



Spring Buzz

The children have been busy preparing for spring planting. Seedlings have been growing in our classroom with the help of our special lamps. Potatoes have been cut and planted. We are developing some raised beds for our strawberries. And construction of our new bee hives has been finished!

We pray for a good growing season. We pray that our children will soak up knowledge and appreciation for all the wonderful things God grows for us in the garden this year.



MISSION STATEMENT:

Cherry Street Youth Center, Inc., is an ecumenical ministry formed to help children develop spiritually, emotionally, physically, and academically within their community.

We fulfill our mission statement and share love with the children by being positive influences in their lives and by offering classes in Bible, character, art, computers, physical education, reading, math, social skills, anger management, drug awareness, cooking, music, and more!

We are a non-profit, faith-based youth center. Our focus has been to share the love of God through Jesus Christ with the elementary-aged children in Chanute by providing them with a safe, secure, and fun place to go after school that offers a wide variety of learning experiences and opportunities.



Thank You! To everyone that donated candy and Easter baskets. It's wonderful to be able to send a basket home with each child at the end of our Holy week lessons!

Summer Planning

It is already time to develop our summer schedule and plan activities for the children. We had great success with expanding our summer program to 60 in 2016. We have decided to continue that number. We will be registering 60 children for our elementary summer program again this year! Our theme for this summer is Time Travelers. The children will explore in the Jurassic period, the Medieval times, and the Wild West to just name a few ideas we have. Our goal is to provide 8 weeks of summer programming with 8 new "time travel" experiences! We will attend VBS with the First United Methodist Church and the First Baptist church here in town during the month of June. We will also have two weeks of swim lessons at the Rec center in June. July will be full of fun with field trips, guest speakers, action and adventure! Every child will receive a free breakfast and lunch each day. This is possible through our participation in the Summer Food Service Program through the state of Kansas.

We are also planning to offer a summer option for our middle school Warehouse students. This is a new opportunity and uncharted territory for us. Middle schoolers are an entirely different "breed" of children. Our plan is to run Monday through Thursday June 5th – July 27th. Our day will start at 10 am and run until 2 pm. Each student will receive lunch everyday. Our goals with these students include doing some healthy eating/habits activities, students will work with our honey bee hives over the summer and a few students will participate in the State Fair in the honey category. We hope to take a ropes course offered through the Greenbush Co-op. We will have a "work" incentive program where the children can earn Warehouse bucks that can be spent here in town with our community partners. A few of those partners are: Tropical Snow, Skate City, and Chanute Aquatic Center.

Be on the look out for more information about how to register a child for our summer programs. Please pray for our children and this fun summer opportunity.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Warehouse Happenings

What's the key to dealing with stress? Finding your inner peace! Middle school is stressful with peer pressure, test anxiety, finding the "right" outfit, and all those changing hormones!?! The Warehouse kids are learning several techniques to help them develop strong coping skills for all areas of their lives. Yoga is one option they are exploring. Deep breathing is key. Not only does it help increase blood flow to their brain (which helps with good decision making) but it always helps slow their heart rate to help calm nerves.

Our Warehouse kids continue to volunteer in the community and are always looking for new opportunities to develop skills that will help for their futures. If you or someone you know would like to come teach this group of kids some skills please contact Kayla at 431-2161 or her email is kstewart@cherrystreet.org. The skill could be anything from learning to change a flat tire, knitting, or cooking an easy recipe, to building a bird feeder.

We are looking for more games like air hockey tables, table top pool games, ping pong, etc. for the our Warehouse kids. If you have something to donate, call Jennifer at 431-2161.



Summer donations needed: tooth brushes and tooth paste, and sun screen.

Mother's day Store

Each year we have items for the children to give to their moms or grandmothers. This is made possible through donations provided by you! Please send those new bottles of perfume and lotion you got for Christmas that you know you won't use, pick up a few things on clearance next time you're out and about, or please bring your VERY gently used items that moms might like to us here at 710 N Forest.

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