



Footprints

December 2017

Mentoring in Full Swing!!!



Julie & Maddie Young busy crafting with Branyia & Monica during the Summer Program. This three day program is a great introduction to mentoring!

As we near the Christmas season, our mentors are off and running with their students this school year!

Our summer mentoring program helped introduce followers of Jesus to one-on-one discipleship here at the STEP Family Outreach Center. Three teams volunteered two and a half hours for three days this summer to make up a three week program for the kids of Eastgate Terrace. These folks got a taste of what we do here at STEP Ministries by taking the mystery out of what it looks like to make disciples of under-resourced youth in here in our own backyard.

In September, our school year mentoring program got cranked up again. We've participated in boxcar races at the Dogtown Derby, been on camping trips to Newton County, and even served at a small rural church, Boxley Baptist Church, and Jasper Community Gardens. More importantly, we've been able to see our mentors pour

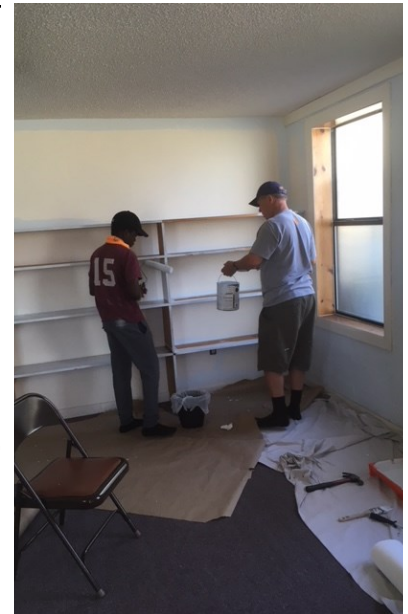
love and consistency into the lives of the kids that are able to participate in our mentoring program. Whether it's seeing long-term relationships deepen or new relationships develop, these relationships are at the heart of everything we do at STEP.

"Go and make disciples" can sound like an intimidating call, but it is the command Jesus gave us as he ascended back to our Father. We are here to equip you with what you need. Whether that's formal training or just a sounding board when you have questions or concerns. We'll provide a structure with Bible studies, life skills, and games. These are just tools to help you connect with a child and point them toward the love of Jesus.

Right now, there are eighteen children in Eastgate Terrace waiting and praying for someone to answer Jesus' call. Is that someone you?



Trey, a student in our Discipleship Club, prepares to head down Main Street during this year's Dogtown Derby. A special thank you to North Little Rock Middle School's EAST Initiative for letting our kids participate!



Gerald Nelson and Marquis paint shelving in the nursery at Boxley Baptist on our service project and camping trip this fall. Thanks for giving us a chance to help out!

Interested in mentoring?

Our programs meet weekly:

Monday, 6:00-7:30

Tuesday, 6:00-7:30

Wednesday, 5:00-6:30

Email:

Phyllis

phyllis@stepministries.org

Rob

rob@stepministries.org

Call

(501)758-4054

Like us on Facebook!!!

We invite you to join our monthly support team:

Friends of STEP

Your recurring gifts help enable this ministry to disciple young people through:

Weekly one-on-one Youth Mentoring **STEP's in-school Encourager Program**
Service Projects & Life Skill Training **Retreats and Summer Camps**
School-year Tutoring in Eastgate **Summer Literacy Camps**

To join **Friends of STEP** visit stepministries.org, click on the **DONATE** link, and follow the instructions there. You may also mail a check monthly or set-up recurring payments through your bank's bill pay option. Make checks payable to **STEP Ministries** and simply mail it back to our return address. Of course, special gifts are appreciated as well.

We appreciate your faithful support and prayers more than you can know!

STEP has a new Executive Director!



Jamey Henderson came onboard as the new Executive Director at STEP in November. Jamey has been a mentor at STEP for nearly a decade, and his wife, Ashley, has been mentoring at STEP for five years. Their daughter, Mary, is ten months old.

"Jesus has used STEP to stretch my definition of what it means to "make disciples." I'm excited to get to spend my working hours allowing Jesus to use me to encourage that."



THANK YOU, JOE MURAWSKI!!!

Joe Murawski has served as the Executive Director at STEP for almost ten years but has decided it is time to slow down. Joe will continue at STEP by helping with the Encourager program and assisting Jamey operationally with a smooth transition in leadership.

When asked to reflect on his decision to ease up, Joe said, "There are a lot of emotions... maybe it's because being part of such a rewarding, Christ-driven dynamic is hard to let go of. The challenges and opportunities for STEP will continue, and I am very confident that the baton is being handed to a set of very capable hands."

Organizationally, STEP would not be where it is today if not for Joe's selfless and dedicated service for nearly a decade. Individually, hundreds of volunteers connected to STEP during his years of service would not have been provided the opportunities to connect with Jesus and others if it weren't for Joe's deep and genuine concern for them and the kids of our communities.

If you see Joe, make sure you take an opportunity to express your gratitude for his previous and continued service to STEP, its volunteers, and Jesus.