CHILD PARTICIPATION

More than 96% of our children participate in the Spiritual Life Program in some way during 2016. The weekly participation rate for Thursday’s Bible Study averaged nearly 84%.

Children who do not participate in Bible study or worship services have the opportunity to participate in discussion groups that explore values-based living. Compassion, honesty, reliability are among the many topics children explore.

Children also have the opportunity for worship in the community on Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings.

Participation in the Children’s Square U.S.A. Spiritual Life program is voluntary; parental/guardian permission is required for a child to participate.

The Spiritual Life program seeks to connect children of all faiths with their faith backgrounds.

I am thankful for the teachers because they encouraged me to keep going and try harder

Sami
FIT WITH THE MISSION

The goal of the Spiritual Life Program is to provide faith-based opportunities for spiritual growth. We believe faith development provides a guide post and support throughout life.

Effective curriculum, involvement in faith communities and gaining an understanding of charity toward others also helps instill these values.

One of the ways our children see this modeled is in our volunteers. Our volunteers are models of caring, contribution, and commitment with the hours of time they donate and the caring relationships they develop with the students.

The Spiritual Life Program is separately funded. Helping children connect with their faith background is always a goal.

THE HEALING PROCESS

Children’s Square U.S.A. uses a holistic approach in its care for the children and families served.

The Spiritual Life Program is built upon the belief that addressing the spiritual needs of the children is essential to the healing process.

We provide avenues to help our children in our residential treatment program develop an awareness of their spiritual needs and how to nurture them.

The Association of Natural Psychology wrote in the following article, “Spirituality, A Vital Key in Good Mental Health:"

"Being aware of our spiritual needs is of vital importance. Who are we, what is our purpose in life? ...These are questions that can often times best be addressed on a spiritual level. ...

A self-indulgent or decadent lifestyle can lead to psychological disorders for some. ... Finding our peace and place with God is an essential part of a healthy psychological profile."

The Spiritual Life Program at Children’s Square U.S.A. encourages children to explore their spirituality and seek answers to the dilemmas life presents.

The messages we wish our students to take with them when they graduate should provide a link in life-long spirituality.

"I get to practice (using the Bible) in Bible study and I get the best snacks ever. Thank you!"

Anonymous Student
FUNDING
This program thrives on prayer, financial support, and volunteer involvement.

The Spiritual Life Program is privately funded.

Financial donations at any level are always needed and appreciated.

This program is also supported through a Spiritual Life Fund in the Christian Home Association Foundation. Creating an endowment of $1,000,000 is among the long-term goals of the Spiritual Life Program of Children’s Square U.S.A.

Many thanks to all who have supported the Spiritual Life Program!

Those listed at the bottom of this page supported the Spiritual Life Program with auction purchases made at Christmas Enchantment.

Other 2016 Spiritual Life donations of cash, gifts of grain and in-kind gifts are listed on the following page.

CHRISTMAS AT CHILDREN’S SQUARE
The Chili Cook-Off marks the start of the holiday season for our children. The children sing songs, light the outdoor Nativity, hear the Nativity story and make lots of chili. Our honorary judges help pick the best ones and awards are given out. We have Christmas Enchantment just a few days later followed by Christmas parties. On Christmas Day the children who cannot go home wake to presents under the tree. They go out for lunch and to a movie to help make the day extra special.

CHRISTMAS ENCHANTMENT at HOY-KILNOSKI
Special thanks go out to our host, Hoy-Kilnoski and their gracious staff for offering such a beautiful setting for this very special event.

Approximately $8700 was raised that evening by 140 people.

Many thanks go to the volunteers and those who attended our 5th annual Christmas Enchantment.

Our amazing chairs are Susan Enewold, Julia & Dale Burris, Judy & Bud Kilnoski, Jill Faust, Jennifer Brungardt, Cathy Jayjack and Christine Bostrom.

Auction Purchases
Anonymous Friends
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Ashbaugh
Arleatta Bartelson
Christina Bartelson
Jamie Behrends
Jennifer Brungardt
Becky Burgart
Julia & Dale Burris
Christina Bartelson
Tamara Brunow
Karla & John Butterbaugh
Roger & Diane Carlon
Sara & Jeremy Coffee
Jennifer Clayton
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Conn
Mr. & Mrs. James DeMory
Steve Diehl
Ellen & Mark Duman
Susan Enewold
Jill & John Faust
Patty & Frank Faust
Margarite Goodenow
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Gordon
Mary Ann Hanusa & Charlie Johnson
Mary Hoferer
Mr & Mrs. Donald Hopper
Alyse Hotze
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Hoy
Pat & Don Hutcheson
Sandy Kanger
Judy & Bud Kilnoski
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Kreger
Stephanie & Craig Lainson
Mary Ellen LaVelle
Susan McCall
Midland’s Living Center
Randy & Lisa Milbrath
Linda Meyer
Beverley Moore
Dennis Moore
Tom Miller
Candy & Jon Narni
Lois O’Gara
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Pechacek, Jr.
Kathy Peterson
Linda Primmer
Jean & Rev. John Rinde
Phyllis Rodenburg
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Schmader
Judy & Robert Sellers
Joette Shaw
Eileen Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Steensland
Sue Thomas
Terri Wilson
Carol Wood
Dena & Pat Wredt
You can help provide a faith-based, holistic approach to the treatment offerings for the children in residential mental health treatment. Send your gift to:
Children’s Square U.S.A.
P.O. Box 8-C
Council Bluffs, IA 51503
Be sure to write Spiritual Life in the memo line on your check so we know where to direct your gift.

Every effort was made to include all who make the Spiritual Life program possible. If a name was omitted, it was a slip of the pen and not of the heart. (And please call me! Lisa Milbrath)

A Gift of Grain
One donor gifted grain. This takes the gift out of their income stream and gives them a tax deduction. If this kind of giving appeals to you and your situation, please contact the development office at Children’s Square U.S.A.

Children’s Square U.S.A.
Spiritual Life Program
P.O. Box 8-C
Council Bluffs, IA 51502