



THE BEACON

issue 4 | 2021





Contents

4

Letter from Anne McCoy

5

Meet a LLH Teacher

6

A New Independence

8

Gift of Hope Story

10

Ways to Give

11

Honorariums & Memoriams

Calendar

Dec 24-27

LLH Closed

Dec 25

Merry Christmas!

Dec 31-Jan 3

LLH Closed

Jan 1

Happy New Year!

Jan 6

Virtual Volunteer Training

Jan 17

LLH Closed - MLK Day

Jan 24

Virtual Volunteer Training

Jan 26

Community Luncheon

Board of Directors

Kelly Monaghan	Deanne Nunn
John McCrackin	Barbara Sicka
Eric Winden	Jason Burks
Mollie Collins	Dr. Jim Miller
Dan Beirute	Jonathan Townsend
Matt McCord	Marcia Mitchell
Jim Morella	Phil Mitchell
Christine Narrin-Talbot, D.O.	Intern - Autumn Campbell

Executive Director

Anne McCoy

Founder

Marcia Mitchell



Calendar events are subject to change. To view our full school calendar visit littlighthouse.org. You can also follow us on social media to be kept up-to-date with events, opportunities, and more!





Hope

Hope is like a beautiful stream running through the Little Light House.

It intermingles with and carries along every attempt we make to improve the quality of life for the over 200 students and families we serve. Hope for growth and independence fuels our passion for pursuing the best for each child.

We hope for change, and we see it!

We see it when one of our special education teachers gently but persistently encourages a child to read their first word or say their name. We see the hope on a student's face as they attempt a new skill, even one that is difficult because they know that someone will help them make it happen. Maybe they will be able to do the task by using a switch, maybe through a communication device, or perhaps by activating a robotic arm that brings food to their mouth, but it will happen!

At the Little Light House, our hope, which is founded in God and His purposes, does not disappoint. We know that every child will succeed in wonderful ways and grow in confidence each day and week.

The support you provide allows us to accomplish this good work, bearing much good fruit. Together we are changing the future for these children. Their eyes are filled with hope and expectancy!

Thank you so much from all of us at the Little Light House! ***We want to wish you a merry and wonderful Christmas!***

Anne McCoy
Little Light House Executive Director

Christmas in the Classroom

by Kristen Neary, Special Education Teacher

Sharing the Christmas story of Jesus' birth is one of the most exceptional times in the classroom. We focus on the three major parts of the story: 1) An angel told Mary that she was going to have a baby. 2) Jesus was born! There were animals all around, and shepherds came to visit. 3) The wise men brought Jesus gifts.

We talk about the emotions that everyone may have been feeling during the time. We practice taking care of baby dolls the same way Mary would have taken care of baby Jesus. We talk about the shepherds taking care of the sheep in the field. We talk about the gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. But the biggest thing we talk about is love. Mary and Joseph loved Jesus. And Jesus loves us. Seeing the kids light up when they realize that Jesus loves them is truly a blessing!

The entire building is decorated and everyone is singing Christmas songs! We provide a Christmas party for the families with all sorts of fun activities for them to participate in, and everything is adaptable. We have crafts, gross motor activities like pretend ice skating, fine motor activities like writing letters to Saint Nick, and yummy treats for them to take home.

Before Christmas break, we have a very special day in the classroom. We wear pajamas to school, eat pizza and treats, do crafts, and watch a movie together! The day is dedicated to bonding with the students. We want the love that we share to last in their hearts throughout the Christmas season and carry them into the new year.

The most significant thing about Christmas at the Little Light House is celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. What a miraculous and wonderful thing to celebrate! So from our family to yours, Merry Christmas, and Jesus loves you!



A New Independence

from the Little Light House Archive

This year Christy Yingst went Christmas shopping! For Christy, who is 4 years old and blind, the hustle, the bustle...and the indecision of Christmas rush became a reality.

You may wonder how a 4-year-old blind child can do her own Christmas shopping for Mom and Dad, but for Christy, shopping has become a familiar skill. Only the decision making was what made this special shopping excursion so difficult.

Christy has been a student at the Little Light House for several years, but recently she has been attending school not only in the Little Light House facility, but also in the community. With a trained volunteer she has had opportunities to explore and experience parts of the community that other children learn about so easily from a distance. In the past months, Christy has been exploring various kinds of stores, their content, their organization, and how to master their escalators and automatic doors. For these reasons it seemed appropriate that this Christmas, Christy used these new skills to purchase Christmas gifts for Mom and Dad. And so, Christy tackled those automatic doors again and entered a large department store to do her own Christmas shopping.

Inside the department store, Christy knew that the aisles were organized according to

the different kinds of items on the shelves. On previous visits, she had spent hours exploring the various categories of items. She knew that some shelves held things that mommies

used, some held things that daddies used, and of course some held toys that she might enjoy. This led Christy to know full well that all department stores must also have a section entitled “presents”. After all, was that not what she had come to buy? It took some time before Christy would accept the fact that “presents” do not begin in their wrapped state, but this only made the trip more interesting. There were so many things that needed to be felt, listened to, and smelled before the proper presents could be chosen. Soon Christy smelled like a myriad of men’s colognes. She also had “tested” pairs upon pairs of men’s gloves. She explored the toys and the shoes and eventually found just the right gifts for Mom and Dad. At the close of the day Christy experienced the pleasure of turning purchases into presents as she helped wrap the packages and put them under the Christmas tree.

We believe that Christy will remember this year as a very special Christmas. For the staff of the Little Light House, it is already a special Christmas, and Christy’s new independence and progress has been a very special gift.

45th Edition of The Beacon, 1979/80



2021

Gift of Hope

August 2016, my life changed forever when I found out that I was pregnant with my mustard seed, Alyssa.

In September, I received the news that my first ultrasound would send me to a high-risk doctor due to measurement concerns. At the high-risk doctor, I heard the words, “**Don’t keep your hopes up; she could be still-born.**” I remember leaving that appointment and sitting in my car crying, worrying, and just sad. That moment, I remembered the Bible verse Matthew 17:20, “Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.” I decided to pick myself up and declare a different outcome for my mustard seed. I went to appointments twice a week until the day she arrived.

My mustard seed was born on February 22, 2017, at 37 weeks and four days. She was a full-term baby but only weighed 3lbs 10oz and measured 15 1/2 inches long. We spent 21 days in the NICU, and after countless appointments, my child was still not gaining weight; so, a specialist recommended genetic testing.

A month before her 1st birthday, we received the news that our mustard seed had Russell-Silver syndrome (RSS). RSS is a rare disorder that is characterized by intrauterine growth restriction. **Alyssa is 1 in 100,000.** She is our lottery ticket. I wanted nothing more than for my child to be “normal,” if that even exists. We got a diagnosis: my lottery ticket, 1 in 100,000, and tiny mustard seed were moving a mountain in me! As I embraced that concept, I felt more at peace and realized I was chosen to be Alyssa’s mom.

One day, I met a mother who pointed me to the Little Light House (LLH). This mother quickly became a friend, and I will forever be grateful for God putting it on her heart to share LLH with me. I scheduled a time to tour LLH, and after that tour, I put Alyssa on the waiting list. The moment I walked into Little Light House, **I felt at home.** I knew I was in a unique and special place.

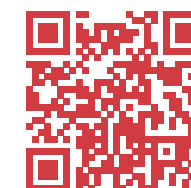
As we walked through a new diagnosis of Type 1 Diabetes with Alyssa, we felt lighter being surrounded by such a remarkable community at LLH.

Little Light House is a place of **hope, joy, and community.** I cannot put into words the support we’ve received the last couple of years - from the teachers, administrative staff, and other parents. LLH provides a space of hope and I never want to leave this place. I found a village here at LLH and I know that any adversity will be met with a village standing behind and beside me. This village includes individuals like you, who read this letter written by a mom trying to explain how grateful we are when words will never be enough. Without you, I wouldn’t be able to afford the education and therapy that we receive here. Without you, there would be less hope in our world. I am forever grateful for a community that gives its time, talents, money, and influence to the students at LLH.

You allow Little Light House families, like ours, to succeed and grow. You give us hope.

- written by LLH parent, Betty Esparza

Support families like Alyssa’s today by giving to the Gift of Hope. Return the envelope included in this magazine, visit littleshighthouse.org/give-help or scan the QR code to give. Thank you for your continued support.





4 ways to give



Donate

Did you know that **100% of our revenue** comes from individuals, foundations, companies, and grants? You can give online, through mail, and over the phone!



This season, give the gift of education by making a donation to Little Light House that is tax credible up to \$1,000. Visit osfkids.org or give us a call to learn more!



Volunteer

As one of the most volunteer-intensive organizations in Tulsa, the Little Light House is always seeking men, women, and youth who desire to make a difference in the lives of children with special needs.



Make us your AmazonSmile charity! Amazon donates 0.5% of every purchase you make on their website to LLH. This may seem like a small percent but it's HUGE to us!

Honorariums

Matthew and Tracy Adamson
Meagan Maxwell
Henry Bell
Ken and Nancy Savage
Ellie Benanzer
Ron and Linda Isom
Wilder Boomer
Cameron and Breea Cramer
Joshua Bougie
Deborah Graves
Keith Boyd
Carol Holt
Scott Burnett
Gloria McQuade
Bob and Robyn Watson
Larry and Sandra Peck
Ben and Eleanor Carlson
Jo Anne Cronk
Will Connell
Lisa Woodbury
Patrick Conner
Bob and Amanda Conner
Saylor Crose
Debbie Blackwell
Kerri and Andrejs Dabars
Betty Clark
Pam Dobbs
Kimberly Altier
Suzanne Dodson
Jerry and Asialynn Griffin
Kelsey Easterwood

Marilynn Wedemeyer
Lynn and Margery Prickett
Liam Epperson
Charles Baker
Linda Fields
Richard and Diane Mills
Lauren Gebhard
Matthew and Jordan Cox
Kathleen Guedry
Lauren Keaney
Abigail Horne
Cathe Kehe
Jonah Hough
Mary Lou Montgomery
Benjamin Jones
Marilyn Goeddey
Gracie Ledbetter
Megan Neely
Jodie Long
Keith Boyd
Kadence Long
Carhey Williams
Liberty Martinus
Nancy Luther
Meagan Maxwell
Meagan Maxwell
Ann McKellar
Kelly McKellar
Ruthanne Mclauchlan
Steve and Amanda Slife
Brian and Suzanne Welch

Arya McShane
Robert Flynn
Matthew Meyers
Bryan and Erin Booher
Jake Miller
Leslie Miller
Adam Nasreddine
Adam Nasreddine
Gretchen Novak
Sean and Angela Novak
Andrea Nunn
Bob and Monte Prater
Sarah Parrack
David and Rebecca Parrack
Colton Parsons
Richard and Sarah Dent
Kolten Parsons
Melissa, Ethan and Eva Lloyd
Bruce Budd
Ervin Postier
Tom and Vicki Wing
Gideon Rieck
Gary and Judy Bryant
Richard Hastings
Preston and Kathy Hale
Beckah Rieck
Dallana Rodriguez
Luis and Dallana Rodriguez
Ethan Rodriguez
Ed and Susan Rodriguez
Kristen Schooley

Diane Wells
Marcy Beeman
Michelle Dickason
Jessica Bolen
Elizabeth Sevenoaks
Jan Sevenoaks
Alexander Shaiebly
Anthony and Meghan Shaiebly
Solomon Siegel
Pam Bell
Morgan Smejkal
Daniel and Terry Smejkal
Aaron Soderfelt
Artie and Beth Soderfelt
Rowan Stice
Joy Yoder
Jack Swain
David and Nancy Swain
Kate Tucker
Gary and Noonie Yarbrough
Tanner Welch
Top Shelf Creative
Avery White
Patresa White
Denise & Don Williams
Don and Denise Williams
Stroke Recovery
Tommy Pellegrino

Memoriams

Alice Enmeier
Janell Ernce
Andrew Wright
Mark and Kathy Szkutnik
Polly Wright
Barbara Sue Nicholes
Robert Pezold
Bernice Gaylor
Lois Taylor
Bernice Huggins
First United Methodist Church -
Tulsa
Betty Oglesby
First Baptist Church Sapulpa -
Carder Am Engage Class
Blakely Hughes
Anna FitzSimons
Diesel Power Plus
Down Syndrome Association Of
Tulsa
Jack and Eva Kitchen
Keith and Jean Winfrey
Kayla, Kylie, Lori and Craig Butler
John and Lisa Killingsworth
John and Lynda Killingsworth
Everett and Marilyn Garbee
Robert and Shirley Dempsey
Bob Gaddis
Bob and Betsy Nash
Bonnie Baker
Ellen Boothe
John Emery
Tommy and Jolene Kirkes
Carl Stoops
Kelly and Cindy Diven
Thomas Gorman
Wayne and Geraldine Mouser

Carol Huston
Judith Lowe
Cathy Schappell
Mildred Abbott
Charlotte Jordan
Elizabeth Jordan
Cheyenne Collins
Kenneth and Debbie Collins
Clark Ward
Cheryl Hildebrandt
David Land
Keith and Jean Winfrey
Dennis Dean Chambers
Caleb McCusker
Dennis Stanton
Scott Stanton
Edwin Walden
Sarah Miller
Evan Mutispaugh
Amy Mutispaugh
Faith Hughes
Adam Clemmer
David Bruns
Gloria Cardamone
Jane Brasier
Keith and Jean Winfrey
Jeremy and Carla Lott
Jody Brannan
KC and Cass Family
Lora Part
Patricia Brooks
Rita Whitehead
Spears Lamb
Steve and Brenna Wolfe
Steve, Jean Ann, and Family
Perryman
Catherine Dymkoski

Faith Whitehead
Elyse Aufmann
Gene Harris
Wes and Tammy Horton
Glen Tobias
Richard and Diane Mills
Gray Gerow
Dick and Linda Boyd
Great Grandma Christine Richards
Parka Haigler
Herald Givens
Deborah Givens
Hudson Lamb
Emily Schneider
Jack Garrison
Bridget Hynes
Alyson Garrison
James Cury Jr
Bob and Barbara Fletcher
Janet Taylor
Cleola Taylor
Janet Wagner
Bill and Jill Uhlenhop
Jewell Splawn
Kendi's School Of Dance
Jim Hinkéfent
Mary Ann O'Dell
John McFadden
Renee Grau
Johnny Andre
Anthony and Lisa Andre
Kay Connelly
Marybeth Hubbard
Larry Ables
Joseph and Loray Bracy
Larry Fleck
Mark and Lynn Alimo

Chris and Karen Lempka
Lynette Fleck
Kenneth and Suzanne Lintz
Les Heidingsfelder
Maryann Heidingsfelder
Makayla Roller
Ted and Lori Brubaker
Mercy Ann Buttle
Karen Buttle
Miguel Enrique Montero Gutierrez
German Montero
Mona Ingle
Joyce Starr
Nana Joy Stone
Lisa Duke
Nathan Wofford
John and Mary Wofford
Nicole Rust
Richard and Hilda Wooldridge
Olen Serner
Darrin and Lisa Sutterfield
Peggy Gregory
William Frabotta
Reed Ledbetter
Cynthia Monaghan
Beth Soderfelt
Roman Harrison
Ron Beaver
Samuel Stephens
Troy and Susan Stephens
Suzanne Wiese
Suzanne Wiese
Uncle Lee Brenneman
John Brenneman



littlelighthouse.org

Be Social With Us    

@LITTLELIGHTHOUSE @LLHtulsa

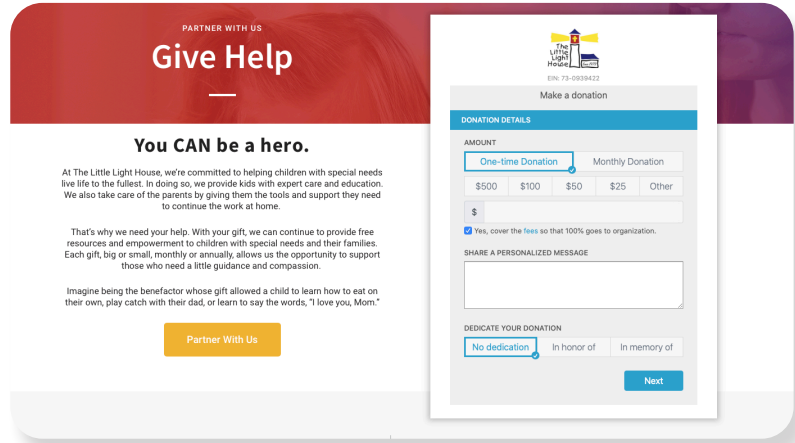
Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #1309
Tulsa, OK 74104

Donate online to extend your donation further by saving Little Light House resources.

littlelighthouse.org/give-help



Scan to Give



A Christian Developmental Center for Children with Special Needs

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.