



Faith
Mission
Home

HIGHLIGHTS NEWSLETTER | JULY-AUGUST 2025



Sarah Martin

MEET OUR STUDENTS

With a big smile and bright eyes, Sarah Martin sweetly blesses us with her presence. Sarah is a part of the B-girls group at Faith Mission Home, and happily plods along with the other girls as we go about our busy schedule.

Sarah is very loyal. It may take some time, but once you have gained her trust, she will do almost anything you ask of her. She loves doing her daily jobs, which include taking hangers to the laundry room, putting bibs in the laundry, setting napkins and forks on the table, wiping doorknobs in the hallway, and getting her pajamas out for bedtime. She always does them very willingly with sparkly eyes and a happy smile. One of Sarah's favorite parts of the day is when we put on boots and go out for a walk. Anything outdoors suits her just fine!

Sarah has a gentle, heart-warming giggle that is one of my favorite sounds to hear. It comes bursting forth when she cannot contain her happiness, perhaps at the sight of her favorite foods, or in simple joy when doing the things she loves. A good game of peek-a-boo or silly staff actions may also be the cause of her mirth. And occasionally, when she is overwhelmed with excitement, she will squeal with glee.

A day in Sarah's life consists of shower time first thing after breakfast, followed by craft class. From there we go to juice break, after which we do the juice break dishes. Then it's time for C school. After that class, Sarah enjoys free time in the dining room with the other girls until lunch. When lunch is over, the B-girls help the A-girls do the lunch dishes. Once those are done, we head to Barn class, then to Home-Ec class. Before long, it's storytime, which is followed by devotions. Then the girls get outfitted with boots and sunglasses for a walk. When we return from our walk, it's time for Sarah to do her jobs. Sometimes she gets to do puzzles after her jobs are done, and then we finish out the day with suppertime.

Sarah loves unconditionally, and forgives easily. Caring for Sarah has challenged me to love others for who they are without judging. Sarah's simple trust inspires me to trust God completely and let Him have control of my life. And then, let come the wonderful day when I can see Sarah completely healed and without any limitations in Heaven!

Mikaela Weaver / B Childcare / Nova, OH

EVENTS



ZOO DAY
May 27



PATRON'S PICNIC
June 20



SUMMER VACATION
June 21-July 5



DISCIPLESHIP CONFERENCE
June 24



FAREWELLS
May 9 | Ed & Pam Albertson, Lucy Zook,
Myron Stoltzfus
May 29 | Jake & Anna Nisley Family, Micah Peachey,
Trevor Stoltzfus, Tanya Zimmerman
June 14 | Abe & Beulah Dyck Family, Jenna Landis



GROUP SPOTLIGHT

C-GIRLS WITH KAITLYN MAST

LIALANA CARPENTER. SOPHIA PEACHEY. NICOLE KONTOS



FAREWELL THOUGHTS

"The Lord is my strength, and He will make my feet like hinds' feet, and He will make me to walk upon mine high places." Habakkuk 3:19. This has become a favorite verse of mine over the past year. Serving here has tested my trust in God and reliance on Him. There were days when I wondered how I would have the strength to go another day. But God truly offered the strength and grace I needed, when I reached out to Him. He enabled me to live above my circumstances and attain new heights.

As I served at Mission Home Bakeshop and filled the role of cottage cook, I found new meaning in "finding joy in the little things". Each of my students loved taking their turn helping me in the kitchen. They found great joy in setting the table or telling me a story as we cooked. The one-on-one time was a privilege. I also found joy and fulfillment in preparing food that appealed to the eyes, as well as tasted delicious and met the hunger pangs of those working hard in the bakeshop.

I will forever be grateful that God led me to serve at Faith Mission Home, and that my dream of working with mentally handicapped children was fulfilled. This place and my students will forever be a part of my heart.

"Truly, if God has you in the palm of His hand and your real life is secure in Him, then you can venture forth- into the places and relationships, the challenges, the very heart of the storm, and you will be safe there." -Paula Rinehart

Heidi Weaver | Cottage Cook | Leola, PA

"DON'T BREATHE THE BREATH OF LIFE ON ME."

-JENNIFER BRENNAN

STUDENT QUOTE

SPRING PROGRAM TRIP

"Program Trip". Encapsulated in those two words is a lot of hard work, excitement, intensity, and fun. We started out practicing almost every day for several weeks before we were actually scheduled to leave for Program Trip. After going over the songs many times, we felt mostly ready and very excited to share them with an audience.

We boarded the bus before 6 AM on Thursday, barely awake enough to answer the plethora of questions being fired at us by our wide-awake students. Most of Thursday was spent in travel, although we did stop long enough to get lunch, and even sang one of our songs for the folks at the restaurant. That evening we gave our first program in Burkesville, KY.

Friday morning we were on the road, bound for Hartselle, AL. We had plenty of time, so we stopped at the Gaylord Opryland Centre, where some of us enjoyed the gardens and flowers, and others of us enjoyed the nearby Bass Pro Shops. It felt like a relaxed day, and we were ready and excited to give our second program that night.

Saturday was another fun day, with no programs scheduled. We enjoyed lunch at the original Chick-Fil-A in GA, toured a Delta Airlines 747 airplane, and went to a hotel in Atlanta that is very close to the airport. It also happened to be very close to a place where those with many extra dollars to spend could test drive a Porsche. Between the cars and the planes, we were very entertained, and could have spent a lot of time there. But we kept moving and by evening had reached our next destination, Blackville, SC.

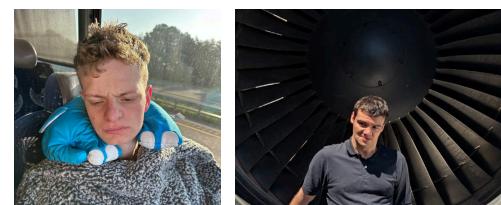
Sunday morning, we gave a program in Blackville and stayed for church. Then, travelled all afternoon to get to our fourth and final destination, Abbeville, SC.

Monday morning, we departed SC, heading home to FMH. We were welcomed back with much ado and fanfare; one would have thought we had been gone for five months instead of five days!

We left for Program Trip, hoping to bless and inspire others with the songs we sang. We came back from Program Trip, realizing we had been blessed by the willing hosts who graciously gave us delicious food and comfy beds; by interacting with our students one on one for five days straight; by share times and stories and funny conversations and good discussions on the bus; by the people we met along the way who encouraged us in our work; and by our fellow staff who covered for us whilst we were gone and then heartily welcomed us back.

"Program Trip". Those two words are now packed with meaning: good memories, good friends, and the goodness of God.

Emily Sauder | Motor Skills Classroom | Drayton, ON



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08.03.04
JONAS & LEAH



Trina Weaver

ROBESONIA, PA
06.19.03
BRENDON & LUCILLE



Elliot Funk

GOSHEN, IN
04.06.04
TYLER & LILA



Chad Strite

HEPHZIBAH, GA
09.26.05
DUANE & JANICE



Lester & Miriam Swartzentruber

CHESAPEAKE, VA
JOSHUA, DIANE, MEGAN, MELISSA,
MONICA, JESSICA, JOSEPH, MELODY, DAVID
OAKRIDGE COTTAGE HOUSEPARENTS



Trevor Hofer

SLIGO, PA
01.25.03
TITUS & CAROL