

“Utilizing the body of Christ for the work of Christ in the city.”

# NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH



## A Decade of

When Erica Lewis was ten years old she started attending the NCC after-school program at 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple Christ Holiness, it was there that she met a tutor named, Elizabeth Noblin. Ten years later, Erica and Elizabeth both find themselves working together again at Dean and Dean Associates – a local architecture firm. Erica is now a twenty year old student at Hinds Community College where she is studying Medical Billing and Coding. Elizabeth and Erica continue to have a relationship today- Mrs. Noblin has even played a part in Erica’s achievement in the work force by helping Erica make contacts that have led to three different jobs! Erica and Elizabeth stay in constant contact with each other to this day- a connection made at NCC that has lasted 10 years!!! When Erica looks back at her time spent at 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple, she says, “the tutors were there because they wanted to be there- no one made them come. I knew that these people were taking time out of their busy schedules to spend it with me, and I know that Neighborhood Christian Center is a great place for kids to come.”

## RECORD NUMBERS FOR TUTORING PROGRAM

We rejoice that this spring the Lord has allowed us the privilege in sharing the Gospel to a record number of students. Over 150 students at six sites have heard the Good News of the Gospel. To God be the glory for showing us with students desirous to learn and with volunteers who commit every week to display their love for Christ through ministering to inner city children.

Five of our sites, located in churches, have creatively adapted their tutoring program to fit the needs of their students and volunteers. The Ash Street site meets each weekday for 2 ½ hours. Currently, we have 44 students involved each day at Ash Street, 42 at Mission First (from the West Park community), 20 students at Redeemer Presbyterian Church (from the Broadmoor neighborhood), 26 students at First Presbyterian Church, and 25 students at Institutional AME and Second Temple Christ Holiness (all from the Georgetown neighborhood).

We are thankful for the Lord’s provision of students and volunteers as well as for our financial and prayer partners who under gird this program each and every week. We ask you to join us. Please pray for the students as they face constant challenges, academic and otherwise, that they would come to know the mercy and peace that come only from Christ. Pray also for the volunteers, as they love our students, labor through the hurdles of math and spelling and most importantly as they share the truths of Scripture. If you can read this newsletter, won’t you join us and make a difference in a child’s life. See the website for our specific meeting times and locations. If you can’t join us as a tutor, please consider supporting us financially, for with greater numbers, our costs increase.

### NCC Tutoring Site Schedule

- Neighborhood Christian Center**  
417 W. Ash Street, Mon-Fri., 2:30-5:30 p.m.
- Second Temple COCH USA**  
2916 Lilly Street, Mondays, 6:00–7:00 p.m.
- Mission First**  
275 Roseneath Street, Mon-Thurs. 2:30-5:00
- First Presbyterian Church**  
1390 North State Street, Tues. 5:00-6:00
- Redeemer Presbyterian**  
640 East Northside Drive, Wed., 4:00-5:00
- Institutional AME Church**  
3032 Bishop Street, Mon-Thurs, 4:00-5:00



### Mission Statement

The primary mission of the Neighborhood Christian Center is to develop a relationship with our neighbors in need, allowing for an effective presentation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and an opportunity to give our neighbors a spiritual as well as a practical foundation on which they can build their lives.

## NEW NCC STAFF AND BOARD MEMBERS

We are pleased to announce the addition of a new staff member and two new Board members. Melody Moody, a recent Belhaven graduate with a degree in Biblical Studies/ Christian Ministries, is our new Director of Development. Our two new Board members are Blair Bingham, CFO of the Mississippi Home Corporation and Bailey Adams, a local real estate investor. Please pray for them as they share their time and talents with NCC.

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## CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS OVERWHELMED WITH PROVISIONS



Each year during the Christmas season, NCC steps out in faith to share the hope of the Gospel through providing food boxes, toys and meeting other family needs. As the time grows close our needs always far outweigh our means, but the Lord always provides exactly what we need. This year was no exception; over 900 families were ministered to through food boxes, the NCC toy room, and the Adopt-A-Family program. KLLM trucking provided two trailers and the transportation, the Jr. High, Crossroads, Pilgrims and Honeyymooners Sun-

day School classes from First Presbyterian Church packed boxes, repaired toys and distributed the food boxes. Dozens of other individuals, classes, and groups provided the finances. Thank you to all who participated. And praise be to the Lord that families in need could experience some joy during the season of hope.

Students and volunteers of the tutoring program experienced a wonderful Christmas party at Belhaven College. Over 120 student, parents, board members, and friends enjoyed a delicious meal and entertainment provided by various tutoring sites. Throughout the evening students and adults celebrated the birth of our Savior with the reading of scripture passages, songs, and skits. Many thanks go to the leadership of volunteers and the hard work of the students from the NCC tutoring sites.



## COMING SOON: HEARTS FOR ARTS AND...

Last summer marked the inauguration of the Hearts for Arts, a two-week Christian based arts program for inner city students in the 6<sup>th</sup> through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. This program, a partnership with Belhaven College and the Junior League of Jackson, will again seek to immerse the students in music, drama, visual arts, and dance from a Christian world view. Belhaven student, Malaika Hilberry, returns to direct the program, with other students and faculty leading the specific areas of interest. The Junior League of Jackson will underwrite the 2005 program and staff each day with volunteers. Hearts for Arts will begin on June 13 and run through June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please mark your calendars for the grand finale showcasing the students' talents on the evening of Thursday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Belhaven College will host Hearts for Arts in their Center for the Performing Arts on Riverside Drive.

## SUMMER SUPERSTARS!!!

Summer Superstars for Christ will begin the same week and run for five weeks through July 15<sup>th</sup>. Summer Superstars is an academic and spiritual enrichment program for inner city children ages 4-13. Each morning begins with a time of devotion as local pastors provide a time of Bible study. Following chapel, certified JPS teachers lead the children in academic instruction. The afternoons are devoted to arts, crafts, athletics and music. First Presbyterian Church will host the program for the fifth year offering classrooms, their gym, playground and a number of volunteers.

On Fridays, the students will work on their athletic prowess at Jackson Prep or enjoy some local field trips. Each student will be evaluated using the Renaissance Learning's STAR Ready software to measure his or her progress. Most importantly, we will continue to proclaim the Gospel to each student and pray that the Holy Spirit will open their eyes to see and hearts to receive the life transforming truths of the Gospel. Please prayerfully consider partnering with us in our summer programs. The reply card enclosed has more details. Thank you.

### Neighborhood Christian Centers of Jackson

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*"telling the Good News of Peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of All."*  
 -Acts 10:36

