

BEACON



DECEMBER 2021 • THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LITTLE LIGHT HOUSE CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI

Going the Distance!

On October 23rd, we hosted our 10th Annual Laps for Little Ones 5K & Fun Run event at Broadmoor Baptist Church. Through the peer-to-peer fundraising efforts of our families and community support, we raised almost \$158,000, exceeding our goal. Thank you to every parent, staff member, family, friend, sponsor, donor, runner, and volunteer who supported our students past and present and made this the most successful Laps yet!

Photo by Tricia Rogers

Grateful, Thankful, Blessed

What a blessing it is to have our community's continued support of our mission. This fall, we have had the pleasure of welcoming visitors into our new home at Christ United Methodist Church. These visitors have included two incredibly generous supporters, the Jackson Optimist Club and Madison the City Chamber of Commerce. These charitable gifts will allow us to continue to serve our largest class of students to date.



VOLUNTEERS ARE THE BACKBONE OF OUR MINISTRY

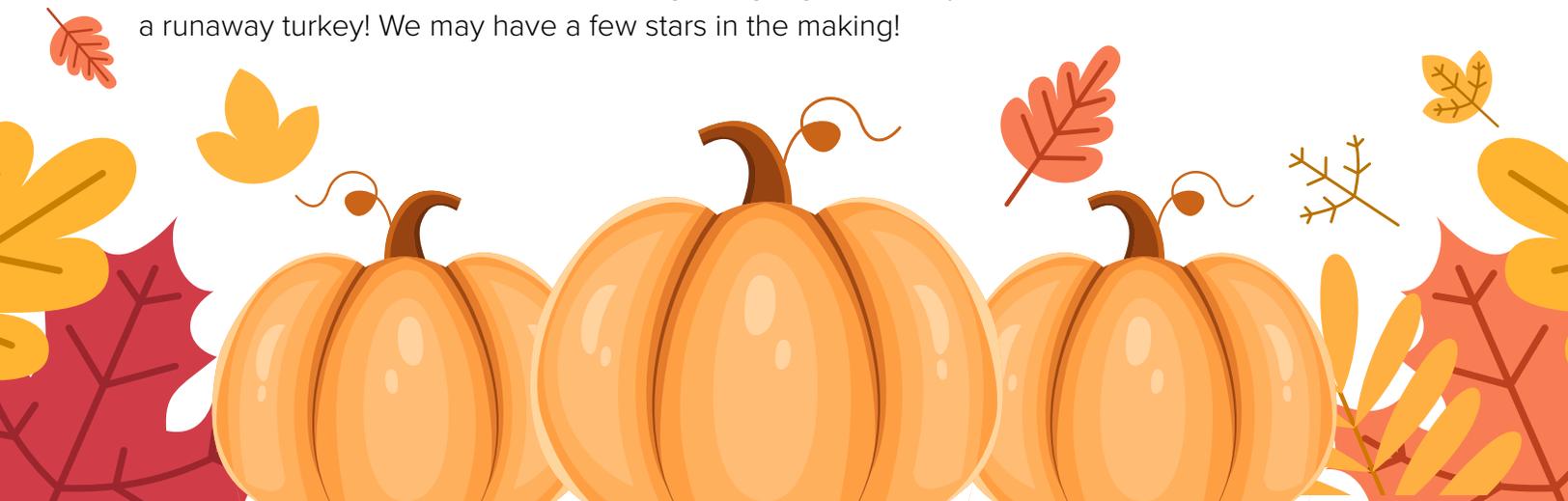
The Foster Grandparent Program of the Capital Area is a program serving seniors and children. We are very thankful for our "Grandparents" and how well they love our students everyday Monday through Thursday. For more information about joining our volunteer team please contact Tammy@lhms.org. Pictured left to right: Joyce Gayden, Margie Earnest, John Stamps, Clementine Donaldson and Annie Denson.

[CLICK HERE TO VOLUNTEER!](#)

2nd Annual Thanksgiving play



On Thursday, November 18, Red Room and Green Room students performed our 2nd Annual Thanksgiving play for parents, students, staff and our CUMC preschool friends. 16 students, donned costumes and retold the Thanksgiving story with the assistance of their teachers and therapists. Students rehearsed and performed their lines and songs using verbal language, communication devices, switches and sign language. The play included two musical numbers and a runaway turkey! We may have a few stars in the making!



Our therapy team continues to grow

This fall we added a part time occupational therapist to our team. This brings our total number of therapists to six. We now have one full time and one part time speech pathologist, physical therapist, and occupational therapist to serve our growing number of students at no charge to their families.

Therapy team, left to right: Lynn Breeden OT, Bubba Hubbard OT, Kellye Donnell PT, Catherine Perez SLP, Alicia Mattern PT, Lead Therapist Terri Kennedy SLP.



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Terri Kennedy is originally from Jackson, MS and became connected with TLLH in January of 2007 when she was contracted part time to serve as the Speech and Language Pathologist for our first class of 5 students. She now serves as Lead Therapist for the entire therapy team, coordinating evaluations and goal planning for each child, co treating with each therapy discipline, overseeing feeding therapies, managing communication devices and so much more. One of the many things Terri focuses on is making sure each student discovers their voice. Alumni Parent Jewell Warnsley recently shared..." Carter uses a communication device. For the last two years, he has been shown and "pushed" if you will, to use it especially starting at LLH, therapy and now big boy school. At home, I keep it available and show him what words to push and for him to push when he wants something or to tell me something. My baby just BROUGHT me his device on his own, told me "drink" and smiled so big as he did it!! This is HUGE!! ...Carter is learning to communicate on his own!"



Terri and her husband Mitch call Flowood, MS home and attend Fannin Baptist Church. They have one son Andy and daughter in law Siyuan. We give thanks to God for allowing Terri to serve Him here.

“Rejoice always, pray continually, in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18



Fran and Mason Smith pose for a selfie

Considering all that is going on in our world today, it is easy to focus on the bad news that continues to come at us from all directions. Here we are reminded and commanded that in all circumstances we are to rejoice, pray and give thanks. We give thanks for the birth of our Savior who we celebrate at Christmas. It is a gift to be able to share the love of Jesus with our students every day through our Bible based curriculum.

What a great semester of learning and growing we have had. In August, we began our 15th school year in our new location, Christ United Methodist Church, serving 40 students in five classrooms with a talented and dedicated staff of teachers, associate teachers, therapists, volunteers, and administration team. We love our new space and all the wonderful friends we have made at the Weekday Preschool and Mother’s Morning Out programs here with us. For the last 15 years, The Little Light House has been a beacon of hope for over 200 families whose children have been served in this program. Unfortunately, our wait list continues to grow, and families typically wait 12-18 months for a spot. It is our hope to have our own building one day soon that would enable us to serve at least twice the number of children we do now.

As we move closer to making this a reality, it is our hope and prayer that you will come along with us. We need your prayers, time, talent, and treasure. Please consider becoming a regular volunteer, offering to help with special projects using your gifts and talents, and becoming a recurring donor to The Little Light House. You will find links below to get more information about all of these or feel free to call, we would love to talk with you and schedule a tour.

It truly is a wonderful life, and we cannot wait to see all of you!

Merry Christmas,

Fran Patterson, Executive Director

VOLUNTEER: lhms.org/volunteer

DONATE: give.lhms.org/checkout/18160

Merry
Christmas
From The
Class Of
2021-2022

