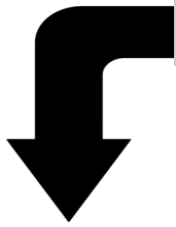


News Around the Corner

JANUARY 2026



Verse of the Month: Philippians 4:13

For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

As we begin 2026, we thank God for allowing us to continue the mission He has called us to. This fall, we focused on the Fruits of the Spirit by teaching, encouraging, and finding ways to strengthen and grow those qualities within us through Christ.

This winter and spring, we are shifting our focus from *what* the Fruits of the Spirit are and *how* we develop them to exploring the **Bible's role models and heroes** who live out those same qualities we spent the fall learning about.

THE 14TH AND CHESTNUT COMMUNITY CENTER'S MISSION IS TO BE A PARTNER WITH AND PROVIDE MINISTRY TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD AROUND THE CENTER IN ORDER TO ASSIST WITH A VARIETY OF SPIRITUAL, PHYSICAL, AND EDUCATIONAL NEEDS.

Visit our Website: 14CCC.org

Find us on Facebook: 14th and Chestnut Community Center



ONGOING NEEDS

(UPDATED DECEMBER 2025)

CLOTHES CLOSET:

- BOYS SIZES 6-14
 - GIRLS SIZES 6-16/18
 - GIRLS & BOYS UNDERWEAR ALL SIZES
 - JR/WOMEN CLOTHING SIZES 5-8
 - JR/MEN CLOTHING SM-LG
 - PAJAMAS & SOCKS FOR ALL KIDS
- **PLEASE KEEP IN MIND WE ARE SERVING CHILDREN/TEENS WHEN DONATING GENTLY USED CLOTHES**

GRUMBLING TUMMIES CAFÉ:

- #10 CANS FRUIT (NOT IN SYRUP)
- #10 CANS VEGGIES (PEAS, CARROTS, GREEN BEANS, CORN)
- #10 CANS MANWICH
- 100% FRUIT JUICES
- SHELF STABLE CONDAMENTS (RANCH, KETCHUP, MUSTARD, MAYO, JELLY/JAM)

MOMS MATTER: ANY GIFT A MOM MIGHT LIKE: LOTIONS/ PERFUMES, COOKING SPPLIES, GIFT CARDS FOR DINING OUT, OR LOCAL GROCERY STORES.

MERIT MART REWARD

SUGGESTIONS:

ROOM DECORATIONS, JEWELRY, LEGO SETS, HYGIENE PRODUCTS, PERFUMES/COLOGNES, PAINTS AND CANVASES, SCIENCE KITS, PLAYDOH/SLIME, SPORTS EQUIPMENT AND CANDY

MOTHER HUBBARD'S PANTRY:

- CEREAL
- FROZEN MEAT

BUILDING & GROUNDS:

- TOILET PAPER
- GENERAL CLEANING SPRAYS (LYSOL , 409, ETC.)

SEASONAL NEEDS & WANTS

PROGRAMMING:

- NINTENDO SWITCH GAMES
- CORN STARCH
- BAKING SODA
- GALLONS OF GLUE
- EPSOM SALT
- BALLOONS
- FOOD COLORING
- FLOUR
- VEGETABLE OIL
- BEAN BAG CHAIRS/ COZY FLEXIBLE SEATING FOR LIBRARY

GRUMBLING TUMMIES CAFÉ:

- CAKE/ BROWNIE MIXES
- FROSTING
- PIE FILLINGS
- GRAHAM CRACKERS
- VANILLA WAFFERS
- TEDDY GRAHAMS
- MARSHMALLOWS
- CRACKERS (ALL KINDS)
- CASES OF WATER

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT OF THE WORK WE DO AT THE CENTER! GOD IS USING YOU TO MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE IN THE CHILDREN, THEIR FAMILIES, AND EVEN THE STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS THAT COME THROUGH OUR DOORS. WE COULDN'T DO ANY OF IT WITHOUT YOU!



Reminder: Help Us Refresh Our Gym!

Last month, we highlighted one of the busiest—and loudest—spaces in our building: the gymnasium. If you missed it, no worries! Here is the call to action:

Our gym is a critical part of daily life here. It's where students are served meals and where they burn off energy through recreational activities. During the school year, students receive a snack upon arrival and dinner before departure; in the summer, they are served breakfast and lunch. The layout allows us to use half the gym for meals while the other half remains open for play, making it an incredibly versatile and well-used space.

The gym is also where we host seasonal family events, often centered around shared meals. Being able to expand table setups and welcome larger groups of students and families is a huge blessing for our community.

Because this space is used so heavily, the walls—especially around the basketball hoop—have taken quite a beating. The paint has chipped over the years and is now in need of serious attention. We are currently looking for an individual, group, or business willing to donate time, materials, or expertise to repaint our gym walls and help bring new life to this well-loved space. Our goal is to have the gym refreshed and ready in time for our summer program in June, so our students and families can enjoy a clean, bright, and welcoming space all season long.

A fresh coat of paint would go a long way in making the gym feel welcoming again for our students and families. If you or someone you know may be able to help, we would be incredibly grateful!



FAMILY SPOTLIGHT

Hello 14 and Chestnut Supporters,

My family started with just me and my firstborn. A few years later, our family grew when I met my forever love and his daughter—suddenly, two became four. Today, we have two more boys and have also opened our hearts and home to our niece through adoption. We are a strong and loving family, and each day we are growing deeper in our faith together.

My children have been attending the Center for over 15 years. I chose the Center because it is more than just a place for them to go—it is a safe, nurturing environment where they learn about God and are cared for, instead of being left to wander the streets. When my kids first started attending, we didn't have many challenges or big needs. But since COVID-19, it has become harder to keep up with the rising cost of everything. Some days, it is difficult to decide what bill to pay first or whether I can afford even small things that would bring joy to my children.

Through it all, the Center has been a blessing. I never feel judged there, and my children are never made to feel unwanted. Karsen, Laresha, and Miss Jeanie have always gone above and beyond for my babies, and I am so grateful for the love and care they continue to show our family. As a hardworking mother, I will do anything for my kids—and even for other children—but the Center has supported us in more ways than I can count. I know my children are safe when I have appointments or responsibilities, and I trust that they are being well cared for while they are there.

One of my most meaningful memories happened right after I had surgery. I wasn't able to prepare for Christmas that year, but just two days before Christmas, my home was filled with gifts for my entire family. My heart was overflowing with gratitude.

To the donors and supporters of the Center, thank you for making this mission possible. The holidays can be especially hard, and your generosity has helped carry us through difficult seasons. Because of you, my children have been able to enjoy experiences and moments of joy that I didn't always have growing up. I may not always be able to afford trips or even simple outings, but the Center provides my kids with fun, memories, and opportunities that mean the world to us.

Thank you for helping lift the burden for families like mine. We are forever thankful and grateful for your support.



With heartfelt thanks,
The Cooper Family

Our Journey to Crown the 2025 S.T.E.A.M. Challenge Champions

This fall, we launched our first-ever 12-week S.T.E.A.M. Challenge, designed to spark creativity, curiosity, teamwork, and problem-solving through hands-on learning and friendly competition. S.T.E.A.M.—Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math—guided every part of the journey as students worked together to explore, experiment, and have fun while enriching skills they have.

Each focus area followed a three-week cycle with two weeks of group exploration and one Common Challenge Week, where teams completed the same challenge and earned points in effort, knowledge, teamwork, and creativity.

Over 12 weeks, students tackled exciting challenges:

Science (Weeks 1-3): Teams wrapped up their science focus by making and testing different playdough recipes. — What a fun mess!

Technology & Engineering (Weeks 4-6): Groups built and tested houses designed to withstand simulated earthquakes and hurricanes. — The houses turned out really well with 10 of the 12 houses surviving with minimal damage!

Art (Weeks 7-9): Students worked together to create a collaborative art mural that showcased teamwork and creativity. — How cool to see the kids display their personalities in one work!

Math (Weeks 10-12): K-2 raced through a shapes scavenger hunt; they had 7 minutes to search and identify hidden cut out shapes in the gym. Each shape had points assigned and the group with the most points won. **Grades 3-5** competed in a math color-by-number challenge. We had each group identify three students to complete three different color by number math sheets. The first group to complete all three, won the challenge. **Grades 6+** went head-to-head in Integer War, a math twist on the classic card game. They battled girls v boys for 3 rounds.

After weeks of learning, building, creating, and competing, we are excited to announce our first-ever 2025 S.T.E.A.M. Challenge Champions...

THE K-2 GIRLS!!!!



PANCAKES WITH SANTA

Pancakes with Santa was a beautiful and joy-filled way to celebrate the Christmas season together. Our hearts are still SO full as we look back on a morning spent gathered around tables with our kids and families, sharing a warm breakfast, laughing together, and making memories that will last well beyond the holidays. Moments like these remind us just how special it is to create spaces where our families feel welcomed, loved, and celebrated!

We are incredibly grateful to Maryland Community Church, who so generously served our families by cooking and serving breakfast and bringing Santa to spend time with our kids. Their kindness and willingness to serve helped set the tone for a morning full of joy. The smiles, laughter, and excitement filling the building made it clear just how meaningful this event was for everyone involved!

Throughout the morning, our kids enjoyed coloring Christmas pages, working on activity sheets, and playing board and card games alongside friends and family. A special thank you to Madison from MuseArt for joining us and helping our kiddos create Christmas ornaments. Watching our students pour their creativity into something they could take home and treasure was such a sweet highlight of the day!

As we celebrate events like Pancakes with Santa, we are reminded that Christmas is ultimately about the birth of Jesus, the greatest gift of all! We are so grateful for the opportunity to share His love with our kids and families and to celebrate the true meaning of the season together.



Season of Giving: Thank You to Our Christmas Sponsors

The Christmas season would not be possible without the incredible generosity and support of our community. Year after year, we are overwhelmed by the way so many individuals, businesses, and organizations step in to help ensure our kids and families experience the joy, hope, and love that Christmas brings. We are so grateful for each person who played a part in making this season special for our students!

The **Terre Haute Firefighters Local 758** once again went above and beyond by sponsoring all of our students and purchasing a few items from each child's wish list. They arrived with a truck full of bags and generously helped carry and organize gifts for our kiddos. Their willingness to serve so joyfully was a beautiful reflection of Christ's love in action, and we are incredibly blessed by the care and generosity they consistently show our kids and families.

We are also incredibly grateful to **Books-A-Million** for hosting a toy and book drive for us again this year. They donated so many boxes of toys and books, and our kids absolutely loved them. We truly cannot thank you enough for your continued support and kindness.

We would also like to thank all of the local businesses and organizations that hosted a present barrel for us this Christmas season. Your willingness to provide a space for giving made such a meaningful impact for our kids:

South Kroger ~ Saratoga ~ Terminal ~ YMCA ~ Terre Haute Church of God ~ All four Starbucks locations ~ Sycamore Country Club ~ Rick's Smokehouse ~ 5/3 Bank on Poplar.

To everyone who took a child's name from a barrel, purchased items from a wish list, or donated presents to help make sure our kids had a joyful Christmas, THANK YOU. Your generosity helped ensure that every child felt seen, valued, and cared for this season.

We are also deeply thankful for the many groups and individuals who came to help us wrap presents. Your time, energy, and willingness to serve behind the scenes played a huge role in making Christmas possible for so many of our kids.

To everyone who supported us this season in any way, whether through giving, volunteering, praying, or encouraging our team, please know how grateful we are. None of this would be possible without you. Thank you for being part of our community and for helping us create memories that will last far beyond Christmas!



14th & Chestnut Community Center
1403 Chestnut Street
Terre Haute, IN 47807

JANUARY 2026

Return Service Requested



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 616
Terre Haute, IN

Help make a Difference in a Child's Life

Here are some more ways you can help out the Center:

Wills and Bequests—Gifts will be invested to insure quality services for youth in the future. Gifts can last a lifetime. Please consider us when making your final requests.

Memorial/Honor Gifts—Gifts made in memory of a deceased loved one or in honor of a family member or friend.

Miranda Harper Scholarship—Donations can be made to our Scholarship fund to help our students with college expenses.

In-kind Gifts—Gifts such as clothing, toiletries and household items can also be donated. For current list of needs, see pages 3 and 4.

Monetary Donations—Checks made payable to: 14th and Chestnut Community Center, 1403 Chestnut St., Terre Haute, IN 47807.

Endowment Fund—If you would like to contribute to our Endowment Fund through the Wabash Valley Community Foundation, contact the Center at 812-232-3126.

Kroger Community Rewards- go online to krogercommunityrewards.com and register your Kroger Plus card with our organization.

**14th and Chestnut
Community Center**
1403 Chestnut St.
Terre Haute, IN 47807
812-232-3126
Summer Program
Monday—Friday
9:00 am—1:30 pm
Breakfast served at 9:00 am
Lunch served at 1:00 pm
Food Pantry
Tuesdays 9:00 am—12:00 pm
Executive Director
Connor Scanlon
Director of Operations
Karsen Boyce
Director of Programming
Laresha Johnson