The Light Li



GARDEN PARTY Save the Date for our upcoming fundraising event on page 7.

CLASSROOM CORNER

Learn about the miracles during therapy for cortical visual impairment with Sherry Gurney on page 9.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Learn about one of our upcoming graduates, Tytan Stone and his years here at Little Light House on page 4.

CONTENTS

- 4 Student Spotlight: Tytan Stone
- 6 A Year in Review: Annual Report
- 7 Garden Party
- 8 Alumni Adventures: Elle McCullough

- 9 Classroom Corner
- 10 Legacy Tulsa
- 1 Honorariums & Memorials

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January

- First day back from Christmas Break 9
- Volunteer Orientation: 12 p.m. 11
- 15 Martin Luther King Day: SCHOOL CLOSED
- 23 Volunteer Orientation: 12 p.m.
- Community Luncheon: 11:45 a.m. 1 p.m. 24

February

- 15 Volunteer Orientation: 12 p.m.
- President's Day: SCHOOL CLOSED 19
- Community Luncheon: 11:45 a.m. 1 p.m. 21

March

- 1-2 Shining Light Conference
- 5-23 Spring Break
- 21 Volunteer Orientation: 12:00 p.m.
- Easter: SCHOOL CLOSED 31

- Easter: SCHOOL CLOSED
- 5 Volunteer Orientation: 12 p.m.
- 7 Garden Party
- Community Luncheon: 11:45 a.m. 1 p.m. 11



Executive Director

Jean Winfrey

Founder Marcia Mitchell Managing Editor: Jordan Cash

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Marcia Mitchell Kim Burnett Phil Mitchell Tou Chang Wavne Choisnet Deanne Nunn Mollie Collins Andrew Ragsdale Barbara Sicka Megan Faylor Derrel Fortner Brian Tims Arthur Greeno Fric Wendelbo Noell Greeno

Get Social!

F Little Light House @LLHTulsa

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Happy New Year!

It is with much anticipation that we enter this new year. God has been so gracious to the Little Light House for many decades; great is His faithfulness. I want you to know that it is the heart of our board members and staff to continue to serve Him and bring glory to His name. Just as 2017 was a year of milestones and miracles in the lives of our precious children. I feel very strongly that 2018 holds many blessings and breakthroughs. It is with great anticipation that we are looking forward to all God wants to do in and through our ministry, and you play a vital part. I truly cannot say that enough. The help and assistance we receive from each of you is what keeps the doors of the LLH open, and the services available.

Thank you so very much for your continued encouragement and support. Together we are making a difference. I believe 2018 will be the best year yet for the LLH, and I am believing that same thing for you as well. Jeremiah 29:11-13 tells us, "For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. In those days when you pray, I will listen. You will find me when you seek me, if you look for me in earnest."

May we each find Him in this coming new year as we walk out His perfect plans for our lives.

Jean Winfrey **Executive Director**

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:

By: Meredith Stone

i! My name is Tytan Josiah Stone and I am going to tell you a story about me. About June of 2012, my mommy had an ultrasound while I was growing inside "the oven" and she received a scary report from the doctor. The test indicated my head was unusually large and he was not sure what happened to me. More tests were done and my mommy was freaking out as no one could diagnose the problem. About three weeks later, I was so uncomfortable, that I caused a lot of stress and insisted to come out and see the world even though I should have waited six more weeks. I'll let my mommy, Meredith, tell you more of the story.

The next few hours were the longest hours of my life. I was lying on an operating table from an emergency C-section, able to see six doctors huddling over Tytan and then they rushed him off to another area. My mother was able to observe everything from a distance and still stay with Tytan. Whisked next to the

NICU, Tytan was hooked up to several machines and immediately had a transfusion of platelets.

The diagnosis was vague as the doctors still were baffled and knew there were other abnormalities and that I needed to see a specialist. The preliminary issues were Hydrocephaly and Dandi Walker Syndrome. The only neonatal/ surgeon was in St. Louis or Oklahoma City. So, within two hours, baby Tytan was life-flighted to the OU Children's Medical Hospital. Dr. Grosse was amazing. A thorough neurological exam revealed Tytan had a stroke intrauterine, which the doctor was familiar with but had never actually seen one during her career. She shared with me the need to operate as soon as Tytan's temperature could be brought up to normal. We put him in very warm clothes and kept him in a warming bed along with all tubes to keep him alive.

Dr. Grosse did a procedure to remove the dried-up blood and the dead brain cells from his little head. Tytan was left with 7% of the right side and 32% of the left side of his brain. Of course, I

"Tytan's

and future is

certainly in

was devastated. I had two daughters earlier in life and was so thrilled to have a son, but a mom is never prepared for a "special" baby. We stayed at OU Children's Medical Hospital for several weeks until Dr. Grosse could operate again to place a shunt in his head. Other medical issues surfaced after the surgery, including the fact he might not be able to see. Over time and several ophthalmologist visits, it was stated he was legally blind, but today he is able to see with a challenge of Cortical Vision Impairment.

We continued to travel back-and-forth to Oklahoma City five more times to keep updating the shunt, until it worked properly. To this day, if Tytan ever seems to be ill, the x-rays and c-scans are done to make sure the shunt is working. Unfortunately, Tytan has developed PTSD with doctors or anyone in a white coat! The good news is Tytan's head circumference began to shrink and he could finally hold his head up when he was eight months old. It really took extra time for him to reach his milestones and we nicknamed him Tytan Turtle. Everyone, especially other little kiddos loved Tytan Turtle!



An exciting day came when Tytan was enrolled at the Little Light House (LLH). The opportunities for him to grow and mature were amazing. He was able to receive all the "therapists' specialties:" speech therapy, low-vision therapy, physical and occupational therapies. Each LLH student receives an individualized educational plan with a goal for the child to function as independently as possible, considering their mental and physical challenges, although no limits are put on progress.

Every student is held up in prayer and we see miracles every day. The entire LLH staff collaborates all their energies for the students. When you walk through the halls to take your little one to their class, you can feel the positive and spiritual-energy flowing in the hallways and classrooms. The love exudes from everyone and every child who is blessed to attend receives the

most special attention available

in the world.

Tytan loves to go to school. His vocabulary grows weekly and his words are appropriate for the situation. He is working on fine-motor skills and participating in crafts, problem-solving situations and learning to play with other children. He adores music and sings in tune with all types of musical genre.

Having a child with special needs and being a single mom takes a "village" to handle the diverse needs every day, twenty-four seven!! I am fortunate to have my two daughters, my mom and dad, and friends to help. Sadly, Tytan's father, Freddie, died two years ago in a drowning accident and his loss has left a void impossible to fill. Freddie's dad and mom are pastors of a church in Vian, Oklahoma and they are a wonderful family with lots of kids and grandchildren who adore Tytan. They usually have Tytan visit for a week or so at a time.

At home the everyday events with Tytan are sometimes comical, sometimes very "un-nerving" and stressful, and sometimes very hard. He is close to walking on his own but crawls around very fast. He loves to throw clothes and toys into the ceiling fan so now he has an adjustable basketball goal (in the living room) and has learned how to shoot from his knees! He loves to sing, loves to play notes on a piano, and loves to crawl in

the dryer and then play "Where's Tytan?". Peek-a-boo is also still his favorite game. In so many ways, he is still our five-year old baby and our Tytan Turtle.

Tytan's development and future is certainly in God's hands. We all have witnessed that God has rewired his brain to see him grow and learn as he has. There is no way to predict or even imagine how he will progress, but it is something new every day. We are blessed and honored to have Tytan in our lives.

TYTAN STONE









Annual Impact Report: 2016 - 2017



A Year in Review: 2016 - 2017 Highlights

LAMP Center of Excellence: The Little Light House is the first educational organization in Oklahoma to be recognized as a LAMP Center of Excellence by the Center for AAC and Autism. LAMP stands for Language Acquisition through Motor Planning and it is a communication device and therapeutic approach used to improve language and communication skills in individuals who are non-verbal. We are excited to use this approach with our students to give each child a "voice."

Tracking Progress: Did you know our therapy team created a tool to help evaluate the progress of our students? It is called the Student Growth Indicator (SGI) and it tracks each child's progress in goal completion on 14 various developmental categories at the middle and end of each year. At these times, parents receive a Student Growth Report, which provides a snapshot of their child's success over each semester. This tool focuses on the child's capabilities, not their disability.

Children's Storybooks: This year, the Little Light House was pleased to receive a special grant from Anthem Church to convert our children's stories, which are part of our Bible-based curriculum, Head to Toe, Heart and Soul, into paperback children's books. Each book includes a few options of activities that correspond with the story providing caregivers a fun way to engage their child in the story. These are available in the LLH Gift Shop while supplies last, but can also be purchased online through Amazon.com. (Remember, if you use Smile.Amazon.com, you can select the LLH as your charity of choice and Amazon will donate a portion of every dollar spent to the LLH).

FISCAL YEAR JUNE 30, 2017

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES 2017 CHANGESINUNRESTRICTEDNETASSETS Revenues		CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION 2017 ASSETS		
2,241,092 262,063 172,078 2,675,233	Current Liabilities	<i>ITIES</i> 39,702	20,702	
1,544,831	Total Liabilities		39,702	
TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS		NET ASSETS		
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	\$ 897,506 1,177,325 24,675 105,730 2,014,828 4,220,064 2,241,092 262,063 172,078 2,675,233 1,544,831 <u>NET ASSETS</u> 1,100,680 (2,014,828)	\$897,506 1,177,325 24,675 105,730 2,014,828 4,220,064Cash & Certificates of Deposit Pledges Receivable Prepaid Expenses & Other Assets Net Property, Plant & Equipment Total Assets2,241,092 262,063 172,078 2,675,233 1,544,831LIABIL Current Liabilities Total LiabilitiesNET ASSETSNET ASS1,100,680 (2,014,828)Unrestricted Temporarily Restricted Permanently Restricted	\$ 897,506 Cash & Certificates of Deposit \$ 2,454,189 1,177,325 24,675 Pledges Receivable 183,750 105,730 Prepaid Expenses & Other Assets 23,290 2,014,828 4,220,064 Net Property, Plant & Equipment 16,123,090 2,241,092 LIABILITIES 262,063 Total Assets 39,702 1,72,078 Current Liabilities 39,702 1,544,831 Total Liabilities 39,702 1,100,680 Unrestricted 17,046,124 (2,014,828) Temporarily Restricted 1,698,493 Permanently Restricted 0	





Garden Party

- Live Auction - Silent Auction - Brunch -Program - Hats - and More!

Join us Saturday, April 7th, 2018 8:30a.m. - 12:30p.m. **Cox Business Center** Tulsa, OK

Honorary Chair: Pam Adams

Register Online at www.littlelighthouse.org

For more information about this event, please contact Lindsay Nozak, Director of Events and Marketing, at the Little Light House at (918) 664-6746 or lnozak@littlelighthouse.org.

7 THE BEACON

Alumni Adventures

with Elle McCullough

By: Jennie McCullough

salm 139: 14 -"I will praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made."

This verse immediately came to my mind when the staff at the Little Light House asked me to pick one for my daughter, Elle McCullough, when she started school in 2011. I remind Elle

almost every day that she is special and wonderful and perfect even though she doesn't walk or look or think like others her age.

The Little Light House was just as much a life-changer for Elle as it was for me and my husband. We saw others dealing with the

struggles and heartache and found comfort in other parents and staff. Elle could not walk or crawl when we began amazed at her progress... And it all at LLH - and she WALKED out of graduation! She was more confident, had begun to write and was enjoying being around others!

Elle was born with two congenital heart wonderfully made! defects (Tetralogy of Fallot and Pulimnary Atresia), Scoliosis, a neck problem and some brain damage from loss of oxygen. It has been a long road and will continue to be... but places like the LLH remind us we can do it - and that we are WONDERFULLY MADE!

Since Elle graduated in 2013, it has been tough. We would have stayed forever had they let us! But we FINALLY found a wonderful school for her in Town & Country. It took many tries to find a place where she would thrive. Lots of tears were shed, many tests were taken and many heartbreaks and setbacks occurred. But finally she has begun to read and spell - and is

even doing some drama at her new school!

We are so grateful. Last summer Elle had her second open heart surgery and is doing better she is energetic and even sassier (if that's even possible)! She's been through

seven heart catheterizations, hours and hours of physical therapy, speech therapy, doctor after doctor - but I am started at the Little Light House.

We will forever be grateful for this place of safety and comfort and strength. And may we always remember we ALL are

- Elle and the McCullough family (Leonard, Jennie, Ian and Caleb).





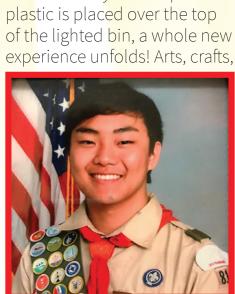


the light of the world is jesus

By: Sherry Gurney, LLH Low Vision Therapist, Perkins- Roman Endorsed CVI Specialist

A favorite time of the year for our family is Christmas. When my husband and I lived in Kenya, we had Christmas in July, because it was winter there! Christmas in our home has always been filled with smells of cooking, candles and Christmas lights. Now you may understand why it comes naturally to me to use lights in my work with the little ones with compromised vision. Lights bring life to their world too! When lights (vision), plus sound, touch, smell and taste are paired in an experience, it is retained in visual memory.





Pictures: (L to R) Student working at the light-sensory table that Daniel and Kara designed. Middle: Daniel Bryce, Life Scout and Kara Hollingsworth, Sr. Girl Scout.

**Scouts: Daniel Bryce, Life Scout and Kara Hollingsworth, Sr. Girl Scout, invested their time and ingenuity to build original 'Light-Sensory tables' for the LLH children! They took our old computer caves, drew up plans, used community resources and their leadership gifts to establish a team and built these amazing tables! Kara completed her work in loving memory of Judy Murdock who devoted many years to children with visual impairments at the Little Light House. **

"Places like LLH remind us we can do it and that we are WONDERFULLY MADE!"

To meet the need of lighted sensory tables, we asked two wonderful Scouts, looking for projects, to build them for us. A light-sensory table is a lighted box, set into a childsized table, which back-lights the items in the bin. The children's attention is focused for lengthier periods of time and the flow of the lights adds a new element to toys, shapes, and details in nature.

concept building are enhanced by the addition of "back-lighting." A soothing calm in this quiet play setting also has the benefit of settling the children down, much like sitting in front of a warm fire in the fireplace at Christmas.

and educational

When a sturdy frosted piece of





The Little Light House is excited to share that we are a participating organization in Legacy Tulsa! Legacy Tulsa is designed to inspire people just like you to make a charitable gift that helps care for you, your family and the organizations you passionately support.

In an effort to encourage long-term sustainability for local nonprofit agencies, through planned giving, the Tulsa Community Foundation launched the Planned Giving Partnership Program in November 2008. The Advancement Group is the planned giving office for Tulsa Community

Foundation and over 50 nonprofit organizations in the greater Tulsa area, including the Little Light House, to assist each nonprofit in designing a program to build endowments.

As the planned giving office for the Little Light House, The Advancement Group plays a key role in providing education on behalf of Legacy Tulsa. As Legacy Tulsa energizes people from the greater Tulsa area to become a part of a movement, The Advancement Group is a resource to help them accomplish their family, financial, and philanthropic goals.

To learn more, please visit Legacytulsa.org or contact Rachel Mouton, Director of Development, at the Little Light House at 918-664-6746 or rmouton@littlelighthouse.org.

TAKE ACTION. PLAN YOUR LEGACY TODAY!



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10 | THE BEACON

Emery Hope Grubbs

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Callie Hall

Luke Knapp

Jane Land

Carolyn Fletcher

Ginny Gamble

Jack Garrison

Cvnthia A. Monaghar

Austin Todd Hefner Savannah Hefner nomas and Dee Bu

Cynthia Herrera **Michael Hewitt** Judah Kahne Bethany Kettles Kylie Killingsworth Chera Kimiko

Grace Ledbetter Kelly and Christine Monagh Ms. Chervl Nixon

Kayden Meachem Winter Medlock Marcia Mitchell Mr. and Mrs. Robert Eck Mr. and Mrs. Keith Wi Cohen Neckar Lane Petersen Shanti Ponder

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wing

Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Leskowat Leo Lowerv

Kyla Martin Deuce Marzett II /anessa Marze Anne McCoy

Lily McKenzie **Ruthanne McLauchlan**

Maddy McNulty

Ervin Postier

Shana Ramirez

Mr and Mrs Brad Estrem Ms. Sallyanne Wallace, Trus Shana Ramirez, Anonym

Addilyn Roberts Joshua Robinson

Ethan Rodriguez **Olivia Sams**

Joe Scruggs Giovanni Sejara

JB Shelton Solomon Siegel Joshua Bear Smith Aaron Soderfelt Lindie Swift Linda Szadziewicz

Kate Tucker Megan Poole

Lucy Vandrell Betty Verret Marlene Waychoff Jackson Wilkey Keith and Jean Winfre Emma Wolf

Dr. David Wong Wyatt Wolery

Eleanor Forde McNulty

Danne, Savage O'Donnell Affeldt Weintraub & Johnson, Betty Jennings, Robert McCall Dr. and Mrs. Robert Morton **Mary Margaret Mills Gwen Mitchell Rachel Morrel** Virginia "Jinny" Lee Mudd Dr. and Mrs. William Orr, Mr. and Mrs. Don Roach A.B. Nelson **Therian Nunn Ray Nunnely** Stella Payton John D. Roberts Jr. Makayla Roller **Nicole Ann Rust** Jim Sesow **Troy and Susan Stephens Reverand Loren Stephenson** Nathan Wofford





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The Little Light House

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A CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

"He is the one you praise; he is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes."

- Deuteronomy 10:21

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.