



Faith
Mission
Home

HIGHLIGHTS NEWSLETTER | SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2024



Jessica Condrey

MEET OUR STUDENTS

If you want to meet someone full of character and spunk, then allow me to introduce you to Jessica Condrey. Although nonverbal, Jessica lives life out loud, whether it's exclaiming about something she's excited about, or sounding out the consonants of the things she loves, like her mom, popcorn, and horses. If she can't sound out something, she has several signs she uses. It is a joy watching her talk about her trips to the dentist, which include elevators, going to sleep, and wheelchairs.

Jessica Condrey has already taught me so much in the few short weeks that I have been caring for her. Her determination to overcome her speaking limitations through her noises and signs have challenged me to persevere through hard things in my life. Her joy for the small things in life, helps me to humble myself and accept the little blessings God has for me. She loves the people around her unconditionally and often gives out hugs and warm smiles, something that calls me to love my neighbor as myself. She is strangely in love with things that scare her, like big trucks and the horse in Barn class. She obsessively signs about them throughout the day, yet when a horn sounds or she rides the pony, she is terrified. But she always faces her fears, and bursts into a big smile when the car has driven past and the horse trots at a brisk pace. This contradiction in Jessica's life has taught me that the things God has in store for my life can be both exciting and scary, but I know that in the end they will help me grow closer to Him.

I have worked hard to gain Jessica's loyalty and respect, and I am very glad that I am able to care for her. Her contagious laugh and lively personality always make me smile. I hope that many of you will get the opportunity to meet this wonderful person, and if you do, get her to sing all three verses of *If You're Happy and You Know It*. It will put a smile on your face!

Sierra Eby | A-Childcare | Hagerstown, MD

EVENTS



ADMISSIONS

Janae Weaver - July 15
Kyle Fisher - July 29



FAREWELLS

Matthew & Bethany Beachy,
Tom & Dianna Yoder - July 19



WEDDINGS

Wynston & Erika Yoder - August 10



FALL PROGRAM TRIP

August 15-19



GROUP SPOTLIGHT

B-BOYS WITH BENJI STOLTZFUS

ERIC OUTLAW. DAVID FURRIE. JARED BORKHOLDER. JOE BONTRAGER

STUDENT QUOTE:

"See ya later, alligator." ~Tina Milsap



Janae Weaver

NEW STUDENT PROFILE

July 15, 2024 arrived and with it came Janae Weaver. Full of excitement to finally be able to live at Faith Mission, she bounced in the door and made her presence known to all. Janae is 13 years old and full of life and energy. She loves talking to people, making cards, going to classes, and doing her jobs around the home. One of her favorite things is going to Barn class and taking the goat on a little walk.

Working with Janae has taught me so much. Her simple childlike trust has been such an inspiration to me. If we completely give our lives and circumstances to God, and fully trust Him, He can work in many ways through us.

Thank you so much Janae for allowing me to be your first childcare worker. You have fit into the schedule at Faith Mission so well, and you have added so much to this place already.

Lucy Zook | E-Childcare | Mifflin, PA

Christmas vacation is planned for December 21st-January 4th. This is a time when many, but not all, of our students get to go home to see their families. If you would like to host one or several students in your home for part or all of Christmas vacation, we'd love to hear from you. Thank you for considering this opportunity!

-Training Office (for Home Students): (434)-985-2294

-Conrad Hege (for Cottage Boys): (434)-985-3986

-Emily Beiler (for Cottage Girls): (434)-985-7177

Apple Festival

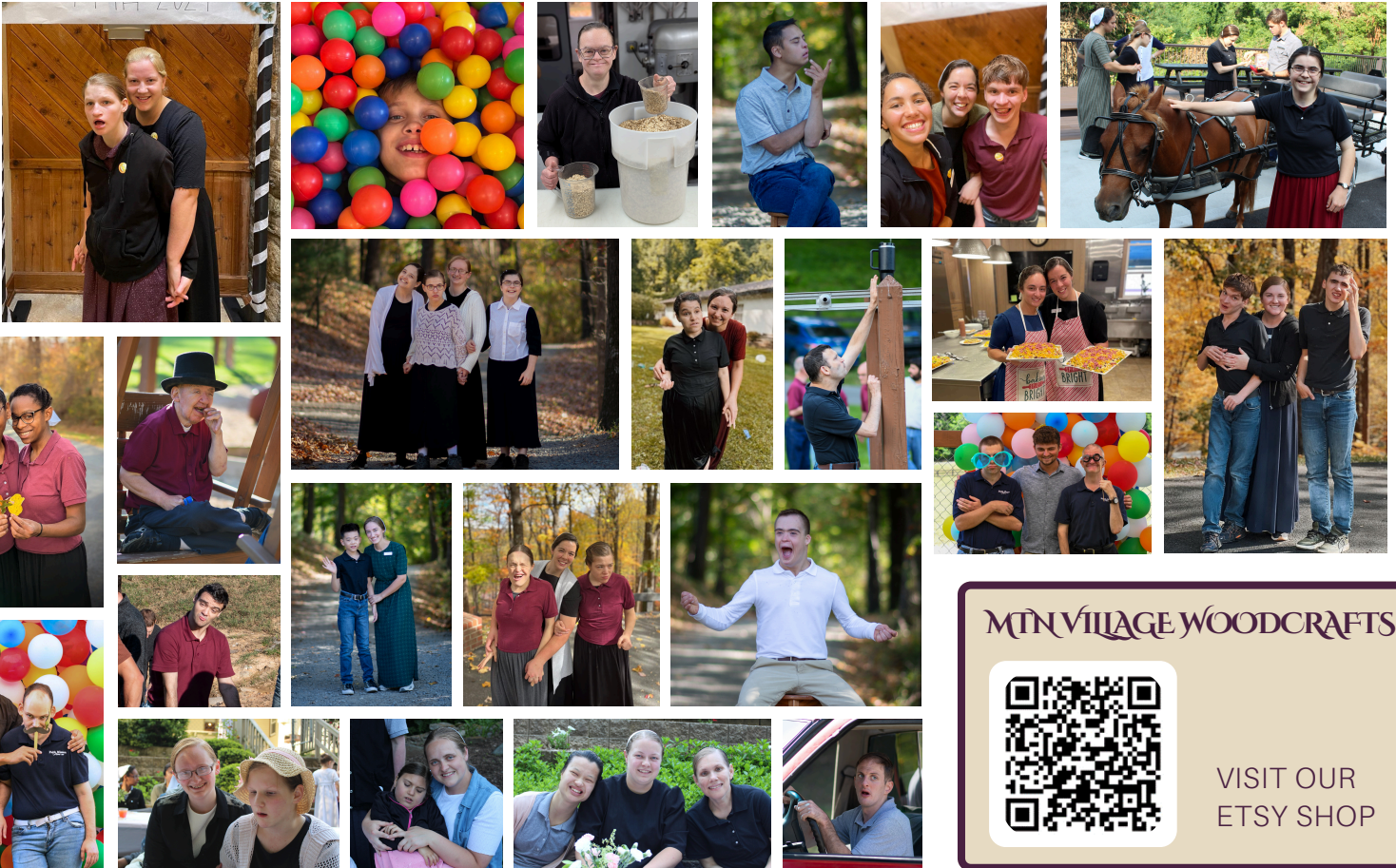
Here at Faith Mission Home, Apple Festival is one of the most anticipated events of the year. It is a very enjoyable day for staff and students alike. All of campus gathers for a day filled with lots of hard work, fun, and many good memories. The day starts off relatively normal, with the early shift and students' breakfast. Then the work begins. The staff and campus families along with the cottage students, are all involved in the work part of the day. This includes anything you can make with an apple. Apple cider is being pressed in the woodshed, apple butter is being stirred continually by someone, there are people making apple sauce, and others making pie filling. These are only a few of the many activities happening. The work goes on right up until lunch, with the staff changing out childcare shifts so everyone gets a chance to help. Soon after lunch, the work is finished, and everyone helps clean up. The rest of the afternoon consists of activities specifically for the student's enjoyment. We started off with a scavenger hunt. Eight groups of students and staff went around the home looking for the clues that ultimately led them to the Apple Festival Carnival. Because it was raining, the carnival was set up in the dining room. The booths included cotton candy, apple bobbing, bean bag toss, pin the tail, caramel apple dipping and a photo booth. We ended things with a pinata that the students all enjoyed whacking at.

While the students were doing their activities, all the admin and campus families were making everyone a grand supper. The menu included artisan breads with pulled pork, which Conrad and Jake had slow roasted earlier, ham and bean soup, fried corn mush, and apple fritters for desert, along with an assortment of hot drinks. As the evening went on, local families started showing up for supper. Around 5:15, a man named Sherlock Holmes suddenly appeared on the threshold of the barn. You guessed it, it was the traditional living statue that shows up every year at Apple Festival. Eric Mast did an excellent job of being a living statue.

Leroy Hershberger, a story teller from Hutchinson, Kansas, kept us entertained with his stories, which were the featured event this year. All the children were right up front and he had them, as well as all of us, guffawing all night. In between stories, there were door prizes to hand out and we ended with a small auction to sell some of the products from the day. To say the least, it was a tiring but enjoyable day!

Trevor Stoltzfus / D-Childcare / Narvon, PA

PHOTOS



MTN VILLAGE WOODCRAFTS



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NEW STAFF PROFILES



Anna Bowman
SOUTH BOARDMAN, MI
05.03.03
JOHN & ROSANNA



Josh Weaver
GREENEVILLE, PA
08.23.04
SAMUEL & LEANNA



Janelle Wenger
DAYTON, VA
10.21.03
PHILIP & MYRNA



Mikaela Weaver
NOVA, OH
01.30.04
MICHAEL & ARLENE



Diane Swartzentruber
CHESAPEAKE, VA
08.16.03
LESTER & MIRIAM



Kendall & Emily Weiler
MANHEIM, PA