

News@Home

2024
Spring

100 Years in Lebanon!

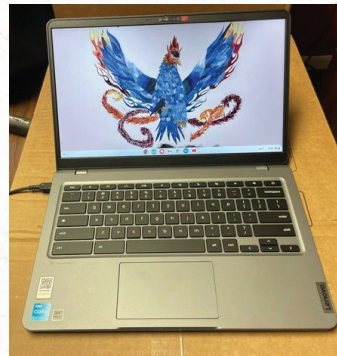
The Children's Home marks a centennial milestone this year. We moved to our current location in Lebanon in 1924!

As the number of children in need surpassed the capacity of the original home that opened in Greencastle in 1915, founder Angie Goodwin started talking with other communities to find a location with more buildings and land. Community leaders in Lebanon answered her prayers with a site with two houses on 11 acres. We'll share more about this momentous year for the Children's Home in the months ahead.



A 1924 photo of the new location of the Children's Home in Lebanon; moving day with 23 children and dog Laddie.

New Computers for the Students!



Setting up a new laptop with the image of the school mascot, the Rising Phoenix.

2024 is starting off in a great way at our James E. Davis School!

All the students are getting new laptops. The old laptops were slowing down, some faced costly repairs, and all needed to be replaced. The students like the speed of the new computers. "Everyone who has ever used a computer has experienced the anxiety of watching the dreaded 'circle of thinking' older computers often display when overtaxed," said Jim Stuart, the school principal. "These are not getting 'hung up' like the old ones."

Students now have access to 60 new IdeaPad Chromebook laptops, so they'll work with the latest technology. Plus, backup laptops are ready when one needs servicing. We are grateful to everyone who contributed toward the \$36,000 total to make the educational experience at the Home's school as productive as possible for the students in our care.

Thank you!

"My new laptop is sooooo much better than the old one. Way faster," Savannah told us with enthusiasm when asked about the new laptops.



Dear Friends,

This is a special year for everyone at the Children's Home, because 2024 marks our 100th year on our Lebanon campus serving children in crisis.

While our mission has changed from housing orphans to guiding troubled students along their path to becoming successful adults, we've remained committed to enriching the lives of young people through Christian love and values.

Society and its challenges have changed dramatically over our first century, yet supporters like you have remained steadfast in caring for the young people who have found a loving home on our campus. That's why celebrating this remarkable milestone includes recognizing the critical work performed by countless employees, volunteers, churches, and donors. All answered the call to save young lives with love, leadership, skill, and tremendous investments of energy and resources.

We share the joy and humility that comes from knowing that young lives have been repaired because of our mission, along with knowing that our impact has been multiplied as our graduates have touched other lives while making our world a better place.

In preparing for our next century, we know we'll face challenges we can't envision. Our Board and leadership constantly ask, "Could and should we do more?" as they research and plan.

But amid all the questions, we know one thing is certain: through God's grace children in crisis will continue to be placed on our Lebanon campus, and the most caring people like you, will walk alongside our staff to ensure we continue to be a place of healing, joy, and most of all, hope.

May God enrich your lives, just as you have enriched the lives of these children,



Christy Huston
Christy Huston, MA, CFRM, IOM
Foundation
Executive Director



Rich Lapinski
Rich Lapinski, MS
Children's Home
Executive Director/CEO

P.S. Our children need all of us! And we need you.

Here's what you helped make happen in 2023

Thanks to you and our many supporters, 2023 was a great year!

88 students found safety, Christ's love, and opportunity in our 6 family-style homes.

19 students achieved their most significant milestone and enhanced their self-esteem as they graduated from our school.

6 students moved closer to career dreams by receiving postsecondary scholarships.

63 students took on the responsibility of part-time employment in the community.

4 students received the gift of the Holy Spirit through baptism.

Their Favorite Christmas Vacation Memory? How About Their First?

Our students experienced what was a first for many this past Christmas: the holiday traditions you and I too often take for granted. The generous souls who did some wish-list shopping and gave to our Giving Tuesday Best Christmas Ever campaign helped the Home create an entire season they'll never forget.

Each home's teens chose the activities, everything from Christmas at the Zoo and the Children's Museum to roller skating and SkyZone. Some ordered their first meal in a sit-down restaurant. And when you ask about the best part, you get a lot of fun answers:

"On Christmas Eve, we all wore matching pajamas and the boys are still wearing them. It was a wonderful time of the year." - **Joe Deno, Family Teacher**

"I loved getting to have a special meal at Fogo Da Chao which is a Brazilian steak house. We could eat all we wanted which was a real treat!" - **Michael**

"We loved the food at Seasons 52. We enjoyed the fancy environment and wearing fancy outfits. It was really special." - **Jenna**

"We had a great experience with our girls dining out at Seasons 52. They followed guidance from the Family Teachers and displayed etiquette and grace during the special outing. Fine dining was a new experience for all the girls." - **Tamara McCray, Family Teacher**

"The extra activities during the Christmas break made it possible for me to keep my mind off of the issues my family is experiencing back home." - **Wyatt**

"We went to the Cheesecake Factory. My grandmother and family joined us. My family was able to eat with my Children's Home family. It was an awesome experience." - **Catherine**

"The Indianapolis Zoo with all of the lights was gorgeous. My favorite part was petting a stingray and baby shark." - **Zoey**

"The Zoo is always a must-see experience for our youth. Most of them have never been before so it's a new and exciting experience. It warms my heart that people care so much about the youth here at the Home. They make it possible for our youth to have the best Christmas ever!" - **Stacy Youngblood, Case Manager**

"Seeing the animals at the Indianapolis Zoo and just being there with my Wesley guys made me forget the troubles I have at my parent's house. For a few hours, I wasn't focused on worrying about my family back home, but focused on just having a good time." - **James**



Tribute gifts

We gratefully acknowledge the following tribute gifts received between July 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

Making a tribute gift is a meaningful way to honor your loved one or to celebrate a special occasion. For memorial gifts, we will notify the family about your thoughtful gift and for special occasion celebrations, we will inform your loved one your thoughtful gift in their honor. **It's simple! Fund your gift with cash, appreciated stock or with a gift from your IRA.**

In Memory of

Vera June Ayers
Randy Ayers

Richard Baird
Judy and Barry Turner

Rev. Dr. Charles Ballard
Jeanne and Rev. Lang Brownlee
Janet and Gary Taylor

Tara Bond
Donna and James Bond

Erin Elizabeth Bousum
Margaret and Richard Bousum

Joanne Brauns
William Brauns

J.D. "Smoky" Burgess
Jane Burgess

Margaret Burton
Elaine Routh

Jack R. Butz
Kay and Francis Franscoviak
Melanie King

Mary Renae Clarkson
Tom Clarkson

Enid and Berle Cobb
Suzi and Denny Cobb

Geraldine A. Cochran
Donita and Jim Keidel

Rev. Dr. Robert M. Collie
Annelie Collie

Vera and Art Conkright
Suzi and Denny Cobb

Julietta S. Coons
Donald Ingram

Rev. Louis D. Crouch
Norma Crouch
Becky and Steve Pedigo

**Robert and Elizabeth
Crumrine**
Paula and Michael Marine

Terry Curry
Anne Curry

Leonie Davis
Susan and Milton Pressler

Sue Davis
Linda and Randy Russel

Rev. James E. Davis
Dr. Ginny Swift Singer
and Don Singer

**Sue and Rev.
Dr. James E. Davis**
Ann Boss

LeRoy J. DeLong
Kati Long
Kevin Sheehan

**Helen and Richard
Dickinson**
Lisabeth and Thomas
Armstrong

Richard A. Dickinson
Leigh and Peter Dykema

K. Joan and Dallas Dinger
Mandy and Brett Newman

Ramona Eisinger
Dick Eisinger
Denise Phelps and Mark Eisinger
Joan and Steven Eisinger
Sharon and Paul Stewart
Kristin Wagoner

James L. Engledow
Annette and Bob Delaney
Elaine Engledow
Jack Engledow
Sue Engledow
Carol and Douglas Moore

Lynn Everett
Dr. Ginny Swift Singer
and Don Singer

Denna Fagan
Thomas P. Fagan
Tom Fagan
Patty and Frank Jones

Maude Felker
Carole and Bill McDonald

Sarah Lou Fishero
Theresa and Larry Harmless

Beatrice M. Foley
Ann and Ralph Foley

Helen Louise George
Nancy Frederick-Smith and
Rev. Alvin Smith

Ronald and Mary Hauswald
Carol and Kyle Wietholter

Jackie and Charles Heck
Sarah and David Tyrrell

Rev. Edwin H. Helm
Ruth A. Helm

**Polly and Bishop
Leroy Hodapp**
Anne and Thomas Gates

Paul W. Hoover
Bonnie Hoover

Ricky Howard
Phyllis Howard

Valerie A. Hunsaker
Cheryl and Frank Carroll

Lita W. James
Holli Simmons-Little

Linda G. Johnson
Kenny Johnson

Mary C. Kitterman
Jay Baker

Rev. Charles R. Lane
Catherine Lane

Rev. Douglas Leffler
Gloria and Richard Cole

Rev. Wilson Lovell
Janet and Mickey Lawson

Barbara Marine
Paula and Michael Marine

My Son, Mark
Anonymous

Rev. Clarence McConkey
Amy and N. Clay Robbins

Inez and John McQuire
Rev. Judi and Jay Marshall

Jane E. Meats
Anonymous

Eric Mikesell
Pastor Carolyn Mikesell

Alice Miller
Anonymous

Dr. Morris J. Morgan
Dorothy Morgan

Robin and Robert Nelson
Mary Lou Nelson

Nancy S. Nicholson
Anonymous

Catherine Lane
Anonymous

Cheryl S. Nordby
Anonymous

My Parents
Rev. Jill Kaetzel

Gertrude M. Ray
Anonymous

Joyce Richardson
Anonymous

Dorothy Richey
Shari Rich Richey

Elder L. Robinson & family
Ella and Edward McNeary, Jr.

Diana J. Roundtree
Tom Roundtree

Nancy Schnepf
Hershey Elementary School

Audra and Clayton Sipes
Betty Calhoun

June Smith-Nessler
Dr. Ginny Swift Singer
and Don Singer

Dad and Ranse
Joni and Danny Smith

Robert Howard Spain, Sr
Becky and Alan Peterson

Dana L. Sparks
Pat and Kyle Sparks

Lois and Merrill Swarens
Jerry Swarens

Morris and Marcia Sweet
Margie and Steven DeWell

Houston L. Swenson
Anonymous

Thomas G. Temple
Dr. Ginny Swift Singer
and Don Singer

Constance J. Titak
Mary Ann Burke
Nancy and Gregory Dietz
Karyn and James Kissling
Sharon and Ronald Pfennig
James Titak

Rebecca Vandever
Oxford UMC - United Methodist
Women, Oxford

Brad Vangundy
Robin and Jeff Fox

Michelle Marie Wagner
Wanita and Lee Lindquist

Wilma and Jesse Wheeler
Melinda Fox

Mary and Buck Ziegler
Janice LeMay

Ralph Zinn and Greg Zinn
Mary E. Zinn

To learn more about how you can make a gift honoring a loved one, please contact the Foundation at 317-775-0606 or info@iumchf.org.



Ready to
Make a Gift?

In Celebration of

Susan D. Bennett
Anonymous
First UMC - United Methodist
Women, New Castle
Marti and Glenn Hunsucker
Barbara and Kenneth King

In Honor of

**Rev. and Mrs. Paul
L. Ayres**
Evelyn and Jeffrey Gearries

**Verna Baxter's
90th Birthday**
Ethel Abrams

All Children
Anonymous

Autistic Children
Verna D. Baxter

**Pastor Matt and Staff
of Castleton UMC,
Indianapolis**
Rosemary Draga

**Children's Ministry of St.
Mark's UMC, Carmel**
Roger and Linda Schenk

Sue Davis
Linda and Randy Russel

My Grandchildren
Melissa Desmond

**Rev. Dick Eisinger's
97th Birthday**
Denise Phelps and
Mark Eisinger
Doris Frazier
Jean Sheffield

**IUMCH Staff and
Employees**
Anonymous

Peggy and Jack Enos
Anonymous

Jim D. Ewing
Alison and Jerry Terry

Jo and Mike Flinn
Judy and Jim Washburn

Kay L. Franscoviak
Jeri Burgess
Revs. Tracey and Britt Leslie

**Marlene and
Rev. James Gentry**
Mary Barnes
Daniel Henke
Teresa Shepard
Kathie Watson

Rev. Marsha Hutchinson
Amy and Timothy Maniscalco

Sarah Faye Leffler
Jan and Samuel Hecht

Norbert Leonard
Janice and Rev. Thomas True

Benjamin R. Lilly
Linda and Randy Russel
Dr. Ginny Swift Singer and
Don Singer

Makenzie Mabie
Linda and Michael Holdmann

Our Granddaughter, Marin
Marlene and Theodore Woodfield

Suzanne Mathura
Charlotte and Oscar Mathura

**New Beginnings Fellowship
of Thorntown
Federated, Inc.**
New Beginnings Fellowship of
Thorntown Federated

Sharon Elizabeth Payne
Vivian Payne-Jones and
Patrick Jones

Julie Penoff
Mary Kay and Tom Anthony

Rick
Suzy and Dennis Allen

Linda L. Russel
Lynn Nestler

Jane Salin
Kent Shipley

Dr. Ginny Swift Singer
Linda and Randy Russel

Larna K. Spearman
Ann and David Cook

Morris E. Thomas, Jr.
Diane and Don Carlson
Linda and Kurt Mahrtdt, Jr.

Sue and Wayne Weise
Jan and Keith Mast

Rev. Herbert G. Wingard
Christ United Methodist
Church, Lafayette
Bette Jean and Jerry Taylor

Thank you!

"Who's always been a strong supporter of the Children's Home"

Jan and Samuel Hecht in honor of Sarah Faye Leffler

"Our Down Syndrome son Rick passed June 20, 2013. He carried the torch for the Special Olympics in 1996. He was a wonderful son. The best gift God could have given us."

Phyllis Howard in memory of Ricky Howard

"My parents always supported the Children's Home."

Betty Calhoun in memory of Audra and Clayton Sipes

More than 100 Years of Church Support

From prayers, to volunteers, to financial support, churches continue to play an integral part in helping the Children's Home serve children in need.



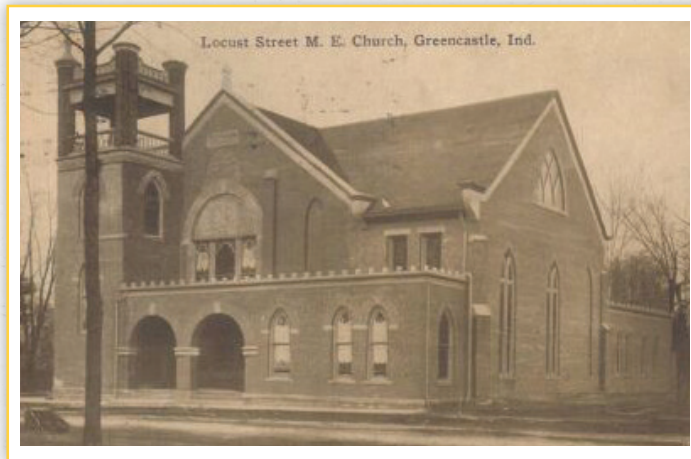
Churches were a part of the Children's Home's history even before it began operating. Founder Angie Godwin, a Methodist Episcopal Deaconess, told members of her family's church, Greencastle's Locust Street Methodist Church, "The Lord has called me to found an orphanage," and the congregation agreed to support her call. In 1915, she opened that orphanage in Greencastle, beginning more than 100 years of church support of the Children's Home.

Miss Godwin secured support from churches throughout central Indiana by making appeals. As more churches learned about the needs of the children at the Home in the following decades, they also chose to become supporters.

In 1924, the Children's Home moved to its current site in Lebanon, thanks to support from Centenary Methodist Church and community leaders. Over the decades, Centenary's pastors ministered to the children and the staff. For many years, United Methodist Youth Fellowship groups throughout Indiana raised money for the Children's Home through Fall Booth Festivals.



Calvary United Methodist Church in Brownsburg



Locust Street United Methodist Church, Greencastle, Indiana

Since 2015, 419 churches have donated more than \$1 million to support our services. Most donate directly to the Children's Home Foundation, while others give through the office of the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church. We are also thankful for the support from the annual Bishop's Christmas Offering. Just last year, Calvary United Methodist Church in Brownsburg made the single largest gift we've ever received from a church that was not from a designated endowed fund. "Our faith family wants to invest in the development of young lives so that our community becomes stronger," explained Calvary's Senior Pastor, Rev. Michelle Knight, "And we cannot think of a better partner in that than you! Bless you!"

Starting with the Methodist Episcopal Church, then the United Methodist Church, as well as congregations from many other denominations – churches have always been faithful mission partners with the Children's Home in serving Indiana's most vulnerable children. We thank all the churches and their members who care so deeply about the children!

"Our faith family wants to invest in the development of young lives so that our community becomes stronger."

Rev. Michelle Knight, Calvary's Senior Pastor

Disaffiliated Churches Continue Support for Children's Home

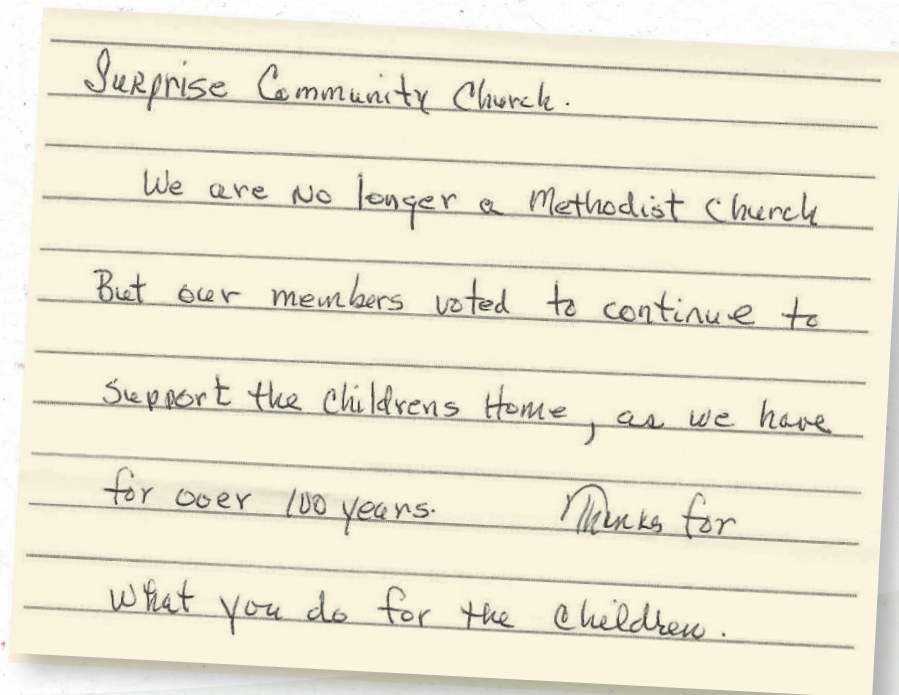
Our children need all of us! And the members of Surprise Community Church and Stockwell Community Church take that to heart.

The former Surprise United Methodist Church chose to disaffiliate last year from the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church and become independent rather than join another denomination. Despite the change, the church has made a commitment to continue supporting the Children's Home! Led by James Thompson, the Superintendent of Trustees, the members voted in December to continue their more than a century of support for the Home, even though they are no longer United Methodist.

Below is the note he sent with their donation to the Children's Home Foundation.

Stockwell Community Church, formerly the Stockwell United Methodist Church, also is continuing to support the children in our care despite disaffiliating last year. The members informed us they decided to support the Home through their Christmas Eve collection and a special effort from the children in their congregation who collected coins. They sent us a generous donation to help us start 2024 in a wonderful way!

Thank you to everyone at Surprise Community Church, Stockwell Community Church, and all the other churches that have disaffiliated but still care about our children. We are grateful to have you remain as partners in our mission! Our children need all of us!



Surprise Community Church.
We are no longer a Methodist church
But our members voted to continue to
support the Children's Home, as we have
for over 100 years. Thanks for
what you do for the children.

Responsible Parenthood Program



Realityworks

A key part of our work is helping teenagers in our care make better life decisions. That's why we are launching our Responsible Parenthood Program to encourage them to consider the consequences of early parenthood.

The program uses infant simulator dolls, simulating the appearance and behavior of real infants. Like real babies, they cry when they need to be fed, held, or changed, helping teens better understand the time and attention infants require. Wireless programming tracks "parent" behavior, giving our staff opportunities to impart important life skills such as time management, empathy, and communication.

"It will show them the ups and downs and make it more likely that they will be healthy, safe parents in the future," according to Ashley Slaughter, Director of Residential Services at the Children's Home. Donor support totaling \$19,908 made it possible for us to buy the program curriculum and 10 of the infant simulation dolls. We are grateful for everyone's generosity!



Does a gift from your IRA make sense?

A tax-wise way to support our children's mission

If you are age 70½ or older, you can make a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) directly from your IRA to the Indiana United Methodist Children's Home Foundation. Consider the benefits:

- No tax is due on the distribution up to the \$105,000 annual aggregate limit. (Note that contributions to an IRA after age 70½ count against QCD amounts.)
- The gift counts toward your required minimum distribution (RMD) if one is due (generally, age 73 or over).
- Your easy gift makes an immediate impact on our work helping Indiana's abused and neglected youths develop independence and find hope for the future.

Contact your financial advisor to determine if supporting the mission of the Children's Home by making a gift from your IRA is good for you.



Please contact Tom Fagan, Director of Development, with questions or to schedule a tour or speaker for your group, at 317-775-0606, or tomfagan@iumchf.org.

Want to Learn How the Children's Home is Changing Lives?

Join us Saturday, April 27; 10am - 1pm at the Home in Lebanon for our Auxiliary Annual Meeting. Speakers, music, lunch and optional campus tour are included. Our *Student of the Year award* will be presented. All are welcome. Contact Susan Bennett: 765-482-5900 or susanb@iumch.org



Indiana United Methodist
Children's Home Foundation
Hope Has A Home in Lebanon

iumch.org

Contact for Home:

515 W. Camp Street, Lebanon, IN 46052 | 765.482.5900

Contact for Foundation:

9333 N. Meridian Street, Suite 222, Indianapolis, IN 46260
317.775.0606 | info@iumchf.org

The stories you read about our youth are real. Often we change the names and identifying details to protect their privacy.

Audit Team: Children's Home "Best of the Best"

Is the Children's Home serving the needs of students in the most effective ways? That question is at the center of our accreditation by the Teaching Family Association. Audits every three years ensure the services we provide continue to live up to that group's exacting standards.

"We passed the 2023 audit with flying colors, earning another reaccreditation and recognizing the Children's Home as the best of the best," Board of Trustees President Daniel F. Evans Jr. recently reported to the Board.



He added that the audit was another bright spot in a remarkable year for the Children's Home and our dedicated staff. "We weathered the full implementation of the Families First Act, increased the number of students served, and prepared for the challenges ahead through planning for important strategic initiatives."

The Teaching-Family Model is one of just a handful of evidence-based treatment models accepted by federal and state agencies. Its rigorous standards and quality assurance processes ensure we deliver the most effective care and treatment to the students we serve.

Meet Luke

"When I came to the Home, I felt I was on a dead end. I had no plans for the future. The greatest thing the Home did for me was to help me find a way forward,"

Luke told us while he was preparing to leave our Home in January, headed for a college dorm.

"I give the credit to God, but also to Pastor Perry [our Spiritual Life Leader] and all the staff at the Home. This is the first time in a long time that I am excited about my future. One of the things a Home staff member said to me was 'You are not alone' and that meant so much to me."

