



T H E *Beacon*

Little Light House Family Grows

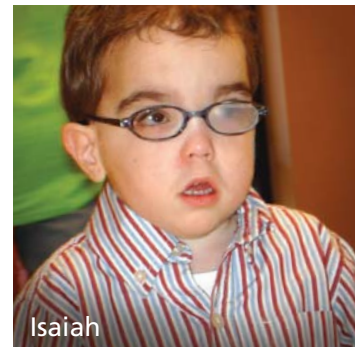
Nicholas, Emily, Isaiah, Caroline, Shavareia, Caleb and Julianna – welcome to the Little Light House family!

February 12, 2007 marked a new milestone for the Little Light House. One year after opening our doors to our first seven students, the Board of Directors unanimously approved the opening of a second class. The next four weeks were filled with training staff, ordering furniture and equipment, and preparing lessons and activities for our new class.

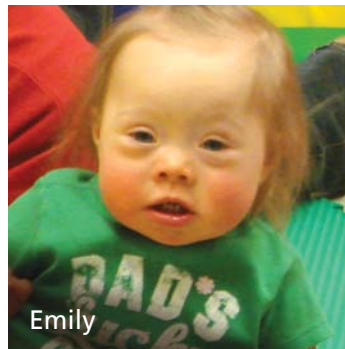
Carolyn Cornelius and Elisa Hodges have joined the Little Light House staff as the teaching team for our second class. They worked until the last minute making their room comfortable and special for their new students. Old and new families alike were welcomed at the Church at Northshore on February 11 at “Luvin’ Little

Light House Sunday.” The following day, parents from the founding class welcomed the new families with warm smiles and refreshments.

Special care was taken to ensure a smooth transition from home into the classroom. Volunteers Lois Landry
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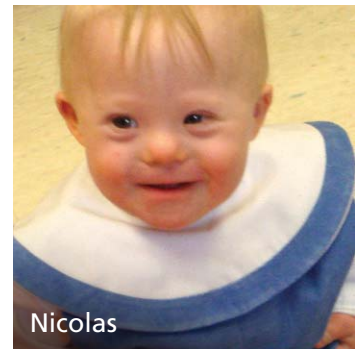
Isaiah



Emily



Shavareia



Nicholas



Caleb



Julianna



Caroline

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and Tye Burnham assisted the teachers throughout the day, calming the inevitable tears and playing with the children with engaging activities and songs. Carolyn Cornelius and Elisa Hodges led the day's structured activities, which

included circle time, snack, one-on-one free play, lunch, story time and sensory play. Opening the second classroom was made possible through the many generous gifts and donations from the community in the past

several months. Almost \$100,000 has been raised thus far in the "Let It Shine" Annual Campaign, with a goal of raising an additional \$140,000 by summer.

Maureen Harbinson, Executive Director,

remarked "Today's celebration is not only about expanding and serving fourteen children. It really is a celebration for the entire community that has supported us and made our growth a reality."

WAYS YOU CAN HELP:

1
Give toys and other educational supplies (please call for specific needs).

2
Volunteer for the classroom, office, and/or fundraising events

3
Individual and corporate gifts. Contact your human resource department to see if they will match your contribution.

4
Memorial and honorarium gifts. Donating in memory or in honor of someone is a great way of celebrating the wonderful people God has placed in your life.

5
Become a monthly supporter. Secure automatic donations can be set up from your bank account. We also accept gifts by VISA or MasterCard.



"...A Child Will Lead Them."

*Maureen Harbinson,
Executive Director*

The disciples were fighting over who was the greatest in the kingdom of God. Jesus took a little one and embracing him said, "Unless you become as a child you cannot enter the kingdom of heaven."

We are told elsewhere in scripture that we are to put away childish behavior. There is a world of difference between being child-like and childish. A child embraces life to the full and is always ready to laugh, cry or discover new things—a wonderful balance of acceptance and expectancy.

In the Beacon this month, you will learn about two young siblings who "were moved to compassion" and give their tzedka money to the children at the Little Light House. The parents were so touched by the

generosity of their children, that they too made a donation ... a child will lead them.

When Mrs. Mississippi was doing a fundraiser for the Little Lighthouse, her

seven-year old niece met some of our children. She wanted to help them get better and "moved with compassion" she sold balloons to raise money. She also asked her mother and everybody else she came in contact with to give her their change to help the children at the Little Light House. You will read her incredible story ... a child will lead them.

We added an additional

class on February 12th with seven little children who are all unique and precious. They instinctively know that it's going to be all right; that mommy always comes for them at the end of the day. In the meantime,

they can climb up and down the foam blocks, and push the ball to someone who will push it back to them; they can point out the pictures in the book and make the sounds of the different animals.

As I observe, I enter into their world. I too can be childlike and enjoy life—confident my heavenly Father is in control and He will be back for me ... a child will lead them.

"Unless you become as a child you cannot enter the kingdom of heaven."

Kids Helping Kids

Kerrigan Henson had a goal, and she was determined to meet it.

Niece of Shanteau Tirello, Mrs. Mississippi and dedicated volunteer for the Little Light House, Kerrigan had heard about the Little Light House and the special children enrolled here.

Something about these children touched her heart, and she decided to help out. But since she was too young and lived too far away to volunteer, she decided on another route to bless the children.

Kerrigan, age 7, decided to raise money and donate it to the Little Light House.

Over a period of several weeks, Kerrigan used many avenues to raise \$300.00. Starting with a goal of \$100.00, Kerrigan began selling balloons and saving her own allowance. When her mother Darlene Henson found out about her daughter's goal, she pitched in and helped Kerrigan approach businesses for donations. When Kerrigan reached her first goal, she decided that it was not enough, so she raised her goal to \$300.00. Her first grade classroom at Monticello Elementary School pitched in by selling snacks and making their own contributions.

Kerrigan presented her gift at the Little Light House pajama party held just before the Christmas holiday. When asked why she decided to do this, she replied "I just wanted to help the children. I wanted them to have a great Christmas, too." When questioned further, she stated "I am very proud that I did it, and I want to do it again to help the babies."

Mills and Jonathan Norris of Jackson also made a decision to contribute money for the Little Light House.

Their joint effort was influenced by the Jewish observance of Shabbat and practice of tzedka. Following the Friday evening meal, each member of the family drops coins in the tzedka box while expressing those things for which they are grateful. Once the tzedka is full, the change is donated to charity.

In the past, Mills, 5, and Jonathan, just turning 4, have donated the tzedka to the Children's Burn Center, the Humane Society, Joe DiMaggio's Children's Hospital Foundation and soldiers in need in Israel. Most recently, however, Mills and Jonathan wanted to bring

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Kerrigan Henson, age 7, raised \$300.00 for the Little Light House, over a period of several weeks.



Mills (age 5) and Jonathan (age 4) Norris raised money by contributing from their tzedka box.



The Little Light House
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 www.llhms.org

The Beacon is underwritten in part by:



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 their donation closer to home. Inspired by neighbor Allyson Plunkett, a three-year-old student at the Little Light House, the Norris's decided to give their tzedka to the Little Light House. It usually takes three to four months to fill up the box, says mother Sharon Norris. Friends with the Plunkett's for about three

years, Norris adds, Allyson is just a bright ray of sunshine into our lives. She seems to be the most gracious child in the world, and we want our children to be that grateful. When the children learned that Baby Ally attended a special school called the Little Light House, they knew right away that that was where they wanted their tzedka to go.

Kerrigan, Mills, and Jonathan have taken the initiative to do something to help other children. In their child-like manner they teach others that it truly is more blessed to give than receive. In their thoughtfulness and generosity they have given hope to the children at the Little Light House, while also giving hope to those of us inspired by their actions.

OUR MISSION:
 THE LITTLE LIGHT HOUSE IS CALLED TO GLORIFY GOD BY IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS, THEIR FAMILIES, & COMMUNITIES

Upcoming Events:

Approximately 25% of our budget is generated by four annual fundraising events, which are supported by friends in our community and across the country. Two of these events are scheduled in the near future. Mark your calendars now.



**The Second Annual
 Tees For Tots
 Golf Tournament**
 Tuesday, May 1
 Castlewoods

Be a corporate sponsor or get a team together and enjoy a great round of golf.

The Second Annual Little Light House Tea Party
 Saturday, April 21
 at the Fairview Inn
 in Jackson



Ladies, this one's for you! Don your prettiest spring dress and attend this unique event. Individuals and corporate sponsors make this the highlight of the year!

The Little Light House Central Mississippi is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit Christian Developmental Center for children with special needs, age birth through six years of age. The Little Light House Central Mississippi does not discriminate on the basis of religion, race, color, national or ethnic origin, or medical diagnosis unless it affects the child's ability to attend on a regular basis) in the administration of its educational policies, and other school administered programs. Some behavioral conditions may be evaluated on an individual basis. The Little Light House Central Mississippi assures that all children's records will be maintained as confidential. All gifts to The Little Light House Central Mississippi are tax-deductible, less goods and services received.