



THE BEACON

Christmas | 2020



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Calendar

DECEMBER

25 Christmas LLH CLOSED

JANUARY

1 New Year's Day LLH CLOSED

7 Family Gathering

13 Community Luncheon **RSVP ONLY**

FEBRUARY

4 Family Gathering

11-12 Shining Light Conference

24 Community Luncheon **RSVP ONLY**



BE SOCIAL WITH US
@LITTLELIGHTHOUSE @llhtulsa



Our Bible-based curriculum, *Head to Toe, Heart and Soul*, reflects our hearts during this time:

"We come together at Christmas to rejoice and sing, To celebrate the birthday of our newborn king. There are gifts that we share, big and small, But Jesus, our Savior, is the best gift of all."

A friend recently asked me what Christmas at the Little Light House meant to me. My heart was immediately flooded with many wonderful words, most of them packed with feelings of delight and JOY! Christmas: what a happy time here at LLH! It is a time of excitement, anticipation, giggles, laughter, blessings, Joseph, Mary, Baby Jesus, Bethlehem, thankfulness, hope, light...and once again, JOY!

I asked several of the staff the same question. "What words come to your mind when you think of Christmas here at the Little Light House?" The teacher and associates in Yellow Class (Devin, Elana, and Rachel) described joy as being right at the top of their list as well as you, our Little Light House family! You are a very real part of our services, as are our supporters, volunteers, and parents, all who lavish love and treats on the students, staff, and ministry. And all of this while we are celebrating the birth of our most wonderful savior, Jesus! What a delightful season!

Jodi Howe, LLH Occupational Therapist, described Christmas at the Little Light House this way: "The first words that come to mind are JOY, LIGHT, and

LOVE. Not only joy on the kid's faces but also joy on the faces of parents, staff, and generous organizations like the Vette Set. There is a blurred line between who is giving and who is receiving. Though I physically give my time and energy to do things like special OT crafts or make an igloo out of milk jugs for the Christmas party, I receive so much of God's love, light, and joy through interacting with the kids. This interaction makes me feel even more full of love to give. This can only be attributed to God's amazing and expansive love!"

I pray you will have a wonderful Christmas, one of rejoicing and celebrating the birth of our King. I also pray that you will reap blessing upon blessing for all the love, time, energy, and finances you have sown into these beautiful little children at the Little Light House! Merry Christmas!

Anne McCoy
Little Light House Executive Director

BREAK DOWN WALLS



Henry Bell's Story

by Kaylin Bell

Henry was born at 24 weeks gestation, weighing 1lb 12oz with a 10% chance to live. During his six-month NICU stay, he developed bilateral brain bleeds. It slowly progressed to stage four bleeds, causing part of his brain to die. The doctor told us this would lead to decreased motor and social development, but we wouldn't realize how slow his development would be until a couple of years down the road. Before one of his nine surgeries, a developmental test showed he had a three-month-old mentality at two years of age. When they gave us this result, putting an actual age to his brain was gut-wrenching. We spent the first couple of years in constant therapy with SoonerStart. I kept thinking he would eventually grow out of it. Having to accept that my child has a disability is one of the hardest things I had to go through. For me, it meant coming to terms with several disabilities. Henry is completely dependent on us for all of his needs.

Holden, my husband, was in school to receive his doctorate when Henry was in the NICU. When Henry finally came home from the hospital, we had to quarantine, making it extremely difficult for me, as a new mom, to care for him all the time. Consequently, Holden had to quit school to come home and help. He got a job that was not fitting to his master's degree, but something to bring in money. We were struggling financially, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually.

During this time, Henry's therapist mentioned Little Light House. I instantly put up my walls. There was no way I could send my three-year-old son with very special needs to a school with people who didn't know him. It wasn't "letting go" that was difficult, with Henry, I was scared for his life. Little did I know...

Little Light House has changed our lives. They love our boy so well and pray over him every day. The joy Henry receives is evident by his huge smile when the staff greets him at the door. Each staff member believes he has full potential for all activities, just as other kids do. They adapt everything to include him with the other kids. As a parent, inclusion is everything. My child is different from other kids, but Little Light House doesn't see him that way. They make him work hard so he can experience and develop new skills.

With a heavy heart, this is Henry's last year at Little Light House. They have been a part of our family for four years. They have watched me bring two more babies into this world and watched my family grow. To say I am grateful for our time here is not enough. The love and support my family has received here is priceless. We are forever grateful for the opportunity to come here. During the most challenging time in my life, we were able to send Henry to Little Light House free of charge because of generous donations given to the school. Moving forward, we will always donate to Little Light House in hopes of helping that struggling family we once were.



42 Years and Counting...

In 1978, my running friend, Scott Burnett, who always beat me in races, invited me to run in an event called “Laps for Little Ones.” That first Laps was at ORU, and I will never forget it. Immediately, I was impressed by Little Light House (LLH). Since then, I have run in Laps every year, and many individuals have blessed me by faithfully sponsoring me throughout the years. I will always appreciate their generous contributions to the LLH.

A few years later, LLH asked me if I would like to volunteer in a classroom. I thought, “What a great idea!” I read to the Purple Class kids one day a week during the lunch hour. I was the recipient of many blessings because of the love, happiness, and attention those kids gave me when they climbed up in my lap and gave me hugs as I read to them.

Later, I was asked to serve on various committees for LLH and have been doing committee work for a long time. Additionally, I served on the LLH Board of Directors on three different occasions, including this year. Through the years, I have witnessed LLH grow in its ability to serve more and more children because of corporate and individual contributors’ commitment.

Little Light House staff give every child the attention and care they deserve. One has to love them for the love they show to each of the children. My respect and admiration of the parents and caregivers of the children are off the charts. It takes a particular person to have the patience and endurance to help a child become the best they can be. The assistance parents and caregivers get from LLH staff helps them in countless ways.

I may be limited by the number of words I can use in this article, but I am not limited in love for the kids, parents, and staff. Everyone touched by LLH is blessed. I thank God for the LLH and its supporters every day. May God continue to bless LLH and all associated with it.

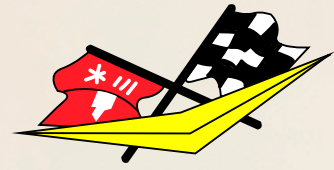
- **Jim Morella**, Board Member

Gift of Hope

Please consider partnering with us this holiday season as we continue to glorify God by empowering our students to live life to the fullest. Imagine your gift helping a child eat on their own, play catch, or learn to say, **I love you.** This gift is a **Gift of Hope.**

To give a Gift of Hope, fill out and mail back the envelope included in this magazine. You can also have your donation go further by donating online at **littlelighthouse.org/gift-of-hope**





Do you hear, Corvettes?!

'Twas the night of the Little Light House Christmas party, and all through the building kids were playing, even the staff! Every year LLH hosts an annual Christmas party for our students and their families. The decorations are elaborate and there are activities that create community between the attendees...wait, do you hear that? It sounds like...Corvettes?!

Every year, the highlight of the LLH Christmas party is when the Tulsa Vette Set shows up with Christmas presents for all of the students. For years the Tulsa Vette Set has ensured that each student in the Developmental Program receive not one, not two, but THREE Christmas presents. Families line up in anticipation and wait with their child to receive a personalized gift from the

joyful Vette Set elves. Some kids rip into their gift on the spot, and some families wait until Christmas because these are the only gifts their child may receive. Either way, their lives are enriched by the generosity of the Tulsa Vette Set.

The Tulsa Vette Set was established in 1971 to bring together individuals who love Corvettes, to grow friendships, get technical assistance, and of course, cruise. They love seeing how much the children learn and accomplish from the year they start at LLH until they graduate. Ten years ago, they started an annual LLH Car Show every October that many Tulsans support. LLH calls it the Tulsa Vette Set Car Show, but they often correct us and say, "It's the Little Light House Car Show." 100% of the proceeds from this car show go directly to gifts for our students. After the car show, they go out and fight the crowds on Black Friday to purchase the gifts.

The Vette Set carefully select quality toys that they know the kids will love. LLH parent, Jeff Wiggins, says his son, Hudson, still plays with a toy grill he received last year, every morning.

Terri Liles, the Charitable Outreach Coordinator for Vette Set, says, "There are so many favorite memories every year. Seeing children's eyes light up and their big smiles when they notice a gift in the bag or seeing the parents' faces knowing how much they appreciate the items. It is such an emotional evening. We are very blessed to be a part of it."



LLH mother, Myriam, says, "I didn't know about the party or the presents when we started. I came to school one day, and there was a bag of gifts, just for Alan. It was exactly what we needed; we couldn't afford to buy gifts that year. Thanks to Tulsa Vette Set, we were able to give Alan and his brother gifts for Christmas." LLH Teachers spend a whole afternoon matching the toys to the interests and needs of each student. Another LLH mom adds, "What they pick is so personalized, the gifts were

perfect for my child. She got a stuffed hippo one year and never goes to sleep without it."

So from all of us at Little Light House, thank you Tulsa Vette Set for helping spread the joy of Christmas to our students.

LITTLE LIGHT HOUSE FOUNDED

PATHLIGHTERS

LEGACY SOCIETY



Who are the Pathlighters?

The Pathlighters are a society of people who want to leave a legacy at Little Light House. They want make a lasting impact for generations to come. Since 2014, LLH has been celebrating the individuals who decide to leave a legacy here, will you be one of them?

Why leave a legacy at LLH?

In today's world, it can be difficult to slow down and consider the impact we are making on our community. Your legacy matters. Leaving a legacy at LLH means you will be helping children with special needs and their families for generations to come. Imagine writing your own story with no ending. We know you are passionate about the things that are close to your heart. Why not let your passion be your legacy?

How do I become a Pathlighter?

To become a Pathlighter, contact our Planned Giving Service at 918-491-0079 or email us at cmccendarfer@littleshighthouse.org. We will be with you every step of the way to make this the easier process for you.

*a story
that never
ends....*

HONORARIUMS

William and Cynthia Aldridge
Harper Aldridge
 Christy Droke
Tristan Amstutz
 Gayle Atkins
Grayson Arledge
 Jo Anne Cronk
Jacob Baird
 Julie Wilson
My Dad Bob Baker
 Steven Walker
Christa Bartlett
 Brad and Niki McDonald
Cap Baxter
 Thomas and Lavonne Webster
Ellie Benanzer
 Cheryl Hughes
Carter Blankenship
 Deborah Graves
Joshua Bougie
 Carol Holt
Keith Boyd
 Karen Burnette
Karen Burnette
 Charlie and Diane Howard
Dallad Chandler
 Debbie Blackwell
Saylor Crose

Leanne Ball
Sara Donahue
 Harry and Kathy Dunn
Harry and Kathy Dunn
 Charles Baker
Liam Epperson
 Gabrielle Finley
Alexis Finley
 Anna Lukes
Charlie Forsthoff
 Anonymous
Mateo Garcia
 Susan Babbitt
Perry and Maryann Graish
 Anonymous
Aubrei Grisaffe
 Val Hansen
Gus Hansen
 Barbara Drew
Debbie Hilton
 Karen Teague
 Dustin and Nancy Meyer
Jonah Hough
 Jerri Ann Finch
Leah Hughes
 Nancy Sinclair
Aunt Jill
 Marilyn Goeddey
Benjamin Jones

Megan Neely
 Connie McLane
Gracie Ledbetter
 Christopher White and Megan
Camme Loucks
 Sasha Martinus
Mimi Martinus
 Robert Flynn
Arya McShane
 Robert and Peggy Smith
 Terry and Daniel Smejkal
 Kyong Chong
 Jim and Ann McKellar
 James and Sharon Jones
Marcia Mitchell
 A Murage
Gabriella Mungai
 Chelsea Peruskie
Ryan Peruskie
 Misty Roden Lord
Eric Pryor
 Drs. Andrew and Heather Revelis
Frank Revelis
 Mildred Abbett
Cathey Schappell
 William Sevenoaks
Elizabeth Sevenoaks
 Pam Bell
Solomon Siegel

Anonymous
Ethan Simmons
 Daniel and Terry Smejkal
Morgan Smejkal
 Christina McEndarfer
Molly Smith
 Leon Burzynski
 Artie and Elizabeth Soderfelt
Aaron Soderfelt
 Joy Yoder
Rowan Stice
 Angie Teagle
Mary Elizabeth Teagle
 Linda Rucker
Emma Tims
 Noonie Yarbrough
 Roy and Johnanna Rush
Kate Tucker
 Dr. Kent Medcalf
Lucy Vandrell
 May Sheehan
Haley Ward
 Tim Carney
Eric Winden
 LeAnn Wolfe Slater
Arthur Wolfe
 Ann Walsh
Therapy Dogs Who Bring Joy to Everyone

MEMORIAMs

Neil Anderson
Brandon Anderson
 JoAnn Barker
Russell Barker
 Roger DiSalvatore
Helan Barrick
 Bonni Bunting
Danny and Isaac Bartlett
 Ken and Dena Hirshey
Harel Bennett
 Kim Vickrey
Pat Black
 Dennis and Laura Hall
David Boring
 Linda Schafer
Samantha Brad
 Keith Bulls
Chief and Handy Brothers
 Grady and Sandra Nichols
Ann Bunnel-Hornstra
 Mike and Janet Burnside
Hunter Burnside
 William Larry Camille
Beth Camille
 Janice Powell
Lula Ann Chapman
 Kenneth and Debbie Collins
Cheyenne Collins
 Lynda Connor
Jack Connor
 Anonymous
Sue Ann Cook
 Julie Dodson
Jack Dodson

Anonymous
Loyd Ernst
 Sara Feken
Cecil & Doris Feken
 Robin and Jill Curry
Gail Foster
 Iron Tree Coffee Company
Jack Garrison
 Iron Tree Coffee Company
Michael Garrison
 Deborah Givens
Herald Givens
 DOT Spainhower
Herald Givens Jr.
 Francis Brown
 Dewain and Leona Freand
 Derek Freand
 Elvan and Karen Mollet
 Steidley Farms
 Penne Layher
 Mark Shade
 Marilyn Goeddey
Robert Goeddey
 Tammy Horton
 Kelli O'Neill
Gene Harris
 Ron Beaver
Roman Harrison
 Julie Evers
Angela Hill
 Artie and Beth Soderfelt
Sharen Johnston
 John Nowack
Jesse (Jay) Jones

Emily Schneider
Hudson Luke Lamb
 Syd and Cynthia Monaghan
Reed Jame Lesbetter
 Edna Vang
Lilia Lee
 Emily Warpula
Judy Lehrman
 Jeannie Reed
Vikki Martinus
 Nina Meyer
Bill Meyer
 Bryton Enterprises LLC
Will Miske
 Robert and Betsy Nash
Donna Mobley
 Dee and Barbie Paige
Dee Paige
 Eric and Lauren Gebhard
Justin Putnam #442
 Warren and Annette Canterbury
Robinette "Nana" Roads
 Ted and Lori Brubaker
Makayla Roller
 Gerald and Polly Brister
Bettie Rooks
 Mike Miller
John Rucker
 Dorothy Karns
Bobby Runyon
 Richard and Hilda Wooldridge
Nicole Rust
 Anonymous
Caden Saunders

Ron Schappell
Cathey Schappell
 Ethel Schiller
Aron Paul Schiller
 Robert Schouten
Fran Schouten
 Valerie Scott
Christina Scott
 Craig and Meredith Blackstock
Katherine Wolfe Sharmon
 Sarah Darby
Melvin Smith
 Linda Schafer
Sabrah Smith
 Will Rogers Methodist Crusaders
 Sunday School Class
Rose Snyder
 Billy and Carrollyn Sparks
Kimberly Sparks
 Troy and Susan Stephens
Samuel Stephens
 GableGotwals Law
Brice Talley
 Trimble Strong Foundation
Allan Trimble
Bettie Rooks
Anthony Tulsa
 Suzanne Y Wiese Irrevocable
 Trust
Suzanne Wiese
 John and Mary Wofford
Nathan Wofford



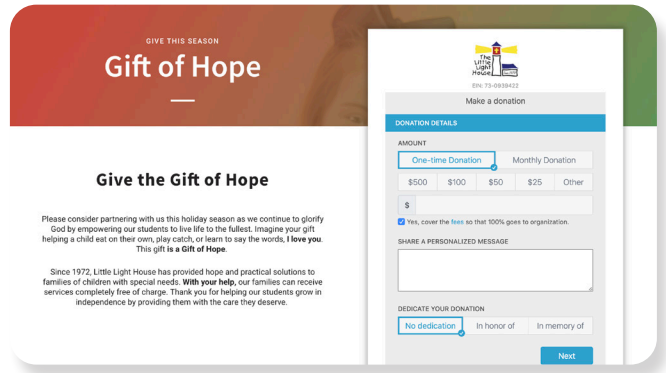
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Beacon Sponsor



BURNETT
HOME IMPROVEMENT

Non-discriminatory Policy

The Little Light House, Inc is a non-profit Christian Developmental Center for children with disabilities, age birth to six years of age. The Little Light House does not discriminate on the basis of religion, sex, color, race, national or ethnic origin, or medical diagnosis (unless the diagnosis affects the child's ability to attend school on a regular basis) in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, and other school administered programs. Some behavioral conditions may be evaluated on individual basis. The Little Light House assures that all children's records will be maintained as confidential.