



Footprints

November 2019

Giving Tuesday with STEP!



Buford Johnson and his mentee, Anthony, take a break from painting their picture frames to pose for a photo at Friendship Club this November. Thanks to all our mentors and their commitment to one-on-one!

If you're getting this newsletter, then there's a pretty good chance you know what's distinctive about STEP's programs. Everything we do is one-on-one! Several members of the STEP Family are so committed to the power of one-on-one that they will pair one dollar of their money with one of yours to raise up to \$10,000 in matching funds this Giving Tuesday season. Here's how it works. Our partners have agreed to match all new donations between November 20 and December 3 up to \$10,000. This includes the annual impact of anyone that joins the "Friends of STEP" by becoming a recurring monthly donor or increases their monthly amount. For example, by committing to donate just \$50 per month for the upcoming year, you can help us secure \$1,200 to keep serving to equip!

This can be done online by visiting tinyurl.com/GTwithSTEP2019 or mailing your donation. Either way, contact Jamey, jamey@stepministries.org or 501.773.9161, with any questions. If you can't give, please consider sharing this opportunity with those who can!

Every Dog Has Its Day

The Encourager Program at Boone Park Elementary School in North Little Rock has a new volunteer this year. Thistle, a Golden Retriever, has her therapy dog license and can respond to 30 commands. She and her handlers visit the kindergarten classes weekly and read the children a story... then Thistle shows off a few tricks! You can almost hear a pin drop while the children are circled around Thistle and Company!

At Boone Park, Encouragers are working with first, second, and third graders this year. They are concentrating on helping them with reading and phonics.

Boone Park Elementary is just one of the Encourager Programs happening across Central Arkansas. If you think serving in one of our Encourager Programs might be a good fit for you, please drop us a line or give us a call! We'd love to have you join the STEP Family!



A huge thank you to Thistle and her handlers, Mrs. Debbie and Mrs. Linda, for taking time out of their week to spend time with our Encouragers at Boone Park Elementary School and their students!



This year's STEP Christmas Toy Store will be taking place on Saturday, December 14. Please pray that all our families are able to provide for their children this holiday season and celebrate the arrival of our King!

SAVE THE DATE!!!
Supper with STEP
 March 5, 2020 | 6:30
 Park Hill Baptist Church
 Tickets available at:
stepministries.org/donate

Mentoring

Nikita
nikita@stepministries.org
 501.837.8833

Rob
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Tutoring

Juli
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Encouragers

Jamey
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STEP Ministries

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
Service Projects & Life Skill Training
School-Year Tutoring in Eastgate

STEP's In-School Encourager Program
Retreats & Summer Camps
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** 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!



Taking our Next STEPs

In an effort to better prepare our juniors and seniors for transitioning to life on their own, we are beginning a new program called Next STEP. We will walk closely with these students through employment and post high school educational opportunities while also offering more enhanced and relevant life skills training.

Though still in its infancy, we hope to develop a network of contacts throughout various institutions of higher learning, companies looking for high school graduates, and all branches of the military that will help walk our students into the next phase of their lives.

Please join us in praying that these relationships will develop and prove fruitful for both the kids in our programs and the organizations we partner with. Also, please reach out to us if you know of potential partners that might be a good fit.