

MAIORANO MINUTES - 4TH QUARTER 2013

BELATED
HOLIDAY
GREETINGS

FROM
OUR
FAMILY
TO
YOURS



Kaleb



Mattias



Erin



Josiah



Holly



Noelle



Storme



Kendra



Erica



Colby



Colin



Ethan



Nikki



Jason



Matthew



Trey



Josh



Sam



Joshua



Devin



Naomi



Chrissy



Kelsey



Devin



TABERNACLE STUDY

I know that when Christmas time rolls around, everyone's focus is on the story of Jesus being born in a manger. Then why did we have a Christmas program centered around the building of the tabernacle? That is a really good question. I am sure that some of the parents were wondering that too. This year our Bible studies included the book of Exodus. To give the students a chance to "see" the tabernacle, they created a 1/10 scale model of it - tent, furniture, sacrifices, utensils, and priests. Thanks to my mom, Lillian Landis, Janice Feldkamp, and Diane Guiett (a volunteer from a nearby mission), we had 6 weeks of extra hands in the classroom to complete the work.

The night of the program, the students shared what we had been studying so far this year and then we played a pre-taped presentation of each part of the tabernacle and how the life and death of Jesus fulfilled every part of the sacrificial system as well as the parts of the tabernacle itself. When you have 60 visitors and 21 students in a room that is 40x40, there is hardly room to have a 15 x 7.5 foot tabernacle set up. So the tabernacle was set up in the Kamp Science Center, and we brought all the visitors to see the tabernacle and its coverings. After the program, we removed the coverings, so they could look inside to see the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies.

The six older students presented a devotional, which one of them wrote, showing the connection between Christmas and the tabernacle. To end the evening we had a contest among our youngest students (3rd-6th grade), the older students (7th-11th grade), and the 60 people in the audience. This is always fun and gives the kids a chance to show off a little. I think it was the first time it has ever happened - the youngest students won by 60 points. It was a great evening.

As we collect our breath and gear up for the last half of the year, we need to keep in mind the Christmas tree on the first page. It needs to be a reminder to us, that each of these children are a gift from God, and for a time, He has deemed us worthy to have a part in their lives. We pray that each day in the classroom we can communicate His love for them through our love and our lives.

 **Jim and Linda Maiorano** 
PO Box 5415 * Window Rock AZ 86515
505-409-8312 * ptc2522@gmail.com *
teacheroftruth.net

INTRODUCTIONS

Let me introduce each of the students to you beginning with the youngest at the top of the tree and working our way down through the older students.

Kaleb is in 2nd grade and this is his first year along with his sister Erica. He is a very smart young man who has great potential.

Mattias is in 3rd grade and he came this year with his brother Matthew. He is full of life, lots of fun, and all boy (which means class work is a bother).

Erin is in 3rd grade going into 8th. She is very smart and doing the same paper work as the students that are in 7th grade and doing them very well. This is her first year as well, and she came with her brother Colin.

Josiah is in 4th grade. This is his third year with us along with his sister Naomi and brother Devin. He has come a long way academically. He is thrilled that he can now read chapter books.

Holly is also in 4th grade. This is her second year. She is Ethan's sister. She has enjoyed learning how to do various handcrafts this year.

Noelle is in 5th grade. She is Kelsey's sister and this is their second year. She is a fun-loving young woman who has the potential to be a great student.

Storme is in 6th grade. She is our granddaughter and has been here on and off since she was a baby. She has become quite the big sister to the younger girls and a great student.

Kendra is in 6th grade. This is technically her second year. She was here when she was in 2nd grade. She is doing well and adjusting to our routine.

Erica is in 6th grade and Kaleb's sister. She is doing well in the classroom and seems to excel in both English and math.

Colby is in 6th grade. This is his third year. He is extremely smart and is doing great in the classroom. He has a great sense of humor.

Colin is our last 6th grader. He is Erin's brother, and it's his first year. We wondered if there was a personality behind that solemn face. We found one. He even learned that laughing doesn't hurt.

Ethan is in 7th grade. He is Holly's brother, and this is his second year. He does well in his classes and seems to enjoy learning.

Nikki is in 7th grade. She came to us halfway through last year. She is beginning to excel in many areas this year. What an incredible change in her.

Jason is in 7th grade, and this is his first year. Jason struggles in several areas, yet he is progressing and making improvements.

Matthew is in 7th grade and Mattias's brother. This is his first year. He is definitely being pushed, but he seems to be meeting the challenge.

Trey is in 7th grade, and this is his second year. He has some tough times in the past, but he is doing really well in his work this year.

Josh is in 7th grade, and this is his second year. He is struggling because his father is in a Tuscan hospital awaiting a heart transplant. It has been a hard six months for the family.

Sam is in 8th grade and our grandson. He also has been in the classroom since he was a baby. Sam loves to read and can read a 300-400 page book in a week. He aces every test, but school work is certainly not his thing.

Joshua is in 8th grade. This is his 4th year. He likes to work with his hands, so he was one that was able to do some of the woodwork for the tabernacle. He learned the importance of "exact!"

Naomi is in 9th grade. She skipped the 8th grade due to her excellent academics. This is her 3rd year. She is Devin and Josiah's sister. We have watched her develop into a sweet young woman.

Christan is in 10th grade, and our granddaughter, but this is only her fourth year. Chrissy has quite a talent for writing, and I am hoping she will tackle writing a novel as her fine arts project.

Kelsey, Noelle's brother, is in 11th grade, and this is his second year. He was diagnosed with high-functioning autism and was never challenged in school. Over these two years, we have seen a lot of positive changes in his attitude, actions, and academics. He is a great young man.

Devin is in 11th grade, brother to Josiah and Naomi, and in his third year here. His academics are great, and he has a real flare for the artistic.

You can see all these students in action by visiting our website and clicking on ministry DVDs. Devin put together the tabernacle video and Storme made the Christmas DVD that shows pictures of the construction of the tabernacle, trips we have taken, and some other classroom activities.

NEW CLASSES

With January already here, we are gearing up for our upcoming classes. We are going to be leading two of them for the next couple of months. We will continue our studies on Monday night with *Lord, I Want To Know You - The Names of God*. Then on Thursday we will be leading another course on Marriage. We try to do this every year or two because there is such a need for this teaching.

We continue our Sunday study working our way through the Bible in chronological order. We have a couple of people struggling with tragedy in their lives, so we took a couple weeks off to study the life of George Mueller. We looked at principles to and learned to see every trial as an opportunity to apply these truths. What a great teaching that we all needed to hear - not only for those going through the difficult times, but also for those of us who need to stand behind them, encourage them, and pray for them.

GOD'S ANSWERS TO PRAYER

1. We can now reflect back on the first half of the year with this classroom full of students. There have been some adjustments (especially for Jim), many discussions with students and parents, changes in certain procedures, but over all the classroom has run well, and for that, we praise the Lord!
2. The help we had with Grammy (my mom), Mrs. Kamp, and Mrs. Guiett on our tabernacle project. Also Steve Schaffer coming in each week to help with math has been a real blessing for the students.
3. Jim can now hear the world around him. We got his hearing aids in the beginning of December, so he had a couple of weeks to wear them in the classroom. He can now hear and understand students better.
4. I am on a natural thyroid medication and working with a doctor from Santa Fe. He not only has me taking these pills but a couple of other supplements and started me on a new diet. I am feeling more energetic and better overall. We will give more details in the next letter with the results that Jim and I are seeing.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING . . .

1. Continued better health and time to be healthy. Preparing proper meals and exercising is hard to do in our schedule!
2. Josh's family as his dad, Chris, continues to wait for a new heart. Because of funding the hospital that he is in right now has discontinued the transplant program until February or March. Just one more discouragement to face.
3. We have been doing some counseling with some people who are going through some really bad situations. Pray for wisdom on our part as we try to help them. Our prayer is to point them to God's Word because that is truly where the answers lie.
4. Strength and wisdom to finish out the year and plans for our student body next year.



Petrified Forest/Painted Desert



Bisti Wilderness



Earth Science Trips



Sandia Mountain Peak
Yes that is snow!



Learning to pull carrots and prepare gardens for winter



Grammy and the girls



Special Helpers



Mrs. Guiett helps Holly spray-paint



Mrs. Kamp helps Storme



Devin supervises donut making for Chanukah



Fossil hunting in our back yard - the kids found many!



Storme teaches girls to use a loom

Other Activities



Strange icy fog descends on Black Hat.



Tabernacle work

Ethan spray-paints (left)
Matthew learns to use power saw (above)
Putting it together (right)

