

The McCurdy Ministries Community Center Message

McCurdy Schools of Northern New Mexico is a registered nonprofit corporation.
The corporation also uses the trade name McCurdy Ministries Community Center.

Vol. 5, #5

A faith-based Community Center ministry empowering children, youth, adults and families in the Española Valley to succeed in school and in life

September 2017



For the fourth year MMCC is celebrating

Giving Tuesday this November

Celebrating **Giving Tuesday** on Nov. 28, 2017, is especially important as McCurdy Ministries makes the transition to a Community Center because as Rev. Diana Loomis, McCurdy director of development/church relations says, “God has given McCurdy a great big vision for the great big difference we are called to make in the Española Valley and your support of our ministries with

your gifts, volunteer hours and prayers will help us expand our ministries and do what God has called us to do!” McCurdy Ministries Community Center (MMCC) continues to make a difference for 500+ students every school day through Project Cariño, the charter school breakfast and lunch program, After School Care, McCurdy Preschool, Camp Stars and our volunteer program and we are expanding our ministries this fall to include Adult Education and Adult Education Childcare. (See the article below to learn more about the Adult Education Programs.) Since 2012, the Tuesday after Thanksgiving nonprofits like MMCC have joined together to give our donors a chance to give back to our communities in gratitude to God for all we have been given. We call that day **Giving Tuesday**. Last year several generous McCurdy donors gave matching funds of over \$30,000 and helped us raise \$62,355 on **Giving Tuesday**. While Global Ministries is once again promoting Giving

Tuesday they are not providing match. Instead anonymous McCurdy donors are rallying to provide matching fund donations because they believe in the difference McCurdy makes in Española. We are so thankful for these anonymous donors that we wanted to share this good news with you and tell you the total amount of match will be announced in our newsletter which will be in the mail in early November. Our theme for **Giving Tuesday** is “**Give light. Give love. Give life.**” We are making it easier for you to make a donation to McCurdy during our Giving Tuesday Event. Your gift up to \$2,500 will be matched as long as the match lasts if you give in one of these three ways:

1. Mail a gift to MMCC postmarked between Nov. 1 and Nov. 28.

The check MUST be marked “Giving Tuesday” to count toward the match.

2. From Nov. 1 through Nov. 28, you can go to our website at www.mccurdy.org/give.html to make a donation. Again your donation MUST be marked “Giving Tuesday” to qualify for the match.

3. On Nov. 28, 2016, you can go to www.umcmission.org/give.html to give to McCurdy through the United Methodist Advance. Only gifts given on Nov. 28 through this option will be applied to the match if it is still available.

Please call Rev. Diana Loomis at 505-753-7221, ext. 352 or email her at dloomis@mccurdy.org if you want to make a matching donation or have any questions about McCurdy’s **2017 Giving Tuesday Event**.

MMCC adult education programs will launch in October

McCurdy Ministries Community Center (MMCC) will launch a new Adult Education Program with childcare in the Cole Adult Education Center on Oct. 16. To start this emphasis on adult education, two new partnerships are being developed with the Northern New Mexico College Adult Education Department and the Rio Arriba Adult Literacy Program. Current statistics from the U.S. Census show over 22% of adults 25 and over in the Española Valley have not received a high school diploma or completed a High School Equivalency program. The need is actually much higher because the statistics do not include hidden immigrant population in the community. The goal of the Adult Education Program will be to help residents achieve their High School Equivalency (formerly called GED). To achieve this goal some clients will need English, math literacy and English as a Second Language coaching. MMCC will provide quality childcare at no cost to the students as long as they are enrolled in the Adult Education Program with the help of a grant from United Way of Northern NM. Northern New Mexico College



will also be providing Adult Continuing Education classes in Cole. These classes will range from life enhancing programs like yoga to Commercial Driver’s License certification. In addition, a partnership with Santa Fe Community Foundation to provide nonprofit capacity building seminars at McCurdy is being explored.

This summer the MMCC maintenance staff and Volunteer in Mission teams have worked tirelessly to update the three classrooms and computer lab for this new program. A handicapped accessible bathroom and ramps are also being added. The library has also been updated with smart TVs and a new audio system and is now being used as a Community Room. A window wall has been built on the west side of this room to create a new History Room where McCurdy history and artifacts can be viewed and years of class portraits will be hung on the walls of the Community Room to honor 100 years of McCurdy School graduates. MMCC is excited to make this room available for community events such as training new tutors for the Rio Arriba Adult Literacy Program because there is a shortage of space available in the community for these worthwhile programs.

On Aug. 1, the United Methodist nonprofit McCurdy Schools of Northern NM began using a new name

McCurdy Ministries Community Center (MMCC).

Our new name reflects our expanded mission to help students and families in the Española Valley succeed in school and in life. Please keep MMCC and our community in your prayers as we expand the ways we make God’s difference every day!



Above: Architectural rendering of the four key buildings in the McCurdy Ministries Community Center Master Plan. Pictured from left to right are Cole Adult Education Building, McCracken Teen Center, Retreat Center and Children's Ministries Center. The rendering was provided by FBT Architects.

Updates on McCurdy master plan to revitalize our campus

Last summer McCurdy Ministries Community Center (MMCC) Board and staff began working with the Española City Planning Commission to gain the city's approval of our Master Plan. The commission recommended MMCC request a zoning change. On Sept. 12, the Española City Council unanimously approved the zoning change and on Sept. 14, the Planning Commission unanimously approved MMCC's Master Plan. During the process members of the City Council and Planning Commission enthusiastically expressed their support of McCurdy's plans.

The next step is for MMCC to raise the funds needed to update our campus through a Capital Funds Campaign. Earlier in 2017, the MMCC Board of Directors hired Jennifer Tyler, of Tyler Associates, to do a Feasibility Study. The study was unanimously adopted by the board in late July.

Summary of Feasibility Study results

This Feasibility Study was conducted to determine whether there is the commitment and resources among McCurdy donors and supporters to conduct a Capital Campaign to implement the changes to our campus outlined in the Master Plan. We wish to thank all friends who participated in the study by returning a questionnaire or through personal conversations. Input was received from all states where McCurdy has a concentration of friends. Here are a few highlights from the study:

1. More than 90% of respondents were aware of the services McCurdy provides to children youth, adults and families. Many comments of appreciation were submitted regarding McCurdy's excellent reputation for service to children, youth and families in the Española Valley.

2. McCurdy's reputation, track record of service and responsiveness scored high marks, with each affirmed at 94% or greater.

3. 93% of respondents regarded the plans for campus redevelopment as on target with McCurdy's program needs.

4. 97% of respondents indicated it was important to fulfill the Master Plan to equip McCurdy for programs and services today and well into the future. Planned programs include expanded early childhood education, after school care, summer camp and mental health care programs. New programs will include adult education with childcare, practical life skill programs like financial literacy and life enrichment programs for children, youth, adults and families.

The scope of the Master Plan includes removing buildings that have outlived their useful life and are too costly to renovate and updating the Cole Adult Education, McCracken, Bachman and Pilling Children's Ministry buildings for expanded programming. The building improvements will include updating energy efficiency, ADA compliance, accessible restrooms, replacing flat roofs with pitched metal roofs where possible and the creation of welcoming, serviceable space to house MMCC expanded programming. The estimated cost of the Master Plan is \$10.8 million. The responses to the likelihood this amount could be raised were:

1. The amount was considered bold and aggressive. The hope was expressed the total could be raised in special gifts and pledges over a three-year period or longer.

2. The period for raising the funds was not as important to constituents as seeing the plan through.

3. It was acknowledged that McCurdy had no experience in large capital campaigns, and it would be important to pursue funding the project in phases.

4. This comment captures the spirit of the feedback about the goal: "If the funds could be raised solely on reputation and appreciation of the excellent and faithful service for which McCurdy is known, there would be no problem in fully funding the plan in three years."

5. Specific responses to the goal of \$10.8 million were cautiously optimistic, with only a fraction of a percent saying the funds could not be raised.

6. 94% of respondents indicate they would endorse the project and speak favorably toward it with friends. 80% indicated they would be willing to participate with a gift, once the campaign was underway.

The following are a selection of comments and suggestions from respondents:

1. Involve people who are a part of McCurdy's United Brethren heritage.

2. Communicate McCurdy as a model for programs to the underserved with United Methodist churches in New Mexico and across the country.

3. Pursue plans for a Nonprofit Hub on the McCurdy campus to assure needed services from like-minded partners can be readily available to the children, youth, adults and families McCurdy serves. This will also help assure people can get the assistance they need without worrying about transportation and it will eliminate duplication of services among other non-profits.

4. Talk with anyone in the secular world and they will tell you it's all about young people and the family unit. McCurdy is making a difference with at risk kids and families which is in keeping with what we want to do in the New Mexico Annual Conference.

5. When we get this message across, people will respond with gifts.

6. Connect the message to the hearts of the people so they will feel ownership. Ownership and relationship foster giving.

7. McCurdy is dependent upon its annual fund for program support. Gifts to the building must be above that.

8. Can volunteers do some of the work? Many people can give that way.

9. We appreciate the work of the board and staff to identify these needs. The commitment of the staff will go a long way in accomplishing this plan. They are extraordinary at what they do. McCurdy is blessed to have them.

10. Share life stories about transformation not just statistics.

Tyler Associates' conclusions

McCurdy Ministries is successful in its program efforts to respond to the needs of underserved people in the community. Three phrases often used to describe McCurdy Ministries are: excellent service and reputation, sincere care for those they serve and authentic concern for others.

McCurdy enjoys an excellent reputation in the local community, the state, and throughout other areas where constituents are located. Both friends and leaders have high hopes for McCurdy's future, and great enthusiasm for what lies ahead.

The Master Plan received wide positive reviews. Constituents view the Master Plan as practical and needed, not extravagant in any way.

The volunteer program is a positive element that draws McCurdy's past, present and future supporters.

Giving levels were higher than we typically see, but few larger gifts were discovered. At this early stage, the concept of giving a significant gift has not been considered by McCurdy's friends.

Goals must be based on McCurdy's capacity to raise funds and constituent readiness to give, not on the cost of the Master Plan. The larger vision stays intact, and phasing in the various components of the project will have great appeal and allow attainable goals with benchmarks of success.

McCurdy Ministries Community Center will launch a capital campaign in the spring of 2018 to raise special gifts above current program and operational funding for the following phases:

Phase I	• Cole—Adult Ministries Center	\$1,736,704
Phase II	• Hovermale—Children's Ministries Center	\$1,770,464
Phase III	• Bachman—Retreat Center	\$3,699,463
Phase IV	• McCracken—Teen Center	\$1,884,753
Phase V	• Playgrounds, landscape, Retreat Garden	\$860,000
	• Parking, outdoor areas (A/E fee, contingency)	\$900,000

Notes from the McCurdy Ministries executive director

A flurry of activity has been happening on our campus this summer. With help from our Volunteers in Mission teams, we have cleaned, polished and painted the areas of Cole High School that will become the Adult Education Center. We completely retrofitted the old library into a Community Room for training, classes, and meetings. We have remodeled the two portable units that housed classrooms into the new Project Cariño school based mental health center. One of the buildings has four new offices, two play therapy areas and meeting area. The other has a gathering space for students, staff, families and the community at large to participate in programs, support groups and child/parent/grandparent/family support activities.

McCurdy Ministries Community Center (MMCC) continues a century old tradition and practice of welcoming and nurturing people of all faiths and walks of life as we serve the children, youth, and families of the Española Valley. "It takes a village to raise a child," and MMCC embodies this adage by offering programs and services that help children, youth, adults and their families navigate through today's demands. Our programs include Project Cariño (our mental health counseling program), PreK and Preschool, After School Care, Camp Stars (our summer camp that combines STEM education with VBS fun) and our Volunteers in Mission teams and individual volunteers. In addition, we are the vendor for the Breakfast and Lunch Program at McCurdy Charter School. Through these programs we offer students opportunities to thrive, to feel cared for and to be empowered with the confidence they need to overcome obstacles in their lives.



Above: McCurdy board members, staff and a VIM Team from Colorado join together to dedicate the new Project Cariño space.

Project Cariño moves to the portables

With the move of McCurdy Charter School (MCS) onto their 11 acre campus on our western boundary, Project Cariño needed to be relocated closer to the new MCS classroom building. Luckily, we have our portable classroom buildings which are located close to the MCS campus so work began this summer to make the buildings suitable for this mental health ministry provided free of charge to MCS students and their families. There is a special blessing to this move because Project Cariño was started 30 years ago and the portables were bought with Prayer and Self Denial Grants from the United Methodist Women! This school year we will have two full time counselors, two Master's of Social Work interns and a Bachelor's of Social Work intern so the extra space for their very important work with our MCS students and their families is a blessing.



After School Care fun and faith

The After School Care Program currently serves 20 students including one in preschool, six in kindergarten, four in first grade, three in second grade, four in third grade, one in fifth grade and one in sixth grade. Although, we have only been in session for three weeks, I have seen remarkable acts of goodness. When we go out to play the majority of the After School Care students play all together. They play like a group of little brothers and sisters. It is really nice to see them get along with each other and see their imaginations at work.

One day while I was helping a couple of students finish up their homework, a first grader came up to me and asked me if he could straighten up the book shelf for me. I was taken by surprise that he saw something that needed to be done and wanted to help. I, of course, was more than happy to let him. Without even knowing, this little first grader set a good example that encouraged two older boys to help him finish the task. *Flor Cordova, After School Care Provider*

Our new Community Center programming will foster many different uses for our buildings at all times of the day and on weekends so our individual volunteers and Volunteer in Mission Teams will be even more important! Our volunteers are a great support to our maintenance, administrative and program staff. We will need more volunteers who have clerical, tutoring, teaching, program management, IT, grounds keeping, maintenance and construction skills. We hope to increase our volunteer numbers as we increase the ways we are making God's difference in Española. When I talk to potential nonprofit partners and describe our programs, I highlight our VIM program. They are in awe that volunteers come from all over the country to make a difference here and want to know more about how they can learn to foster and grow their own volunteer programs. Our VIMs are a shining light, on our campus, and in our community at large. Our children see and learn by example what being God's hands and feet look like! I invite folks across the country to prayerfully consider coming to McCurdy for a work team week or as a long term volunteer to assist with programs, maintenance or administration.

With our shift to a community center ministry we will partner with other nonprofits to serve the families of our community. Creating space dedicated to connecting nonprofits, service providers and agencies to encourage partnerships will have a tremendous impact in our community and will result in our being true to our mission: "McCurdy Ministries Community Center is a faith-based ministry that empowers children, youth, adults and families in the Española Valley to succeed in school and in life." The McCurdy Ministries Community Center will help create hope and empower the lives of the people it serves. *Patricia A. Alvarado*

Adios and God bless!

In July, Vickie Luviano, volunteer manager, resigned to pursue other endeavors. We appreciate Vickie's years of service to McCurdy very much and wish her the best in the future!

Volunteers in Mission News

McCurdy is already scheduling individual volunteers and Volunteer in Mission teams for the 2018 calendar year. If you want to come to do God's work while volunteering at McCurdy during a particular time of year please contact Eufemia Romero right away to reserve your spot! With McCurdy's transition to a Community Center we will have many extra construction, building demolition, program development needs over the next year so the need for volunteer help is critical!

For information on bringing a team or becoming an individual volunteer at McCurdy go to our website at www.mccurdy.org and click on VIM tab at the top of the page to locate the VIM Team Handbook or the Individual Volunteer Handbook. To schedule a Volunteer in Mission team or to volunteer as an individual to come to McCurdy contact *Eufemia Romero* at eromero@mccurdy.org. You can call Eufemia at 505-753-7221, ext. 210.



Bridget Cabrera

McCurdy welcomes a new volunteer manager

Editor's note: McCurdy began a search for a new volunteer manager and we were delighted to find Bridget Cabrera, a highly recommended individual who has excellent experience in United Methodist mission. Bridget will start work on campus Nov. 1 and will be glad to hear from our volunteers to help plan their McCurdy mission experiences.

Bridget Cabrera, former Deputy Director of the Reconciling Ministries Network joins the McCurdy Ministries family. Prior to RMN, she served as the Executive Secretary for National Ministries with United Methodist Women (UMW) national office. While with UMW, Bridget worked in grants management and with 34 nonprofits (National Mission Institutions) across the country to develop their leadership, connect them to resources, monitor their effectiveness, and facilitate trainings in board governance and fundraising. She also wrote and designed worship experiences for UMW members for national gatherings including the 2014 Women's Assembly. Bridget worked professionally throughout the United Methodist Church in campus, young adult, and camping ministry. She graduated from the University of Alabama with a B.S. in Music Education and from Emory University, Candler School of Theology with an M. Div.



The main entrance to the new 36,000 square foot MCS classroom building which houses elementary classes on the first floor and middle and high school classes on the second floor.

McCurdy Charter School news

Classes started in the new McCurdy Charter School building on Sept. 5 with 574 kindergarten to 12th grade students which is an increase of 34 students over last year. Their theme for the school year is, **“In this school we feel safe, respected and successful.”** As they adjust to their new campus, new building, new administrators and new students please keep the faculty, staff and students in your prayers.



Please welcome to McCurdy our associate director of development

Editor's note: When the MMCC Board of Directors adopted our new Master Plan and began considering a Capital Funds Campaign it became clear that additional development staff was needed. A plan was made to hire a full time associate director of development who would have primary responsibility for grant writing. An application for a three year grant was made to the Texas Methodist Foundation to fund 50% of the three year cost for the position.

Then the McCurdy Board set aside a matching amount from a bequest to fund the remaining cost of the position. A national search was started to fill the position. We are very pleased to welcome Amanda Mountain, a deaconess and a McCurdy legacy because her grandmother was a McCurdy missionary, to our staff full time starting on Oct. 1, 2017.

Amanda Mountain is a United Methodist deaconess and a lifelong United Methodist. She comes to the McCurdy family having most recently served as a consultant with the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (GCSRW) for the past 2 years. Prior to her time at GCSRW, Amanda worked with Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church as mission specialist and as missionary relationships manager with the Advance. Amanda is a regular contributor to Reponse Magazine and is looking forward to combining her passion for writing with the field of fundraising and development as McCurdy's Associate Director of Development. Amanda has fond memories of visiting McCurdy as a young girl while her grandma (Alma Mountain) served as a missionary at McCurdy for many years. Amanda holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Mercyhurst University, and enjoyed a career as a professional ballet dancer prior to graduating from Candler School of Theology with a Masters of Divinity degree.

Please support McCurdy Ministries!

McCurdy Ministries Community Center touches the lives of more than 550 students every school day and with our expansion into Adult Education with childcare we will impact even more lives every day. Your donations of prayer, time, talent and funds literally help us save lives, support their education and create a safe place for all the persons under our care. Here are ways you can support our ministry: Donate cash, stocks, land or an appreciated asset. Donate a gift annuity to earn income during your life and bless McCurdy with a donation after your death. Organize a Volunteers in Mission Team from your church. Remember McCurdy Ministries in your will and become a part of the Mellie Perkins Society. Set up an endowed fund in the McCurdy Foundation. Make McCurdy a beneficiary of a life insurance policy. Invite the McCurdy church relations team to your church program, dinner or worship event. Donate to McCurdy through Advance #581479. Pray for McCurdy daily! **For information on making a donation to McCurdy Ministries** please call Diana Loomis at 505-753-7221, ext. 352, write her at 362A S. McCurdy Road, Española, NM 87532 or email her at dloomis@mccurdy.org.

Box Tops, Campbell's Labels & Tyson updates

The Campbell's Labels for Education Program changed their minds! After advertising the final deadline for submitting your Campbell's UPCs and V8 lids as July 30, they have now extended the deadline to Dec. 31, 2017, **which means the deadline for having your Campbell's Labels to McCurdy is Dec. 10, 2017**, so we have adequate time to count, package and mail them before Dec. 31. Campbell's will not accept any submissions after Dec. 31, 2017. McCurdy Ministries wants to thank ALL of you from across the United States who have supported the Campbell's program!

We have begun collecting Tyson Project A+ labels as a way to raise funds at McCurdy Ministries Community Center and we recently sent in our first submission of their labels which earned us \$29. Thank you to all our supporters who have started saving, cutting and submitting those Tyson Project A+ labels. Each label is worth a whopping 24 cents which compares to 10 cents per Box Top received.

Thank you for your support of McCurdy Charter School by collecting Box Tops for Education. Since we began these efforts in 2012, because of your generosity, we have helped the school earn over \$80,000.

Please continue to send in your Campbell's Labels, Box Tops and Tyson Project A+ labels to McCurdy Ministries, 362-A S. McCurdy Road, Española, NM 87532. Thank you! For more information on our labels programs please email Eufemia Romero at eromero@mccurdy.org.



PHOTO BY RICHARD SAXON

McCurdy preschoolers play cooperatively in the sandbox on the preschool playground.

McCurdy Preschool news

McCurdy Ministries Pre-K is blessed to have welcomed 20 beautiful children to our preschool this year including 10 boys and 10 girls. Teachers Sandra, Jennifer and Angel are still in the process of discovering all the individual needs, interests, and personalities of each child. The children themselves are also learning that when God created us, we were all made with our own set of unique qualities, but he loved us even before we were born, and that we are all special to him. All the children are all very kind and accepting of others and their differences and try to help respect one another. Why can't it be that easy for all of us? **Sandra Archuleta, Pre-K director**

Attention all persons, lay and clergy, who work full time for the United Methodist Church you are invited to McCurdy Ministries for a free spiritual retreat!

Recently, the McCurdy Ministries board enacted a policy allowing persons who work full time for the United Methodist Church, whether they are lay or clergy, to come to the McCurdy Ministries campus in beautiful Northern New Mexico for up to seven nights for a spiritual retreat in our retreat center at no charge. This includes board but not meals but we provide kitchens that can be used in the retreat center and wonderful restaurants in the area. The only charge is allowing our staff to give you a tour of campus and an introduction to our ministries. Our desire is to support you while providing a chance for you to reconnect with God, plan for your ministry, be still, renew and enjoy life.

If you have questions about this opportunity please be in touch with Rev. Diana Loomis, director of development and church relations, at dloomis@mccurdy.org or call her at 505-901-3082.