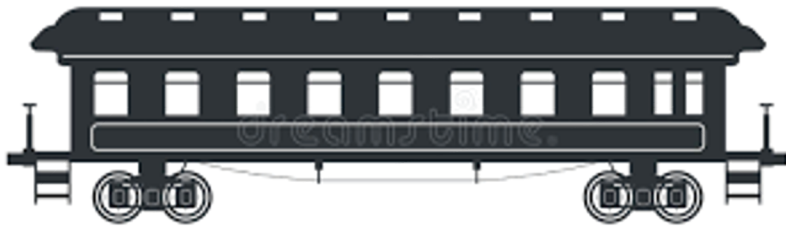
~ ~ ~

6 pm Thurs, Apr. 25

OK Fellowship
"Let's go to India!"
By Liz Everhardt



390 - 400 shoeboxes
were packed for
Operation Christmas
Child!



Life is like a journey on a train with its changes of routes and their accidents.

“It’s all in God’s Plan”

At birth we board a train and meet our parents. We believe they will always travel by our side. However, at some station, our parents will step down from the train, leaving us on this journey alone. As time goes by, other people will board the train, and they will be significant – siblings, relatives, children, the love of your life and many others. Some will step down and leave a permanent vacuum. Others will go on so unnoticed that we won’t realize they have vacated their seats.

The great mystery to everyone is: we don’t know in which station, we ourselves will step down. So, we must live in the best way, loving, forgiving and offering the best of who we are. It is important to do this because when the time comes for us to step down and leave our seat empty on the train, we should leave beautiful memories for those who continue to ride on this train of life.

I hope you have a joyful ride on this train. Reap success and give lots of love and forgiveness along the way. Most importantly, thank God for the journey.

Lastly, I thank you for being one of the passengers on my train. My wish is that the journey on this train be better each day in the coming year. May your year be full of love and peace, prosperity and health for us all. I love you, my fellow passengers.

(Author unknown)

“For I know the plans I have for you,” says the LORD. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.””

Jeremiah 29:11



“Thank You for making me so wonderfully complex! You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. Every day of my life was recorded in Your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.” Psalm 139:14a, 15-16

Marsha Iske

I was born December 8, 1941 in Omaha, NE. My dad actually told me, "You caused the 2nd World War! Japanese bombers were flying over Pearl Harbor on December 7th when the stork carrying you crossed their path. The pilots were so frightened when they saw this, they dropped their bombs." As a result, the next day war was declared on Japan.

My young life was full of activity. I was a girl scout from the 2nd grade through high school and took dancing lessons (tap, ballet, acrobatics and toe). I was in Rainbow Girls for 7 years from junior high until I was married.

I taught Sunday School and Bible School for several years and volunteered at the Air Force Filter Center tracking all aircraft traffic in western and eastern Nebraska and western Iowa when I was in high school. I participated in lots of other clubs and activities, too many to mention.



During the time I attended Wayne State College, I prayed the sinner's prayer and gave my life to the Lord. I also traded my Bachelor's Degree for a Mrs. Degree when I married John Iske from Springfield, NE on Feb. 25, 1961. John was in the Air Force and we began our married life in Cheyenne, WY. We soon went to England where John was stationed at Brize Norton Air Force Base. During our four years in England, our first son was born and we were expecting our first daughter when we moved back home to Omaha. John joined the State Patrol and we settled in Osceola where our second son was born. Our last daughter was born after we moved to Grand Island in 1971. John worked as a Road Trooper and finished his last seven years as an investigator. I filled my days working as a nurse aide and credit and office manager at Miller & Paine Department store. In my spare time, I was in my church's prayer shawl ministry, sewed for several missions and served on several committees, but the most rewarding time in my life was while I served as a Stephens Minister.

John retired in March 1993 after 30 years on the patrol. When he was diagnosed with terminal cancer in 2010 our 4 children came home and in one week had cleaned out our house, moved us into an apartment and sold the house. During the 7 months John survived, we celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary and one last time of wilderness camping. After I was on my own, my multiple sclerosis made it necessary for me to be placed in an assisted living facility. I lived there for 10 years until my best friend in the world, Diana Papazian, arranged for me to live with her.

I've lived a good life and am humbled to have a personal relationship with the Lord, have devoted Christian friends and have a newfound church with friendships and knowledge for my walk with the Lord. Even though my trach makes it impossible for me to go under water, Pastor Dan baptized me Dec. 10. I wish to be a caring witness so that when I get to the pearly gates, Jesus will say, "well done my true and faithful servant".

Diane Papazian

I was born into a Christian home May 7, 1956, in Fresno, California. I was first taken to church when I was 6 days old. At 18 months, I had a seizure and another at age 2. When the doctor said it could be epilepsy, my mom asked a prayer warrior in our church to pray for me. I never had another seizure! My younger brother was born when I was 2 ½. As I grew older, my dad became the Sunday School Superintendent. My mom made sure my brother and I each learned the weekly Bible verse and I was chosen to be Mary in the Christmas program.



My family went to a Billy Graham Crusade when I was 6 and my brother went forward to trust Christ. Because I greatly admired my brother, I began to think about my salvation. I prayed with my mom the following morning and asked Jesus to come into my heart. The following Sunday I went forward at church. I was in tears wanting to be baptized, but my mom didn't think I was ready, so I had to wait until age 9 to be baptized. We began attending a church that had a bigger youth group where I was active in Pioneer Girls and sang soprano in the youth choir and small groups.

After graduating from high school, I moved to Los Angeles, went to college for fashion design and met my husband, David Papazian. A year later, we settled in Los Angeles and welcomed Stephanie into our family. Two years later we were blessed with Shawn, followed by Kevin in 1987 and Brian in 1993. During my pregnancy with Brian, my mom died and I felt as if part of me had died with her. She was my best friend. My husband and I divorced in 1996. I moved to Idaho to be closer to my younger brother Brad. As my children grew and moved away, there was no reason for me to stay in Idaho. I moved to Grand Island to be nearer to my grandchildren.

In 2013, I was diagnosed with sepsis and pneumonia. It was during this time that I met Marsha Iske. We became like family very quickly and agreed to live together. It was my determination to remove Marsha from her current situation as soon as possible. Eventually, I was able to invite her to live with me. Through all of this, the Lord was with me, leading and guiding me.