

FEBRUARY 2024

CROSSTALK

Centenary United Methodist Church

Genesis 3:19 (NRSVUE)

*By the sweat of your face
you shall eat bread
until you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken;
you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.”*



Every few years, something fun happens in the calendar - at least, I think it's fun - Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day fall on the same day. For some, this may seem like an unfortunate coincidence. You may avoid getting ashes, or at least make sure they get washed off your forehead before a date with a loved one. I mean, who wants to remember our mortality on a day when we're supposed to celebrate love anyway?

Yet, there is something beautiful about observing these two holy days on the same day. Through the ashes, we are reminded of our humble origin – dust. God formed us out of dust. We acknowledge our mortality and need for repentance with an invitation to spiritual renewal. Valentine's Day prompts us to show love in tangible ways, to friends, family, and loved ones. The juxtaposition of these two occasions reminds us that love is both introspective and expressive. We put the sign of the cross on our foreheads as reminders of God's great love for us.

In the season of Lent, as we undertake acts of self-discipline and introspection, let us not forget the profound connection between love and repentance. True love involves acknowledging our flaws, seeking forgiveness, and growing together. As we traverse the journey of Lent, may our acts of love extend beyond romantic notions to encompass compassion, forgiveness, and understanding.

Join us as we walk our Lenten journey together.

Grace + peace,
Pastor Trent

Sunday Morning Services

Coffee and doughnuts in the Fellowship Hall 9:00am

Sunday School at 9:30am

Worship at 10:30am

Join us online:

Facebook Live at

<https://www.facebook.com/centenaryshelbyville>

&

YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFQ7gRUEwCTavSK9UvqiMaQ>



We keep everyone updated about our programs and events by email and Facebook. Please contact the church office with any questions or if you would like to be added to the email list.

Church office hours are Monday-Thursday on site 8:00am-2:00pm and 8:00am-2:00pm Remotely.

Assistance days and hours are Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am-1:00pm. Centenary offers financial assistance for rent or utilities and food assistance.

STAFF

Lead Pastor

Trent Lloyd- tlloyd@shelbycumc.org

Associate Pastor

Katie Lloyd- klloyd@shelbycumc.org

Director of Worship and Program Ministries

Kay Burney- kburney@shelbycumc.org

Children's Ministry Director

Reesa Headley- rheadley@shelbycumc.org

Office Manager

Amanda Shirley- 502-633-4510 or ashirley@shelbycumc.org



Lay Leader: Renee Clark

Council Chair: Heather Hood

Chair of SPRC: Robin Chandler

Chair of Ops Team: Tracy Bertram

Chair of Trustees: Jim Sharp

Chair of Finance: Jeff Gaither

Treasurer: Michael Watts

Children's Ministry Chair:

Amanda Ethington

Youth Ministry Chair: Nick Headley

****Notes from Ops Team & Church Council available upon request from the church office. You can call and request a copy emailed or mailed to you or come by during business hours.***



Deadline for the March 2024 Crosstalk is Wednesday, February 21st, 2024



Happy BIRTHDAY

4th	CYF	6:30pm
7th	Choir	6:00pm
	Church Council	7:00pm
11th	CYF	6:30pm
12th	Redwoods	10:00am
	Ops Team	6:30pm
14th	Women's Bible Study	10:00am
	Ash Wednesday Service	6:30pm
18th	CYF	6:30pm
19th	President's Day	Office closed
21st	Women's Bible Study	10:00am
	Dinner Church	6:30pm
	Choir	7:45pm
23rd & 24th	CYF Retreat	
28th	Women's Bible Study	10:00am
	Choir	6:00pm

- 6 James Ellis Lloyd
- 8 Diana Beaton
- 9 Bob Ethington
- Ashley Chacon
- 10 Raegan Stovall
- 11 Charlotte Bond
- Jamie Jarboe
- 12 Patty Burks
- Ashley Ethington
- Ronnie Freels
- Cheryl Gibbons
- 13 Tracy Gayle
- 14 Michael Watts
- 20 Paul Gayle
- Nancy Angell
- 21 Caroline Husband
- 24 Leigh Burnett
- Ronnie Vanarsdale
- 25 Pauletta Stovall
- 26 Mark Knowles
- 28 Shirley Luttrell

Do you have a prayer request you would like shared with the church?

Prayer List

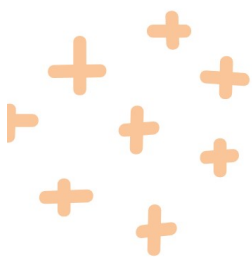
Send an email to prayer@shelbycumc.org

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

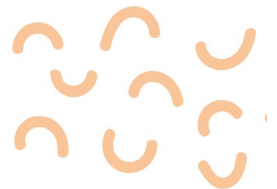
Remembering that we are dust & that we are loved

February 14th, @ 6:30pm





Mountain Mission Pick-up



March 6th 2024

**Donations can be dropped off starting February 13th in the
Youth building.**

Please stack items neatly, go in the door with the ramp.



Assistance Program

By Amanda Shirley

As you may be aware, I submit the report for the assistance program approximately a month later because obviously when the newsletter is being done there are still assistance days left in the month. So, here is the end of year report for the assistance program.

I want to start off by reminding everyone that our program is open to ALL Shelby County residents. Financial assistance is available once in a 12-month time frame per household. Funds are available on a first come first served basis and the maximum amount we can assist with fluctuates based on funds available. Our goal is to help people in our community in the best way possible. Centenary helps with necessary utilities electric, gas, water. Or rental assistance, we do not cover a full month we do not have the funds for that. In 2023 we received 197 applications for assistance of those we were able to help 135 of those households affecting 327 individuals. At a total cost of \$19,237.97. If, for any reason, we are unable to assist someone with their request, I make an effort to refer them to other programs or agencies that might better meet their needs.

Each household can pick up food assistance once every other week. In 2023 Centenary handed out 1,728 bags of food feeding 3,651 individuals in our community. Centenary partners with Dare to Care, and most of the distributed food is donated. We received 25,723lbs of food from Dare to Care last year with an estimated value of \$39,870.65. We also received several hundred pounds of ground beef from Farmers Feeding Families along with a \$8,000.00 grant to help with food assistance. Shelby County ROTARY that meets here at the church on Tuesdays donated \$1,500.00 as well. Centenary does purchase some of the food that is distributed so that the bags have some of the same basic foods regularly. Those items are cereal, noodles, crackers or tortillas, beans or a source of protein, mac & cheese, and vegetables. Additional items are added depending on what is donated. Along with the pantry bag we also hand out frozen meats or refrigerated items like milk, eggs, and cheese if we have them. Centenary spent \$7,615.76 on food and supplies for the assistance program last year. The total of donated and purchased food was around \$47,807.91 for the food assistance program last year.

The total funds spent on food and financial assistance in 2023 were \$27,175.03. This program is 100% run by donations of funds and food. The program would not be possible if not for the generosity of our congregation and community partners so thank you for helping your neighbors.



Centenary United Methodist Church

Assistance Program

429 Main St
Shelbyville KY 40065
502-633-4510



Rent or Utility Assistance

You will need:

- Valid Photo ID
- Proof of income- check stub or Award letter for SSI or Unemployment, food stamp letter, ect.
- Current copy of utility bill must be in a disconnect status
or
- Lease agreement with contact information for landlord.
Please bring any current receipts for payments with current balance due.

Financial assistance is once a year.

Meaning 12month minimum since applicant last received assistance.

Food Assistance

Food assistance is available for bi-weekly pick up per household. Meaning it can be picked up every other week as needed. Just need ID.

**Assistance is available on Tuesdays
and Thursdays 9:00am-1:00pm
Available to all Shelby County
Residents**





The Redwoods Group

By Trisha Hobbs



Our Centenary Redwoods Group was born out of one of the 40 Days of Purpose small groups many years ago, and is still going strong in 2024. We are also growing, and welcomed several new members during 2023. Like the Redwoods trees that stand strong through their entangled root systems, this small group had stood tall through the years through our entanglements supporting one another. As such, we took the opportunity during our January meeting to have a time of fellowship where we were intentional about learning more about each other. While we have a core leadership team, we are trying to be share more of the meeting responsibilities this year so that running the meeting does not always fall to the same person. Thank you to Lois Bradford, Rena George, Lynda Tharp, and Geri Roberts for stepping into this core leadership role...I'm simply helping with much of the computer work. For January, Geri opened the meeting and provided the devotional before Lynda passed around cards for our group to sign and send to church members and friends in need of some extra encouragement. We then played "Two Truths and a Lie". Being a small group and a safe space, what is shared during Redwoods stays in the group...so I won't share any of the lies. But the stories that our group shared when revealing their truths and lies gave us all some smiles, laughs, and a much better understanding of each other's childhoods, hobbies, passions, and families. We also learned who can't tell a lie.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, February 12, 2024. If you have considered joining us in the past, perhaps our February meeting will be the perfect opportunity for you. Lois will be up in our rotation for kicking off the meeting, and Diana Beaton has volunteered to provide our devotional that morning. Our group of ladies is always ready to welcome new members, so please consider joining us as we will be making crafts projects to deliver to a few of our shut-in members.

I close each e-Mail message to our Redwoods membership with this (expanded scripture from our logo):

As Paul's prayer for the Ephesians says, "For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." – Ephesians 3:14-21

Ramp Ministry Update

by David Pratt and Trisha Hobbs

The new 2024 year is off to a busy start for our Ramp Ministry. This is an update on both the current requests we have for ramps, and a report on the first ramp installation of 2024 (completed in January).

Already this year we have received three requests for ramps. Two of these will be scheduled for a later date. Of these, one of them is for a member of our church family and will be built when she is ready to move to a new home. The second ramp is for a lady who currently uses a walker and has assistance in entering and leaving her home, but a ramp is needed. We will build this one later, as the weather permits since she has assistance. The third ramp was for a more urgent need, so we rushed to complete this ramp in January before the cold weather moved in.

This third ramp is for a 74-year-old gentleman living in the eastern part of the county, past Defoe and almost to the Franklin County line. This is actually the second time we have built a ramp at this home, as we built a ramp for his wife last summer. She was wheelchair bound due to COPD, lung cancer, and other health issues. When we received the request last year, she was in the hospital and looking to be discharged. After we put the ramp up, she was discharged, but she only made use of the ramp one time. When we received the call that the ramp was no longer needed, I (David) believe I was told she came home on a Friday and passed away on Sunday. The family was appreciative that they were able to get her back into her home for even this short a time. We removed the ramp for future use somewhere else.

Now the ramp is needed back at this home. Just before Christmas I received a call from the daughter requesting a ramp for her father. On December 16th, he was in his barn and fell off a ladder. He broke both legs when he fell and since he lives alone, it was almost eight hours before they found him. He was in the hospital and was facing surgery to repair both legs and time at a rehab facility. On January 4th, when I spoke to his daughter the surgery was completed and the doctor said he would probably be discharged to Fraizer Rehab for approximately two or three weeks. He will be in a non-weight-bearing situation for some time as the healing takes place. Looking at the long-range weather forecast, January 8th & 11th were going to be the best days to work outside for quite a while. On Monday, January 8th, a small team met at the storage facility provided by Patty Burks to prepare and load the ramp sections. Then on Thursday, January 11th, another small team met and completed installation of the ramp.

With all the cold temperatures, heavy or drizzly rains, and snow that we have seen at the start of this year, we were blessed to have two days that were good days to work outside. We thank God for the good weather and the resources He continues to provide for this Ramp Ministry as we reach out to our neighbors in His name. We also thank you, our church family, for your continued support of and many prayers lifted for this Ramp Ministry.

Our guiding scripture verse is this:

“You obey the law of Christ when you offer each other a helping hand.” – Galatians 6:2 (CEV)

As always, all volunteers are welcome to join us on future ramp builds. We have a lot of fun while we work and we get to know more about our fellow team members. There are tasks for every skill set...and no special skills are required. We carry a lot less lumber than we used to carry since many of the ramps we install now are the aluminum ramps. We have tools available for everyone to use and we will show you how to use them. At the ramp preparation day on January 8th, Trisha even learned a new trick for tightening the nuts on the slider inserts for the handrails and legs of the aluminum ramp sections WHEN WEARING HEAVY GLOVES for the cold weather. We have multiple power screwdrivers, some with depth-setters so that you can't accidentally countersink the screws. If you don't like power tools...we often need help with shovels, a pick, a tamper, and the wheelbarrow. If that sounds like too much manual labor, we would welcome for a couple of people to make themselves available during ramp builds to simply sit and visit with our neighbor receiving the ramp. On larger ramp builds, we may take a break to enjoy a meal or snack. We also deeply appreciate our faithful prayer warriors. We ask that if you are unable to be present with us at a ramp build that you please keep our recipients, our workers, and our ministry in your prayers.

We look forward to having more new faces join us for great fellowship as we work together to minister to our neighbors. Each of our team members can share stories of how they have been blessed to be a part of this ministry, so we know you will be blessed through your participation as well.

Here are some pictures from our January prep work day on the first ramp build of 2024...



The ramp sections are loaded and ready to take to the project site on Thursday...



And here are some pictures from our January installation day on the first ramp build of 2024...



Another Volleyball Season has begun...

By Trisha Hobbs

Once again we have sponsored teams in the parks league. We continue to see this fellowship and outreach ministry grow. Last winter we only had one team return from the fall session, but this year we have both teams returning. Games began on Tuesday, February 16th for one of our two teams...with the other team having a Bye week. After the fall league only having teams to fill the "A" Division, we are thrilled to once again have teams playing so that we are able to compete in the "C" Division. Once again...outreach, fellowship, fun, sportsmanship, and NO INJURIES will be our goals. We continue to draw players from the community, so we are already well on our way to meeting our goals.

Centenary TEAM EAGLE #1 (3 on the schedule) is captained by Amy Waggener and is a great blend of church members, friends, and community "neighbors". This team includes more of our younger players and are welcoming two newcomers to the team this session. Jason and Miguel will be great assets to the team and have already helped keep their first match close.



Centenary TEAM EAGLE #2 (5 on the schedule) is captained by me (Trisha Hobbs) and is once again a blend of church members and friends/family. Other Centenary players include Nick Headley and Jill and Gary Baker.

As of the writing of this article, we have sixteen players signed up...we could use a couple more players to better fill two teams as subs are sometimes needed/welcome in case players get sick, have to work late, or have a family conflict. Please contact either Trisha Hobbs or the church office to get signed up. If you do not want to play, cheerleaders are also always welcome! Last session, Amy's team usually had a variety of cheerleaders in the stands from friends and family alike. David and Louise Pratt spent many Tuesdays at the FAC watching volleyball matches this past fall, and my parents cheered us on as their schedule allowed. Thank you to all of our cheerleaders!

We brought back the TEAM EAGLE name this past fall, and even have team shirts. For those of you who don't remember the acronym, this stood for "Together with Energy and Attitude on a Mission to Engage, Accept, and Glorify the Lord Everywhere".

CENTENARY UMC VOLLEYBALL TEAMS

Centenary Team #3

Amy Waggener
Tiffani Tingle
Anna Marie McNutt
Trent Lloyd
Stone Smith
Amanda Shirley
Jason Eich
Miguel Valladares



1. Percle
2. **Bourbon Balls**
3. Centenary team Eagle #1
4. **Jellybeans**
5. Centenary Team Eagle 2

Centenary Team #5

Trisha Hobbs
Tracey Mahoney
Jessica Mahoney
Justin Mahoney
Jeff Mahoney
Nick Headley
Jill Baker
Gary Baker

DATE	1/16	1/23	1/30	2/6
7:30PM	1- 3	2- 3	4-5	1-4
8:15PM	2-4	1-5	1-2	3-5
	BYE-5	BYE-4	BYE-3	BYE-2

DATE	2/13	2/20	2/27	3/5
7:30PM	3-4	1-5	2-4	4-5
8:15PM	2-5	2- 3	1- 3	1-2
	BYE-1	BYE-4	BYE-5	BYE-3

DATE	3/12
COURT	1 2
6:00PM	3-5
6:45PM	1-4
7:30PM	3-2 4-5

Tournament Dates to be
announced

Centenary Youth Fellowship



CYF Ice Skating

By Trisha Hobbs

On Sunday, January 7th we took our youth to Iceland in Louisville for an afternoon of ice skating. Hearing last year that none of the chaperones had skated with the youth, I had expressed to Pastor Katie that I love ice skating. With the outing scheduled during her vacation, she asked me to help. Kimberly Aitken was our bus driver for the day...thank you, thank you, thank you! Hailey, Zoe, and Clara had a good time that afternoon...and so did Kimberly and I. If you are in middle school or high school, I encourage you to join CYF on Sunday evenings and for some of the upcoming special events (such as the Winter Retreat). And to our congregation, we have a great group of youth...so if you have the opportunity to spend time with them, I would definitely encourage you to do so. Here are some pictures from the afternoon...it was a crowded day at the rink with individuals and other youth groups also there. A couple of hours on the ice had everyone ready to thaw out and head back to Shelbyville about the time the Zamboni began resurfacing the ice.







WINTER blitz

By Trisha Hobbs

Winter Blitz is one of the weekend events that our youth look forward to each year. It is an opportunity to gather with other youth from across the state...to listen to great speakers, play games led by camp staff, and to engage in praise and worship. It has long been one of my favorite events to chaperone, so I was excited when Pastor Katie asked me in December to chaperone while she was on vacation. My partner for the day was Jill Baker and we gathered early on Saturday, January 13th to go spend the day in Louisville with other youth groups from across the state of Kentucky at Christ Church. In spite of the cold weather, skiff of snow, icy parking lot, and early morning (a 7:30 meeting time on a weekend when our youth could be sleeping in)...Gretchen and Clara were ready to go and looking forward to another year of Winter Blitz. Jill and I were also excited and ready to trade sleep for spending a wonderful day with a great speaker, games and other fun activities, worship with a praise band, and lots of bonding time with our youth.

Upon arriving, we learned that there was a photo scavenger hunt that we could participate in that day. We took our traditional group photo with props before heading in to the session area where the camp staff was still setting up the 9-square game for during the welcome time before the session started. The praise band from the Morehead State University Wesley Foundation did a wonderful job of leading uplifting worship throughout the day. Our speaker for the weekend was Jamelle Jones who leads the Wesley Foundation at the University of Louisville. Our youth have had him as a speaker at their Winter Retreat previously, so they were looking forward to hearing him again. He remembered them and spoke with them at our dinner table that evening. His messages during the sessions were great topics for our youth and they shared quite a bit during our small group breakout discussions at the end of each talk.

During the lunch break, we took the opportunity to explore Louisville in search of various pictures for the photo scavenger hunt. Gretchen and Clara had fun with the hunt and we were able to get some really creative pictures. We even planned to get bonus points for a vintage Winter Blitz picture because I had happened to wear my shirt from 2013 that day.

We got back to the venue in time to watch the talent showcase where the final act was Bishop Leonard Fairley and his appointive cabinet doing a dance version of the children's game of Telephone. I highly recommend watching it if the video appears on the conference website...our former District Superintendent Tina Patterson kicked it off with some good moves, Dawn Sparks Fairley added a ballet pirouette to the version of YMCA that she was shown, and Bishop Fairley finished it off with some surprise moves...well worth watching! There were many very talented youth participating...a young gentleman showed impressive yo-yo skills, several talented musicians (instrument and vocal), and a youth group where the service animal stole the show as they performed to the song "Who Let the Dogs Out".

Winter Blitz is always one of my favorite weekends to chaperone. I'm pleased to announce that our group won the photo scavenger hunt. It was an amazing weekend and several of the youth present responded to the altar call to commit their life to Christ. Our youth heard the challenging messages from Jamelle Jones (that this be a year in which they go deeper in their faith), so I ask that you continue to pray for our youth. Please join me in praying that this not be just a mountaintop experience for them for the day only, but rather that it sparks a lasting change in how they view their relationship with Christ and what they want from and for that relationship. Thank you!

Here are some of the pictures from the photo scavenger hunt that day...

Asked for a picture with a horse...



Barbaro wins by a length...

Asked for Green and Fuzzy...



Ready for the runway with our head bands and boas

Asked for a famous local food...



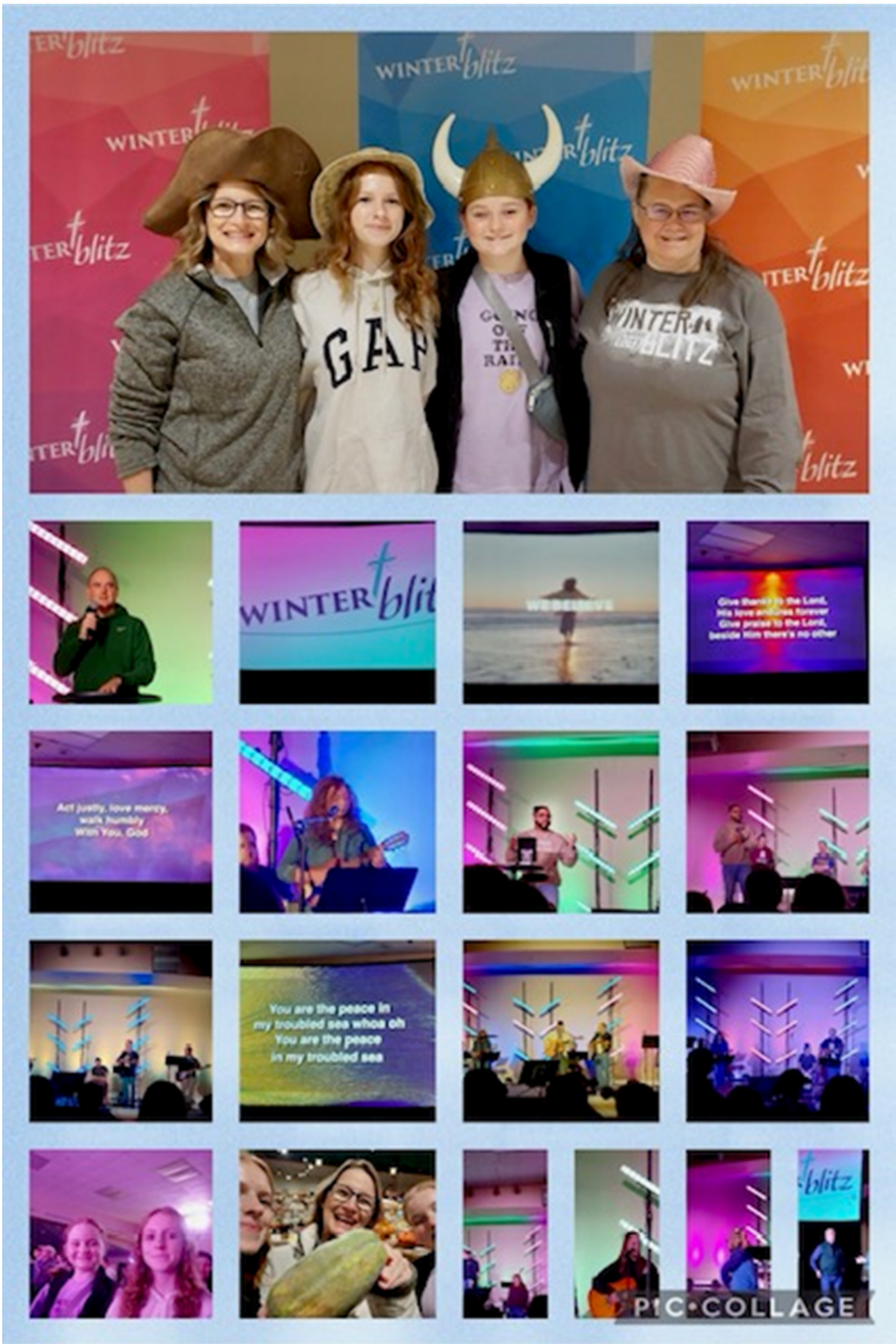
Jill had brought Krispy Kreme donuts that morning so we took the picture in front of the store...

Asked to make a cross...



Ours may have been a little crooked...

And when asked to submit a photo of what we love about Winter Blitz, Clara created a photo collage what we captioned, “What we loved about Winter Blitz – ALL of it!!!”...



Children's Ministry



WE ARE HIRING *Nursery Worker*

Qualifications :

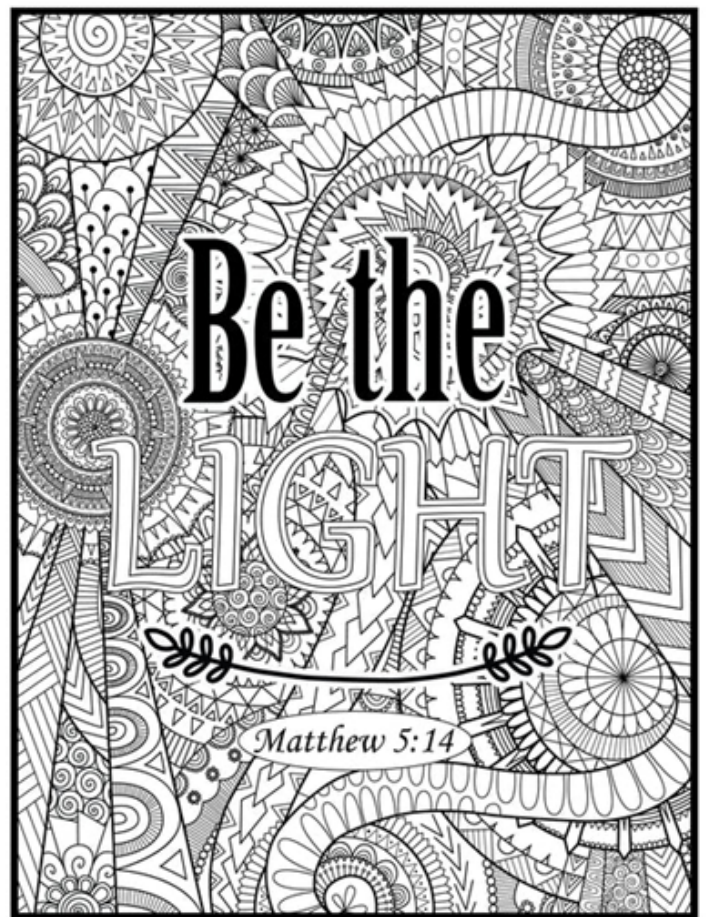
- Experience caring for children between the ages of 0-4
- Positive Attitude
- Patient and calm demeanor
- Starting pay \$15/ hour



Apply today!

Calling for volunteers! Sunday mornings during our continued worship time, our numbers are slowly growing. However, to be able to keep them safe during this time, we are asking for volunteers to float in the Treehouse area. By volunteering, we are asking that you to help keep an eye on the children's area while our little ones listen to their lesson and play games. If you are interested in helping, please reach out to Reesa Headley.

Color with us! Downstairs near the elevator you will see a large wall coloring sheet. We would like for you to find your inner child and color with us. Be the Light and add your touch to this mural. We want to see this poster bright and colorful. This is for everyone. Adults and children. Spread the love with a bit of color.



Beloved, let us

LOVE

One

another,

for

love

is from

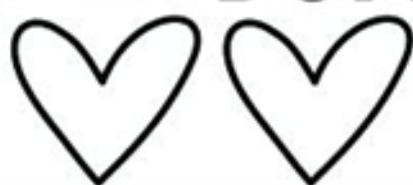
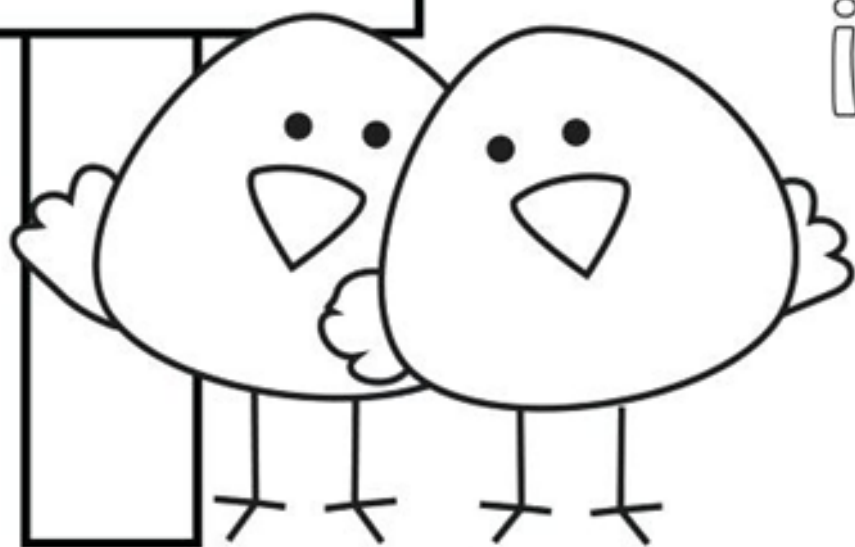
God,

and

whoever loves

is born of God, and

knows God.



1 John 4:7