

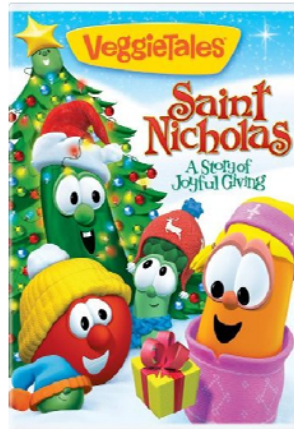
From the Heart of Youth Ministry

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Uth Beat

A Lesson in Joyful Giving

When Laura Carrot's dad is suddenly at risk for losing his job, Laura is worried about how her family will have Christmas. As the other veggies swoon over the excitement of decorations and presents and food, and Larry is sure the answer to Laura's problem is a letter to the North Pole, Bob the tomato decides that it's a good time to tell the story of Saint Nicholas, who learns (after losing both of his parents as a boy), that things and experiences can't bring true happiness, and that we shouldn't give in order to make ourselves feel happy. But as Sister Claire teaches him, we can give BECAUSE we are happy—because we know what God gave to us in Jesus!



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Recent and Upcoming Youth Ministry Birthdays

Send a card, write a note, and thank God for their lives!

- December 5—Nathan Farver, WINGS
- December 8—Adriane Farver, WINGS

That's the story behind the new Veggie Tales Christmas special, Saint Nicholas, that Orrville Mennonite families had the opportunity to experience together last Sunday. But enough of me telling you about it...here's what some of the kids had to say:

What did you like best about the family movie day?

- "The movie." — Nathan Farver "The Bingo game...because you got prizes." — Sam Otto
- "I liked it [in the movie] when Larry kept saying things like the story needs snow or it needs Christmas lights, and then the things would appear from his imagination." — Adriane Farver
- "I watched it with my daddy, and I got to sit on a big pillow." — Mallory Immel
- "Larry is my favorite...he's funny." — Noah Michaels

What did you learn from Saint Nicholas?

- "You should always try to give, even though people don't want you to sometimes." — Leah Otto
- "It's not all about presents, it's about giving more." — Sam Otto
- "To share the stuff that you have." — Julie Immel
- "You shouldn't give to be happy, you should give because you are happy." — Anthony Immel
- "That Christmas is about Jesus." — Amos Bixler

Footprints Thanks You for Thanksgiving Food Basket Donations!



We were thankful for the expert organizational direction of Bev Squirrell in bringing order to the mountains of food!



After putting in two separate afternoons of walking door-to-door around many Orrville neighborhoods, asking for non-perishable donations towards their Thanksgiving food basket project, we put in one last push to increase the amount of food Footprints would have to offer by asking our Orrville Mennonite Church family for additional donations. Thank you to those who answered that call by adding your food to our box! When we met the Sunday before Thanksgiving to sort the collected food, every inch of the tables was covered and stacked high with cans, boxes, and bags of

vegetables, fruit, baking supplies, pastas, soups, sauces, hygiene products, and more! We were able to provide three single-mom families in the area (one with 2 children, one with 3 children, and one with 5 children!) with cardboard boxes and shopping bags heavily loaded with groceries to help them through this Thanksgiving week (when their kids are all home from school needing to be fed), and beyond!

YOU are invited to the...

Creative Kids' Christmas Make-A-Gift Event!

Where: Orrville Mennonite Church

When: Saturday, December 5th, between 2:00-4:00pm

All children from preschool to 5th grade are invited to stop in to make-your-own creative Christmas gifts for your family members! No need to go shopping and spend a lot of money; what moms and dads and grandmas and grandpas love best are gifts from the heart, made by your own hands! Choose from a variety of arts and crafts projects, cookie and candy making, gift wrapping, and more!