



Nurture Newsletter

December 2018/January 2019



Introducing...Mary Claire Fagan

Mary Claire is our newest co-teacher in the Lower Elementary room! Mary Claire was born and raised in Asheville. She attended Haw Creek Elementary and then Hanger Hall School for Girls. During those years, Mary Claire was regularly involved in community theater. In addition to her roles in the annual plays at Hanger Hall School, she also acted in numerous performances by the Asheville Performing Arts Academy. Major roles included a Bad Idea Bear in Avenue Q, Sebastian in Little Mermaid, and the starring roles in both Annie and Willy Wonka.

Mary Claire attended Asheville High – sort of. She spent her first few semesters there and was part of the student-run *a cappella* singing group. During her 4th semester, she attended Outdoor Academy, an accredited residential school in Brevard for high-achieving sophomores. In addition to completing her course requirements, Mary Claire also learned backpacking, climbing, canoeing, and wilderness leadership skills. Not quite ready to head back to Asheville High, Mary Claire spent her junior year in Belgium with Rotary Youth Exchange. She lived in Namur, the capital city of the Wallonia region in Belgium and honed her French-speaking skills. Mary Claire did return to Asheville High for her senior year, graduating last June. She is currently a full-time student at Warren Wilson College.

In addition to her travels around the U.S. and Europe with her family, Mary Claire has spent time in Honduras with her father, a physician who donates time to Shoulder to Shoulder. She also had the opportunity to spend about six weeks in India. She and a fellow Belgian exchange student spent time in Mumbai, Goa, New Delhi, and Dharamshala. She has a long list of places she would like to visit, including Romania and Cambodia, but highest on her list right now is Morocco.

Mary Claire has lots of interests, but her current hobbies are dancing (including ballet and contra dancing) and knitting. She also takes care of her bunny, Penellapea (yes it's spelled like that).

AHŠCKNYE

For the month of December, we are in AHŠCKNYE (Advent, Hanukkah, Solstice, Christmas, Kwanzaa, New Year's, Epiphany). Our theme this year is Angels, which means we'll be reading lots of angel stories and making various angel crafts. It's always fun to hear the kids' ideas about angels. If you've never asked the kids in your lives about angels, you should!

Dec. 9: Angel appears to Zechariah (Luke 1:12-17)

Dec. 16: Angel appears to Mary/Maryam (Luke 1:26-38 and Qur'an 16:19-27)

Dec. 23: Angel Appears to Shepherds (Luke 2:8-20)

Dec. 30: Visit from Wise Men & Angel Appears to Joseph in Dreams (Matthew 2: 13-22)

VIA CREATIVA

On Sunday, Jan. 6, we'll move into Via Creativa and this year's theme, "Dreamers." We'll work our way through the story of Joseph and his brothers, which is hugely popular with the kids. For the first few weeks, we'll focus on Joseph's dreams of greatness, Joseph being sold into Egyptian slavery, and the Prisoners' Dreams. We'll also have a couple of Movie Sundays along the way since there are several age-appropriate, animated versions of the story available.

Mary Claire Fagan (cont'd.)

Although Mary Claire very occasionally attended the Jubilee! middle school class and teen group, I will take credit for recruiting her a couple of months ago. I've known Mary Claire, and her co-teacher, Rene Jarus (who used to work in our Nursery) since they were tweens, and I'm really excited about the fresh energy in our Lower Elementary classroom. Mary Claire clearly has fun interacting with the kids, she brings a real joy to the classroom, and her playful attitude is super-infectious, so we're hoping she stays around for a while!

The Lower Elementary class consists of 1st, 2nd, and some 3rd graders. If you have questions about where you child/ren would be placed, don't hesitate to ask!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, Dec. 2 – Room in the Inn Mattresses Arrive

Please stay for a few minutes after the 1st Celebration to help set up the beds for the women who are part of the Room in the Inn program. It takes only about 20 minutes, and the more folks we have, the less time it takes. It's also a great opportunity for the young ones to be involved in community service.

Sunday, Dec. 9 – Cider, Cookies, and Tree Decorating – Between Celebrations

Everyone's invited to our tree-decorating party! We'll have hot cider, holiday treats, kids running around burning off excess sugar, and maybe some trimming of the tree. The Nurture Program AHSCKNYE theme is Angels, so we'll also have some new hand-made ornaments. Come join the fun!

Sunday, Dec. 9 – Nurture Program Holiday Book Drive

All new and gently-used books for kids are appreciated. See box below for details.

Saturday, Dec. 15 – Christmas Train – 3PM and 6PM

All aboard the Jubilee! Special Christmas Train! Meet Santa, Mrs. Claus, and the elves as they serve cocoa and cookies after the 30-min. ride. The open-air train leaves promptly from Craggy Mountain Line Railroad (111 N. Woodfin, off Merrimon), so dress appropriately and arrive on time! Cost: \$12; lap-riders are free. Pick up a flyer at the Welcome Table or downstairs in the Nurture/Nursery classrooms for info. on reserving your spot. And many thanks to Warren Harding for making this his Talent Project, so all proceeds will help keep people warm!

Sunday, Dec. 16 – Nurture Program Community Service – Between Celebrations

The Matthews family (Jane, Emily, and Sarah) helped our older Nurture Program kids craft some awesome holiday earrings! So stop by the Hospitality Room, pick up a few holiday gifts, make a donation to help keep people warm this winter, AND support our young Jubilants. You can also grab a cup of hot cider to go with your pancakes, brought to you by Terry Deal and Genevieve Fortuna!

Sunday, Dec. 16 – Nurture Program Holiday Book Drive

All new and gently-used books for kids are appreciated. See box below for details.

Monday Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Celebrations (Nursery open for 5PM service)

Jubilee! will offer two Candlelight services (5PM and 10PM). The Nursery will open at 4:30PM and accept kids up to the age of 10 (for this one night only).

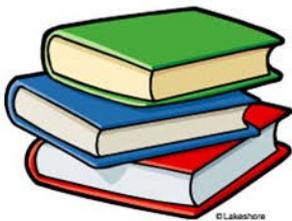
Sunday Dec. 30 – Visit to Urban Dharma – Upper Elementary Class

We'll continue our joint programming with Urban Dharma when our kids join their kids for a Buddhist story and meditation. We'll walk to Urban Dharma at 9:50 and return by the usual end of class.

Sunday, Jan. 6 – Middle School Community Service Sunday and Field Trip to SkyZone

This morning, the middle school class will meet from 9:45-10:45 to make take-home educational materials for older toddlers and preschool-aged kids as part of a United Way Portable Project. Then we'll head to SkyZone (1836 Hendersonville Rd., 28803) for 90 minutes of jump-time. Jubilee! will provide lunch. Cost: free. Pick-up is either at SkyZone at 1PM or at Jubilee! at 1:30PM.

SUPPORT OUR HOLIDAY BOOK DRIVE!!



We're collecting new and gently books to donate to the WNC Pop Project. Studies have shown that 61% of low income homes have NO age-appropriate books for the children in their homes. Books for young adults and multicultural books representing Hispanic and African American youth are especially needed. Collection boxes can be found both upstairs and downstairs. Questions? Contact Vicki at vicki@jubileecommunity.org. or 252-5335 VMB #2.