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THE HERALD

Newsletter of the Orrville Grace Brethren Church

APPRECIATING OUR YOUTH

By: Jodi Robinson



London Rebekah Zook is 17 years old. She was born on May 15, 2008 in Alto, Michigan. Her middle name is from the Bible. Her parents are Tim and Cassi Zook. She has a sister, Claire and two brothers, Corin and Oliver. She has a large family on both sides of her family. She is of

Swiss, Irish and German descent. Her ancestry includes Jacob Hochstetler. He would be several great-grandpas ago as Jacob was one of the first Amish settlers in our country. He was a pacifist whose family was massacred during an early Native American uprising.

Her family moved from Michigan to Orrville in 2019. She said she was sad to move, but loves it here now. She has attended OGBC since she moved here. Previously, she attended Hastings GBC and Calvary GBC in Michigan.

London's family does lots of special things throughout the year. They always go get their Christmas tree as a family and celebrate the various holidays. She thinks the most special thing about her family is that they all like to

hike trails. and her extended family gets together frequently to grill food and play games. She loves her family and has lots of good things to say about them. She said her favorite thing about Claire is that she is so loving and accepting of everyone. London says her Dad and her Mimi (Mindy) are her heroes, that Mimi is the most forgiving person she knows and that Mimi holds no grudges no matter what.

London is homeschooled and also attends the Career Center where she is a Junior studying IT Media including Broadcasting, Music Design, Photography and Films. She loves it. She was on a Broadcast News Team and won an award of 6th place in the state of Ohio for an exclusive interview with the Food Bank of Akron. Her favorite class in home-schooling is Christian Philosophy and Greek Philosophy. In her spare time, she likes biking and hiking on trails.

When London grows up, she wants to do "everything". She wants to be a wife and mother most of all, but would also like to make things that will help people. She is interested in volunteer work and mission work. She does not wish to attend college but wants to go straight into a job and/or mission work.

London likes to make things. She likes scrapbooking, journaling, painting, and sewing. She is making her own prom dress this year.

She does embroidery, coding video game characters, photography and makes short films. She likes journaling because she considers them to be little time capsules, like small pieces of her life captured for the future. Her Grandma Zook from Michigan encouraged her with journaling by buying her new journal books periodically and she also taught her how to sew. She made lots of stuffed animals when she was young. Her Grandma Mimi and her Mom encouraged her and she looks up to them because they are both talented and ambitious.

She is currently learning to play guitar and she likes to sing. She likes board games and video games. Her favorite things are varied and she has a hard time picking just one. She likes maroon, deep red, blue and green. Her favorite flowers are lilies, and lily of the valley. She likes Chinese food. She likes to travel and wants to go to Japan at some point.

When asked where she would like to be right now if she could be anywhere, she said, "Right here. I like where I'm at."

London has 3 pets, a dog, a cat and a lizard. She collects cool books, Bibles all different versions, vintage toys, VHS tapes and old cameras.

When asked what she is good at, she responded that she is good at socializing. She wants to make people feel comfortable with her and to know that she is a "safe" person to be around who will love them even if she disagrees with them. When asked what is the best thing she has ever done for someone else, she said, "Getting close to people". There was a kid at church camp with lots of real trauma in his life. She opened up the Bible to him and prayed with him. She is so happy to see him at camp each year and to see the impact God is having in his life.

London's favorite thing to do at church is play with all the babies. Her favorite Bible character is Moses. She likes studying about him and really likes him because he was so faithful. Her other favorite is David who "even with all his sins was a man after God's own heart". She says this shows us that no matter what we do, God will take us back.

London says that her parents have surrounded her with Christ-centered teaching and love throughout her entire life. When she was 4 years old, she came to know Jesus. She was baptized when she was 10 at the Calvary Grace Brethren Church in Michigan. When she was 14, she developed a very close relationship with her Savior.

She has been attending OGBC for 7 years. She helps with babies during the service and mealtimes. She sings specials and is very involved in the Live-streaming of church services. She is a joy to all of us each Sunday.

When asked what she would say to Jesus when she meets Him in Heaven someday, she said: "I'm sorry".

BABIES and PRESCHOOLERS AT OGBC

By: Jodi Robinson



Lucy Nell McAllister (Loo-
-cee, rhymes with juicy) was born on December 31, 2025 at 10:06am at Wooster Hospital. She measured 8 pounds, 7.5 ounces and 19.5 inches long. She came home to live in Orrville with her parents, Ian and Hannah McAllister and 2 older

brothers, Jed and Kenan. Her grandparents are Daron and Dawn McAllister and Burrell and April Buchanon.

They chose her name because they like to name their children in alphabetical order. Jed, Kenan... and so they needed an 'L' name and they both liked Lucy. For her middle name, she is named after Hannah's father Burrell.

Her parents' desire of their hearts for Lucy is that "she will come to the Lord at a young age, love the Lord and serve Him in whatever capacity the Lord leads".

A MANIFESTO FOR TIMES OF SUFFERING

By: Tim Challies

[Times of suffering can feel like times of darkness. During Tim's time of suffering he wrote a manifesto to seek to guide him, as he processed his 20-year-old son's death.

Consider using this manifesto as your own. Every time he mention's Nick or his death, replace it with your own trial.]

By faith I will accept Nick's death as God's will, and by faith accept that God's will is always good. By faith I will be at peace with Providence, and by faith at peace with its every decree. By faith I will praise God in the taking as I did in the giving, and by faith receive from his hand this sorrow as I have so many joys. I will grieve but not grumble, mourn but not murmur, weep but not whine.

Though I will be scarred by Nick's death, I will not be defined by it. Though it will always be part of my story, it will never become my identity. I will be forever thankful that God gave me a son and never resentful that he called him home. My joy in having loved Nick

will be greater than my grief in having lost him. I will not waver in my faith, nor abandon my hope, nor revoke my love. I will not charge God with wrong.

I will receive this trial as a responsibility to steward, not a punishment to endure. I will look for God's smile in it rather than his frown, listen for his words of blessing rather than his voice of rebuke. This sorrow will not make me angry or bitter, nor cause me to act out in rebellion or indignation. Rather, it will make me kinder and gentler, more patient and loving, more compassionate and sympathetic. It will loose my heart from the things of earth and fix it on the things of heaven. The loss of my son will make me more like God's Son, my sorrow like the Man of Sorrows.

I will continue to love God and trust him, continue to pursue God and enjoy him, continue to worship God and boast of his many mercies. I will look with longing to the day of Christ's return and with expectation to the day of resurrection. I will remain steadfast and immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. I will forget what lies behind and strain forward to what lies ahead, always pressing on toward the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. I will lay aside every weight and sin that clings so closely and run with endurance the race that is set before me, looking always to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of my faith. I will remain faithful until I have fought the good fight and finished the race and kept the faith. I will die as I have lived—a follower of Jesus Christ. Then, by grace, I will go to be with Jesus, and go to be with Nick.

This is my manifesto.

FUNNIES

An elderly gentleman went to a dude ranch and asked for the rates. "Well," began the ranch director, "for people your age who can't handle horses very well, we have to charge an extra 50 dollars a day."

"Fifty dollars a day!" yelled the old-timer. "You must be putting me on!"

"No," explained the director. "That would be an additional 20 dollars."

When a plague of flying ants caused the performance at a variety theater in the Australian outback to end prematurely, the manager cabled a message to his agent: "Show stopped by flying ants!"

"Book 'em for another week," replied the agent.

A stage mother cornered the concert violinist in his dressing room and insisted he listen to a tape of her talented son playing the violin. The man agreed to listen, and the woman switched on the tape player.

What music, the violinist thought. A difficult piece, but played with such genius that it brought tears to his eyes. He listened spellbound to the entire recording.

"Madam," he whispered, "is that your son?"

"No," she replied. "That's Jascha Heifetz. But my son sounds just like him."

A man was walking down a country road when he heard a voice coming from behind a tree, but all he could see was a horse.

"Hello, remember me?" the voice said. "I

won the Kentucky Derby two years ago."

"A talking horse!" the man exclaimed, so he rushed to a nearby field where the farmer was working and asked, "What would you take for the horse?"

"That old horse is not good, you can have him for 20 dollars."

"Twenty dollars! I'll give you 2,000."

"Has that old hay-bag been giving you that baloney about winning the Kentucky Derby? Listen, I happen to know he came in last."

You know you're getting old when you walk into a record store and everything you like has been marked down to \$1.99.

A quiz program contestant had to identify famous slogans. After several correct responses, he was asked, "Which company originated the phrase, 'Good to the last drop?'"

He thought for a moment. "Otis Elevator?"

A couple of extras in the play were talking backstage at the end of the performance. "What's the matter with our leading lady?" one actress asked, "She seems really mad about something."

"Oh, she's upset because she only received nine bouquets of flowers over the footlights," the other woman answered.

"Nine!" exclaimed the first actress. "That's pretty good, isn't it?"

"Yes," her friend replied, "but she paid for 10!"

"I'm beginning to understand exactly how the state lottery helps education," a guy told his neighbor. "Every time I buy a losing ticket, I get a little smarter."