

## Children's Garden

LaSalle County Master Gardener volunteer Kathy Vesper, along with assistance from fellow Master Gardeners, started a Children's Garden at the First Assembly of God in Ottawa in the summer of 2019. After preparing a garden site, children were taught the parts of a plant, what plants need to grow, and how to plant and tend a garden. Under the direction of the Master Gardener volunteers, children assisted with the planting, followed by watering and weeding throughout the summer. At the end of the season, children picked green beans and corn to be cooked as part of a church dinner. Kathy intends to do this garden with the children each spring and summer.



**Above left:** Master Gardener Volunteer Kathy Vesper leads a discussion about planting at the prepared bed.  
**Above right:** Youth participants help plant.  
**Bottom left:** A youth participant shows off a harvested vegetable.