



The Fruit of the Spirit
Galatians 5:22-23

The Fruit of the Spirit

A Newsletter of the Spiritual Life Program, Children's Square U.S.A.

Spring 2017 Vol. 6, #1

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



Stopping in to Children's Square on a cold January evening were just a few of the Bible Study Leaders and Mentors (L – R) Karen Anderson, Phyllis Keyser, Al Ringgenberg, Dennis Moore, Eric Allen, Burton Rausch, Stephanie Lainson, Jay Fry and Roger Carlon. Not pictured are Shawna Caigoy, Dena Wredt, Pat Wredt, Bonnie Helms, Mark Versch, Art Hill, Steve Diehl, Josh Bintz, David Snyder, Tung Dang, Angela Hilton, Phil Waggoner, Louisa Webber, Dave Webber, Cliff Hamilton and Mike Davis.

BIBLE STUDY LEADERS AND MENTORS SPEND 800 HOURS WITH CHILDREN

Children's Square children received nearly 800 hours of volunteer time spent in Bible Study and Mentoring in 2016. This direct relationship building came from 32 volunteers who signed a commitment to being with the children each week.

Seven new Bible Study Leaders or Mentors signed on in 2016. Temporary Bible Study and Mentor volunteers came from Child Evangelism Fellowship as well as the Institute for Priestly Formation.

Approximately 1300 hours of volunteer time were coordinated by the Spiritual Life Coordinator in 2016. This includes the Christmas Enchantment chairs and volunteers.

Other volunteers came on campus as guest speakers and musicians, Fun / Activity Day volunteers, clean up day volunteers and for various other activities.

**MISSION STATEMENT
CHILDREN'S SQUARE U.S.A.**

To teach, every day, the values and life skills essential to a successful life
- one full of caring, contribution and commitment.

It is our belief that children are this nation's most valuable resource and their families are the most important factor in their development.

We recognize the unique importance of each child and our philosophy and programs develop individual abilities and talents, building in each:

The Vision to See...

and the value of setting an ideal for which to reach;

The Courage to Try...

and the value of accepting each obstacle as a challenge to meet;

The Will to Succeed...

and the value of making the commitment to persevere

**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.



Joseph's Coat of Many Colors as interpreted by one of our young sidewalk chalk artists. Our Bible Study Leaders use the Bible, music, prayer, discussion, and art to help the Word of God come alive for our children.

**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.

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."

"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.

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
Allyse Hotze
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Hoy

Pat & Don Hutcheson
Sandy Kanger
Judy & Bud Kilnoski
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Kreger
Stephanie & Craig Lainson
Mary Ellan LaVelle
Susan McCall
Midland's Living Center
Randy & Lisa Milbrath
Linda Meyer
Beverley Moore
Dennis Moore
Tom Miller
Candy & Jon Narmi

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



Friends and family braved an icy evening drive to come to the December 16th Christmas Pageant.

Left & Below: The shepherds lead the sheep to see the Baby Jesus in the manger while Dan Danielson and Juanita Andrew play carols.

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



Christmas Enchantment



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.

In-Kind Support

Hoy-Kilnoski Funeral Home,
Council Bluffs,
Friends of Children's Square U.S.A
Child Evangelism Fellowship
Many anonymous friends
Aksarben Cinema
AMC Theatre
Applebee's
Beyond Golf, Omaha
Bloomworks, Council Bluffs
Julia & Dale Burris
Celebrate Catering
Child Evangelism Fellowship
Corum's Flowers
Cellar 19, Council Bluffs
Chanticleer Theatre
Dr. J.G. Christensen
Council Bluffs Country Club
Creighton University
East Side Christian Church
Mary Elks
Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran
Church, Council Bluffs
Susan & Mike Enewold
Eileen's Cookies, Council Bluffs
Family Fun Center, Omaha
Jill Faust
Patty Faust
Rose & Ed Fennell – Crystal Forge
Elaine & Bob Fenner
Film Streams, Omaha
Savannah Fillmore
Jay Fry
Friends of Children's Square U.S.A.
Future Foam
Golden Corral Restaurant
Greek Islands
Henry Doorley Zoo
Iowa Western Community College,
Culinary School & Karen Hander
Cathy Jayjack
Karyn's Katering
Judy & Bud Kilnoski
Kitchen Sisters
KVSS, 102.7 FM Omaha

Stephanie Lainson
Carol Logan-Brummer
Lauritzen Gardens, Omaha
Mad Ox Bakery, Council
Bluffs
Dennis Moore
Milbrath Family
Max I Walker
Joy Myn Massage, Council
Bluffs
Nebraska Crossing & Beverley
Yates & Linda Yates
Posh Pets
Olive Branch,
Opera Omaha
Omaha Children's Museum
Omaha Lancers
Omaha Storm Chasers
Omaha Symphony
Kim Otto
Papio Fun Park
Pre-Wel Manufacturing, Omaha
Pottawattamie Co. Master
Gardeners
Quik Trip Corporation
Barb Rhoades
Rose Theatre
Sam's Club
Joette & Scott Sha
Spaghetti Works
Sherbondy's
Scooters
Angie & Dennis Shea
Melanie Shellberg
Supersaver
Target
Valley View Veterinary Clinic
Mark Versch
Doug & Jean Wilshusen
Terri & Dave Wilson
Suzanne Winter
Upstream Brewery, Omaha
Voya Financial Partners
Valley View Veterinary,
Council Bluffs

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.

Cash Gifts

\$5000 and above
First Christian Church, Council Bluffs

\$2500 and above
Christian Home Association Foundation

\$1000 to 2499
Sherwood Community Church, Council Bluffs
Lynne & Merrill Johnson
Trinity Lutheran Church, Avoca
St. John Lutheran Church Foundation, Council Bluffs
St. John Lutheran Church, Honey Creek
Friends of Children's Square U.S.A. Joseph Thornton

\$500 to \$999
Downtown Kiwanis, Council Bluffs
Knights of Columbus, Council Bluffs
10805, Queen of Apostles, Council Bluffs
Ward & Parker Bean
Arlan Danker Memorial
Mr. & Mrs. Randall Hough
Mr. & Mrs. Wendell Volkens

\$250 to \$499
New Horizon Presbyterian Church, Council Bluffs
Grace United Methodist Church, Glenwood
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Council Bluffs
Rose & John Dalton
Karen Jones
Mr. & Mrs. Craig Lainson
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Moore
TS Bank

Up to - \$249
Corpus Christi Church, Council Bluffs
St. John Lutheran Church, Oldies Christ Care Ministry, Council Bluffs
St. Paul Lutheran Church Ladies Guild, Council Bluffs
Westminster Presbyterian Church Missions, Council Bluffs

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

Up to - \$249 con't

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Persia
East Side Christian Church, Council Bluffs
Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, Council Bluffs
First United Methodist Women
Peace Church of the Brethren, Council Bluffs
Karen Anderson
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Ashbaugh
Jane Bos
Becky Burgardt
Mrs. Jennifer Clayton
Mr. & Mrs. Jeremy Coffee
Mr. and Mrs. James DeMory
Steve & Kristi Diehl
Lisa Gilmore
Patty & Frank Faust
Mr. & Mrs. Wlm French in memory of Vern Welch
Susan & Mike Enewold
Lois Hanusa
Bonnie & Ron Helms
Mary & Jack Hoferer
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Hopper
Mr. & Mrs. Arles Hunt
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Keithley
Mr. & Mrs. Bud Kilnoski
John Kirchner
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kirchner in memory of Dr. Jos. & Lenora Tedesco, and Miles & Martha Kirchner
Judy Malloy
Westy Nelson
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Pechacek, Jr.
Kathy & Michael Peterson
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Reed
Barb Rhoades
Phyllis Rodenburg
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Schmader
Dr. Robert & Judy Sellers
Eileen & Danny Smith
Linda & Greg Steensland
Fikes – Metro: Claire & Mark Sundrup
Margery Watts
Suzanne Winter
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Woellhof
Carol Wood
Charles Wood II
Pat & Dena Wredt
Misc. Anonymous Friends.

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