

# The McCurdy Ministries Message

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Sharing God's love through education and mission

September 2012



McCurdy Ministries Preschoolers on the first day of school.

## Patricia A. Alvarado

### A word from our executive director

With McCurdy Charter School having started on Aug. 16 with 560 students, I am reflecting with thankfulness on the difference that our Volunteers in Mission made for McCurdy Ministries and McCurdy Charter School this summer. On page four of this newsletter you will find a list of the many jobs that our volunteers completed for us with dedication, good spirit, faith and hard work! With a staff of 20, McCurdy Ministries couldn't have prepared for this new phase of ministry without the hard work and generosity of our volunteers and friends from all over the country.

Now, as McCurdy Ministries plans and executes our vision to surround the students and families of McCurdy Charter School with various kinds of ministry in the name of Jesus Christ and also formulates our plans to impact the community at large, we need your prayers and support more than ever. You will read more of the plans being undertaken elsewhere in this newsletter, but know with a much smaller staff and much more work to be done, we need your continued prayers for our staff and our ministry. Whether our ministry is directly related to McCurdy Charter School or the programs that we are planning to support the elderly, parents, those who have dropped out of high school or the youth of this community, there are many obstacles and challenges that face us. With your continued support through your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness, we will work as one village, to turn these challenges into opportunities in service to God.

May our Father continue to bless you and sustain you; may our Lord Jesus be witnessed through your love and giving; and may the Holy Spirit dwell within your hearts and homes as you continue to be witnesses to our Father's unconditional love. *Patricia A. Alvarado*

## McCurdy Ministries successfully kicks off the new school year!

After many hours of staff and volunteer work McCurdy Ministries successfully kicked off the 2012–13 school year with an increase in enrollment in the McCurdy Preschool and Before & After School Programs. In addition, McCurdy Charter School completed the first week of classes with 560 students in grades K–12 as compared to McCurdy School which closed the last school year with 227 students. With increased enrollment in McCurdy Charter School and McCurdy Ministries programs we are making a difference for more students and families than the school has reached in decades. The ministries and school administrators worked together over the summer months to insure a positive experience for all students on the McCurdy campus.

The McCurdy Ministries programs for the benefit of McCurdy Charter School students and their families are McCurdy Preschool with 20 students, Before & After School Program with 30 students, Project Cariño and Breakfast & Lunch Program serving 350–400 students daily. Our volunteers have ensured that we were ready to welcome our own students and the 560 students and staff of McCurdy Charter School to campus. Our first faith enrichment opportunity for all students on our campus will be a community Christmas program in December.

This summer the offices of McCurdy Ministries relocated to the superintendent's house and the Office of Church Relations house across from the Irene Cole High School on the southeast corner of the campus. The staff housed in the superintendent's house are Patricia Alvarado, executive director; Dee Dee Heffner, home missionary, Rev. Diana Loomis, director of development/church relations; Amanda Gonzales, director of Project Cariño; and Eufemia Romero, administrative assistant. Housed in the church relations house are Denise London, business manager; Robert DeVargas, maintenance manager; Vickie Luviano, VIM director and cafeteria manager; Rick Carlisle, IT consultant; Campbell's Labels program; and the McCurdy Gift Shop.

The phone number for McCurdy Ministries remains 505-753-7221 and the address remains 261 S. McCurdy Road, Española, NM 87532. In addition, staff members retain their old email addresses and so you can easily be in touch.

The permanent headquarters for McCurdy Ministries will be the Irene Cole High School and we expect to move during next summer. Classrooms will be used to house quality programs like Before & After School, computer lab, tutoring programs for students and adults and a community meeting room.

The 100th anniversary of the first day of school in Velarde is Oct. 21, 2012. On that day please say a prayer of thanks for Mellie Perkins and all the staff who have served at McCurdy over our history!

## Why Christians give

When joining a church United Methodists take membership vows and promise to uphold the church “by our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.” McCurdy Ministries thrives because of your commitment to uphold us by your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. **First**, we are held up by your prayers and prayer changes life! **Second**, it is uplifting when our volunteers, alumni, supporters and former staff visit campus. You remind us of God’s presence. **Third**, your gifts make up almost 50% of our budget or \$800,000 this year. When you give to McCurdy Ministries because you are grateful for all God has given you, then you bless us and become a part of our ministries. **Fourth**, hands on ministry/service changes lives. We could not have gotten ready for 560 MCS students, 20 McCurdy Preschoolers and 30 Before & After School students without the hard work of our volunteers. **Finally**, when you witness to and share with others how God’s ministries are being done in Española you help us spread the word about what God is doing at McCurdy! Below find our estimated expenses for this school year. We share this information so that you will know your donations are making God’s difference in Española and are being spent well!

### 2012–13 McCurdy Ministries

#### Estimated Expenses (adopted 7-10-12)

<b>Program Staff &amp; Expenses</b>	<b>\$748,698</b>
Project Cariño	64,593
Preschool	95,138
Before & After School Program	28,402
Breakfast and Lunch Program	270,166
Volunteers in Mission	25,023
Church relations	226,376
Charter school athletics	39,000
Includes all program expenses plus program staff, taxes, and benefits	
<b>Maintenance Staff &amp; Expenses</b>	<b>\$392,442</b>
Includes staff salaries, benefits, taxes, utilities, grounds upkeep, building materials, repairs, vehicle upkeep & new cafeteria roof.	
<b>Administrative Staff &amp; Expenses</b>	<b>\$314,400</b>
Includes staff salaries, benefits, taxes, office supplies, insurance, debt repayment, office equipment, IT expenses and legal fees.	
<b>Startup &amp; Contingency Funds</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>
Includes moving expenses, updating of homes to offices for McCurdy Ministries, separation of utilities between McCurdy Charter School and McCurdy Ministries, improvements to buildings and grounds necessary to open the charter school.	
<b>Total estimated expenses</b>	<b>\$1,655,980</b>

With the transitions that McCurdy Ministries has gone through this year, we have sought to create a conservative budget with the hope that our supporters will continue to donate to our ministries. We plan to use any surplus income in this budget year to help fund expanded ministries such as a Teen Center, Senior VIM Trips and Summer Camp in the 2013–14 budget year. If you have questions about our budget please contact Rev. Diana Loomis at the number listed to the right.



From left to right: McCurdy alumni Cecilia Rodriguez, Crystal Espinoza, Ymelda Samora and Edith Brown serve breakfast to former staffer Chuck Chipman at Santa Cruz UMC. Rodriguez, Samora and Brown all served on the Centennial Committee.

## McCurdy School celebrates 100 years!

(With thanks to Zelda Jaramillo the photographer)



From left to right: Ian Martinez, Edith Brown (narrators) and Marcia Baynes as Mellie Perkins at the Centennial Drama



Left: Acrylic painting by Santiago Lovato in the Student Art Show

Below: Ruth Stambach and Cecilia Lorenzen at the service in Velarde.



Alumni, current and former staff, volunteers and friends at the Celebration Dinner Saturday night.

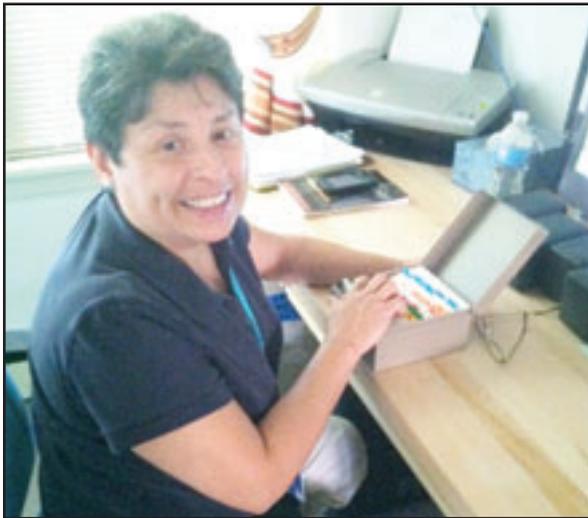


Connie Salazar Thompson shares the light of Christ during worship at Santa Cruz UMC



## Ways to support the work of McCurdy Ministries

McCurdy Ministries needs your support to continue our ministries. We make God’s difference through: McCurdy Preschool, Project Cariño, Breakfast & Lunch Program, Before & After School Program, Student Athletics, Volunteers in Mission and our Student Enrichment Program (including devotional ministries). We are also the landlord for McCurdy Charter School and your donations of time, talent and funds help us keep our aging buildings and 44 acres in shape for 560 students. In Española the need is great because the U.S. Census Bureau 2010 statistics say 25% of adults over 25 have not graduated from high school, the per capita income is \$19,703 and over 25% of the population lives below the poverty line. Here are several ways to support our ministry: **Donate and encourage others to donate regularly to McCurdy.** Make a donation of cash, stocks, land or an appreciated asset. **Send us Campbell’s Labels and Box Tops for Education.** Donate a gift annuity to the school to earn income during your life and bless the school with a donation after your death. **Organize a Volunteers in Mission Team from your church and come enjoy Northern New Mexico.** Remember McCurdy Ministries in your will. **Set up an endowed scholarship in the McCurdy Foundation.** If you purchase a new car donate your old one to McCurdy for a tax deduction. **Invite the McCurdy church relations team to your church program, dinner or worship event.** Donate to McCurdy through Advance #581479 for the general fund and Advance #581325 to support our missionary, Dee Dee Heffner. **Pray for the school daily!** For more information contact Rev. Diana Loomis, McCurdy Director of Development/Church Relations at 505-753-7221. Email her at [dloomis@mcurdy.org](mailto:dloomis@mcurdy.org) or write her at 261 S. McCurdy Road, Española, NM 87532.



## Project Cariño News

*Editor's Note: Project Cariño, our mental health counseling program, was started through a United Methodist's Women's grant 28 years ago. Project Cariño has been integral in keeping the McCurdy School*

*Amanda Gonzales, Project Cariño director, at her desk in her new office in the McCurdy Ministries headquarters.*

*dropout rate at zero percent for many years. McCurdy Ministries is continuing to fund Project Cariño for McCurdy Charter School students as means of helping to keep the dropout rate low. New Mexico has a 21% dropout rate which is the highest in the nation. Services are provided by Amanda Trujillo-Gonzales, LISW. She is a full-time behavioral health counselor, and as a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker, she holds the highest level of licensure offered by the State of New Mexico for Social Workers providing behavioral health services. She earned her degrees from New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, NM and has been working with children and families in the Espanola Valley for the past eighteen years.*

Project Cariño is a behavioral health program aimed at providing mental health support to improve student achievement and success. This project emphasizes spiritually-based counseling services directed toward supporting our students' healthy and comprehensive development, with a focus on issues critical to young people's lives. Services begin with an assessment of the student's emotional, spiritual and mental health to identify barriers to learning. Project Cariño provides the necessary support to students to help them adjust to challenging circumstances and continue learning.

Services include individual, family and group counseling, Conflict Mediation, classroom presentations (safety, bullying, alcohol and substance abuse, empowerment training, to name a few), staff in-service presentations (bullying, Second-Step Violence Prevention), as well as information and referral to community-based support services. During the month of October, Project Cariño supports the National Week Without Violence by involving students in violence prevention activities in class, around campus and off campus in collaboration with cooperating local violence prevention agencies.

Service learning is highly valued at McCurdy Charter School, and McCurdy Ministries supports this goal by providing service and volunteer opportunities through the Big Buddy Mentorship Program where high school students are matched with elementary school students and establish relationships throughout the course of the year through which both the big and little buddies grow and develop socially. Conflict Mediators are students trained in the delicate work of conflict mediation and lead their peers toward peaceful solutions to conflict.

For more information on the work of Project Cariño please contact Amanda Gonzales at 261 S. McCurdy Road, Española, NM 87532 or email her at [agonzales@mccurdy.org](mailto:agonzales@mccurdy.org).

### *Ruth Stambach publishes book on her McCurdy years*

I have tried to put 36 years of ministry in my book from my call to missions to my departure from Espanola, NM. The book, over 300 pages with 120 color pictures, is for sale from me personally or from McCurdy Ministries. Send your order with \$50 to Vicky Luviano, 261 S. McCurdy Road, Española, NM 87532. If you live closer to me, I'd be glad to hear from you at 513-933-4944. Vaya con Dios, Ruth Stambach

### *McCurdy cookbook "Recipes of a Century Past" published*

Thanks to Ruby Anders, Renee and Larkin Garcia, Beaulah Sandoval and Milt Denny from the Classes of 1958 & 1959, McCurdy is proud to present a cookbook featuring one hundred years of food for the body, mind and soul. The cookbook is available at a cost of \$15 with \$5 shipping and handling. All proceeds from the sale will support McCurdy Ministries. If you would like to buy a cookbook make your check out to Bobcats 12 and send it to Milt Denny, 800 Pearl St. #411, Denver, CO 80203 or you can purchase the book at the McCurdy Gift Shop.

## YOU ARE INVITED!

All McCurdy alumni as well as former staffers, students and volunteers are cordially invited to a family friendly

### *Homecoming Barbeque at 5 PM, Saturday, Sept. 15*

on the patio at Santa Cruz United Methodist Church. The cost for adults will be \$6 and children under ten will be \$3. The menu will be hotdogs, hamburgers, chips, veggies, drinks and dessert. To make a reservation call Eufemia Romero no later than Wednesday, Sept. 12 at 505-753-7221, ext. 210, or email her at [eromero@mccurdy.org](mailto:eromero@mccurdy.org).

At the Homecoming football game against Santa Fe Indian School, McCurdy Ministries will have an alumni booth and a McCurdy t-shirt, hat & stuff Booth. So drop by both booths to update your contact information and buy a McCurdy Bobcat shirt!

## A note from Dee Dee Heffner McCurdy missionary



God is doing amazing work on the McCurdy campus through McCurdy Ministries! As a United Methodist home missionary, I am grateful for the privilege of serving in Northern New Mexico since 1975. For most of these years, I had the awesome job of teaching English and drama to McCurdy High School students. What a wonderful way to end my teaching career as the sponsor for the McCurdy Centennial class and the director of an outstanding performance of the school version of Grease!

This year, I am grateful to be a full-time member of the McCurdy Ministries team with several different roles. For McCurdy Charter School, I am guiding the accreditation process with AdvancED, helping with curriculum implementation, and doing some teacher coaching and mentoring.

With the exciting new ministries, I am also engaged in mission interpretation with United Methodist Women and United Methodist churches, including those with which I have covenant relationships. I am available to communicate with individuals and groups by telephone and e-mail, as well as to come to speak to UMW units or church groups. Please see my contact information below.

McCurdy School alumni are very special to me, and I will be working this year to update our alumni records so that McCurdy Ministries can stay in touch with the alums. I would love to hear from you to know what you've been doing since graduation and to learn your current contact information. **Dee Dee Heffner**, [dheffner@mccurdy.org](mailto:dheffner@mccurdy.org), 505.929.7373 (cell).

**You can support Dee Dee through Advance Number 581325. The Advance link is <http://www.umcmmission.org/Explore-Our-Work/Missionaries-in-Service/Missionary-Profiles/Heffner-Carolyn-Dee-Dee>**

## The McCurdy tradition lives on!

Plans are being developed cooperatively between McCurdy Ministries and McCurdy Charter School to ensure that the McCurdy heritage of service to the community lives on. The week of Oct. 22–26, the ministries and the school will join together to celebrate McCurdy history and to learn about the examples of service Mellie Perkins, Glen McCracken, Dolph and Gwen Pringle, Chic Martinez and Irene Cole have been in the Española Valley. This is an appropriate time for this event since the 100th anniversary of the first day of class will be Oct. 21, 2012. The week will culminate in a Community Service Blitz. Each charter school class will be involved in a community service project that day. These projects will help the students fulfill their service learning requirements for school. McCurdy Ministries is assisting the charter school in researching needs and projects in the community and ministries employees will assist charter school staff and students as they go out in the community to make a McCurdy difference.



### A note from MCS director Janette Archuleta

The air is crisp. The apples are ripening. The students of McCurdy Charter School are hard at work. The McCurdy campus is home to the charter school which serves 560 students in K–12 grades and is nestled in the Espanola Valley which celebrates rich family and community traditions. The Espanola Valley also experiences high poverty, a struggling public education system and significant issues associated with domestic violence and drug abuse.

Students and staff are quick to notice the numerous volunteers on campus tending to the landscape, painting classrooms, repairing walls and doors, cleaning and transporting student desks and other furniture, sanding and restoring wood cabinets and tables and hanging handmade curtains. The volunteers are always friendly, uplifting, and sincere. The work of these McCurdy Ministries volunteers played a significant role in the opening of the charter school. It is an extreme advantage to have this level of support for a charter school as the typical setting for a charter school may be a repurposed supermarket or other abandoned building.

McCurdy Charter School is founded on academic achievement, character development, and service learning with every student required to complete one service learning project per semester. Through the McCurdy volunteers, our students have the opportunity to observe and develop relationships with role models that exemplify citizenship and service. Meaningful relationships with mentors and supportive adults play an enormous part in the development of young people's character. A conversation with a caring volunteer may be the impetus for a young person to begin the path of community service and lifelong learning.

In October, McCurdy Charter School will partner with McCurdy Ministries in celebrating the 100th anniversary of McCurdy Mission School's influence on the Espanola Valley through a community service blitz. This event will demonstrate our school's commitment to serve the Espanola Valley and its families. Outreach activities and demonstrations of service learning projects will occur during the week of October 22. McCurdy Ministries will partner with the school in identifying and coordinating meaningful service learning projects and will serve as a prime example of service to others.

McCurdy Charter School staff and students sincerely appreciate the many volunteers that have contributed to the successful beginning of the school year. There is great hope in the possibility of continuing relationships with long time McCurdy volunteers and developing new relationships which will broaden opportunities for our students and families. *Janette Archuleta, Director McCurdy Charter School*



Volunteers from Reynoldsburg UMC in Ohio work with the ministries maintenance staff to lay new phone lines which will result in improved internet and phone service.

## Thanks to our volunteers

From March to August this year McCurdy Ministries hosted 31 Volunteers in Mission groups from around the country. There were seven groups from Kansas, six groups from Texas, four groups from Colorado, three groups from Michigan, three groups from Ohio, two groups from Oklahoma and one group each from New Mexico, Arizona and Pennsylvania. These volunteers worked hard to help McCurdy Ministries prepare campus for 560 charter school students plus all the students that participate in McCurdy Preschool, Before & After School Program, Project Cariño and the Breakfast and Lunch Program *and we wouldn't have been ready for school without their help!*

Our Summer of 2012 HERO VIM groups are: Ferris Wesley House, Big Rapids, Michigan; Sun creek UMC, Allen, Texas; Monte Vista UMC, San Luis Valley, Colorado; Trietsch Memorial UMC, Flower Mound, Texas; First UMC, Birmingham, Michigan; Trinity UMC, Russell, Kansas; First UMC, Bristow, Oklahoma; Paradise UMC, Paradise, Kansas; First UMC, Lowell, Michigan; First UMC, Durango, Colorado; Larned UMC, Larned, Kansas; Tarrytown UMC, Austin, Texas; Meadowbrook UMC, Ft. Worth, Texas; Central Conference, Texas; Northglenn UMC, Northglenn, Colorado; Church of the Messiah UMC, Westerville, Ohio; Sterling UMC, Sterling, Oklahoma; Mountainside UMC, Cedar Crest, NM; Central UMC, Colorado Springs, Colorado; Faithworks, Arizona; Richland Hills UMC, Richland Hills, TX; First UMC, Jacksonville, TX; Wooster UMC, Wooster, Ohio; Asbury UMC, Prairie Village, Kansas; Hugoton UMC, Hugoton, Kansas; Protection UMC, Protection, Kansas; Richvalley UMC, Wabash, Indiana; Aldersgate UMC, York, Pennsylvania; Arlington/Ft. Worth Group, Texas; and Reynoldsburg UMC, Reynoldsburg, Ohio.

*Our Volunteers in Mission Teams are critical to our work* and will continue to be important for years to come. We expect that the Summer of 2013, with major construction nearing completion and the launch of our Summer Camp and Teen Center, will be filled with important projects that we need our volunteers to help us accomplish. Our normal months for hosting VIM Teams is March to October and the time to make your reservation for your group is now! The months of June, July and August fill up quickly so if you want to enjoy a cooler, dryer week in New Mexico next summer make your reservation now!

### McCurdy Ministries announces our

## 16th Annual Gala

6 to 10 PM, Feb. 9, 2013 in the McCurdy Memorial Sports Center. Our theme will be:

### *Hope for the Valley: Planting Seeds for the Future*

There will be a catered dinner, silent and live auctions of over 350 items and entertainment. All proceeds will be used to support McCurdy Ministries and McCurdy Charter School Athletic Fund. You are invited to be an Alumni Supporter, a Gala Supporter or a Sponsor. In addition, you can donate an Auction Item or Purchase a ticket to attend. For more information write: McCurdy Ministries Gala, 261 S. McCurdy Road, Espanola, NM 87532. Or contact Eufemia Romero, Phone: 505-753-7221, ext. 210, gala@mccurdy.org.

**Sponsor:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$15,000 (Underwriter) \_\_\_\_\_ \$5,000 \_\_\_\_\_ \$2,000 \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,000 \_\_\_\_\_ \$500

**Gala Supporter:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$1000+ \_\_\_\_\_ \$500–\$999 \_\_\_\_\_ \$250–\$499 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100–\$249 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50–\$99 \_\_\_\_\_ \$25–\$49

**Alumni Supporter:** \$25 per person Name \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation year \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Alumni:** \$25 each Name \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation year \_\_\_\_\_

**Tickets:** \$60 each \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you for supporting this United Methodist Mission!*