



Open Doors

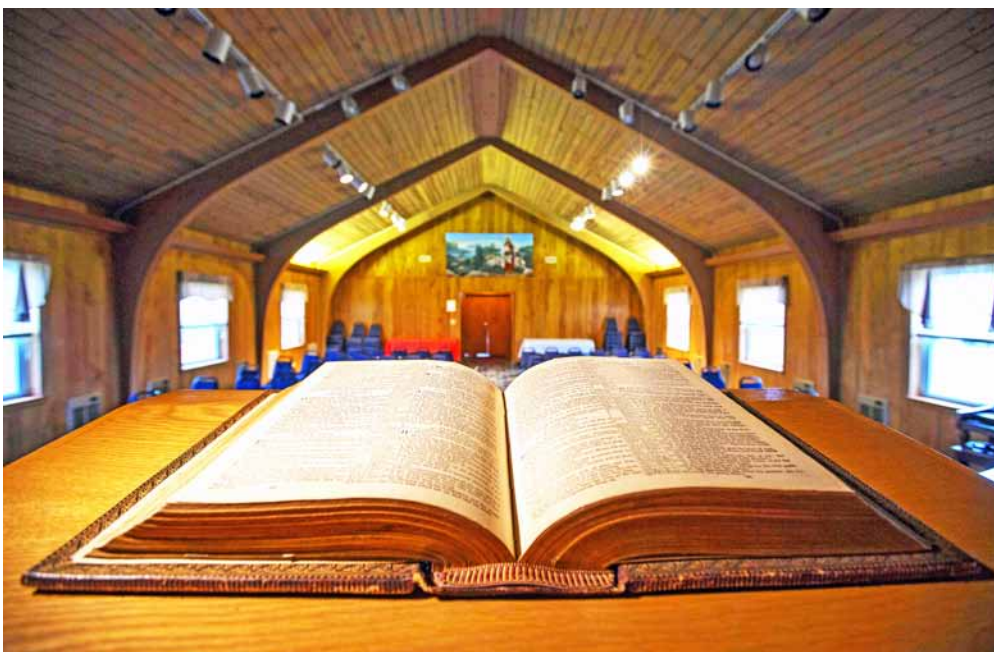
Volume 41 No. 1 Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands, Inc. (PCHH)
First Quarter 2016

ONE DONOR, COUNTLESS LIVES CHANGED

2 Corinthians 9:6

As we reflect on this beautiful picture taken by Riz Crescini inside our Eckman Chapel, we cannot help but reminisce about the many lives that have been changed by entering the doors of this beautiful Chapel.

Mr. Hensel Eckman of Pulaski, Virginia funded the building of the Chapel in 1967 in honor of Mary Ella Eckman to provide Vespers, Wednesday Evening services, weddings and meetings of Presbytery and other Presbytery and related programs.



The beautiful Eckman Chapel from the pulpit.

Eckman Chapel has since hosted Presbytery Meetings, Women of the Church Meetings, Social Service Meetings and various training programs over the years. In addition to these, the chapel has seen many weddings of both staff and former residents as well as our yearly awards banquet where our residents are recognized for their achievements. Perhaps the most important services that take place here are just that, our weekly chapel services. It is at these services that our young people are ministered to by

various area ministers. One in particular that gives us great pride is the monthly service conducted by former resident Jimmy Nichols. In thinking back over Jimmy's time at the Children's Home, we wonder about his fond memories of his time spent in this lovely Chapel. I'm sure he shares those memories with our residents during his devotional times with our children.

As we begin planning for our 100th Anniversary, we will focus on many memories our children and staff have as a result of the generosity of Mr. Hensel Eckman and his love for this ministry. If you have stories you would like to share with us about memories of this lovely Chapel, please send to wynette@pchh.org or post to our facebook page or website.



Billy Rice
Executive Director

As you read this we are well into 2016, but I would like to take a moment to look back at 2015. It was a year in which the generosity of our Children's Home family allowed us to provide a home for 43 children. Some of these children were here for weeks, while others have been with us for years. They all share one common trait – the need for a place to live that occurred, for the most part, through no fault of their own. We are blessed to be able to provide that home, and with it the services to help change the children's lives in a positive way.

We never lose sight of our loyal supporters role in sustaining our ministry. Very few days go by without us receiving a monetary gift or some type of support. This support always intensifies during the Christmas season, but this year was truly amazing. We received calls almost daily from church and civic groups asking for ways they could help, and I spent hours each day writing thank you notes for the hundreds of gifts we received (I'm not complaining – it was wonderful!). The result was a fantastic Christmas for our children and very successful fund raising campaign. Thank you!

As we move into 2016, we will strive to build on the successes of the past year. We have children to care for and projects to complete (please see the article on our energy saving endeavors in the McGavock Center). It is comforting to know that our Children's Home family believes in our mission and the need to provide a home for children on our campus. Our 100th Anniversary will arrive in 2019, and we will be asking you to help us ensure that we can provide a home for children in need for years to come. More information is coming soon, but until then, thanks for all of your love and support!

With hope,

Billy



Deck the Halls!



Save The Date!
July 9, 2016
ALUMNI GATHERING

Reminisce & reflect



See old friends... or make new ones!



Open Doors

**Giving Children Hope & Purpose
For The Future**

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This agency complies with all state and federal non-profit fundraising regulations.

A financial statement is available for the asking. Open Doors is an educational publication produced in-house periodically to provide insights about PCHH.

Executive Director

Billy Rice

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STRIVING TO BE GOOD STEWARDS

Luke 19: 11-26



Here at PCHH, we work tirelessly to ensure every dollar donated is used to the greatest efficiency. Like everyone, over the past few years our electric bills have risen dramatically. The McGavock Center, which houses the Minnick School, has the largest usage of all of our buildings, so we looked for ways to do something about it. We have moved forward on two projects that will dramatically reduce our electrical usage.

The first is to replace the current lights in the gymnasium with LED lighting. The LED lights are much brighter, have a 20-year life expectancy, and use about 42% less energy than the previous lights. When combined with motion detectors they will have a projected payback of about two years. Our maintenance supervisor, Jerrel Hall, completed this project over the Christmas holiday.



And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.

Colossians 3:23-24 (NKJV)

The second project is an overhaul of the building's heating and cooling control system. This will not only increase the efficiency of our system, but will also afford us more efficient control of our heating and air. We have contracted with Trane for this project and hope to have it completed by spring.

The total cost of these projects is about \$30,000, but we expect to reap the benefits for years to come. If anyone has questions or would like to help with the support of this project, please call and let us know.

PCHH NEEDS

Towels/Wash Clothes	Pillows
Prepaid Visa/Mastercard	Walmart Gift Cards
Canned Soup	Cake Mix/Icing
Make-up/Nail Polish	Canned Soup
Pots/Pans	Sports Equipment
Food Storage Containers	Luggage
Legos	Nerf Toys
Games Stop Gift Cards	XBOX Games
Curling Irons/Blow Dryers	Used Vehicles

Remember to keep track of our needs by checking our website: www.pchh.org and follow us on Facebook

A board member, a donor and a photographer walk into a bar...

OK not really, but they did get together somewhere and came up with a plan to help out PCHH! This winter we were blessed to have a series of professional photographs done of our campus and residents. Professional photographer, Riz Crescini spent 3 days on campus shooting everything from outdoor scenes to Christmas tree decorating. If you follow us on facebook you have probably already enjoyed some of them and we have used many in this edition of Open Doors as well. Riz, his wife Anne and their 2 children are now serving as Missionaries in Japan. We certainly look forward to his return trip to Virginia for hopefully more great pictures but we ask that you join us and keep them in your prayers as they share Christ's love around the world!



RIZ CRESCINI

A CHRISTMAS TO REMEMBER!

Luke 2:11

Thank you, thank you, thank you for making our children's Christmas so special. The smiles on their faces as they opened their Christmas gifts were priceless. For so many of them, this was the most generous Christmas they have ever had.

A first for some of our young people was hearing the Christmas Story, which was read at our Christmas Dinner by one of our residents. While our residents were blessed by your support this year, we make sure they understand that Christmas is about more than receiving gifts. Helping others through our "Giving Back Program" is a way for them to learn it is truly "more blessed to give than to receive!" This year they played a huge role in helping with the town Christmas Parade, helped with a local feed the hungry program and provided strong backs and hours of labor at Santa's Workshop, a free toy shop for underprivileged children and families.

Their Christmas' were highlighted by watches, computer games, art supplies, skate boards, board games, Blu-ray DVD players for the cottages along with movies, personal items from Bath and Body, gift cards, as well as new shoes and clothes among other treasured items. Your love and support of this ministry is so generous and we thank you for making it possible to give our children "hope and purpose for their futures".

FINALLY, PRESENTS!



PARADE FUN!



TREE TRIMMING



SANTA'S WORKSHOP



TIME WITH FRIENDS!



ORIGINAL ARTWORK



CHRISTMAS NOTE CARDS



CHRISTMAS CAKE

Our 2015 original painting, matching Christmas Note Cards and deliciously beautiful Christmas Cake!