

HENDERSON HOLLERS

Fall 2023



Henderson Settlement

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PERMIT NO. 2

Thoughts from your Executive Director:

Hello. Did you know that a happy heart makes the face cheerful? In fact it goes on to say in Proverbs 15 that: “a cheerful look brings joy to the heart, and good news gives health to the bones”. Both of those Scriptures are what I want to try and express. Grace and peace to you from God the father and from the Lord Jesus



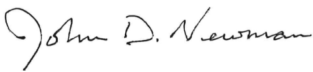
Christ! Everyone here at Henderson Settlement hopes that you have had an incredible summer and plenty of moments in your life to smile about. God has been so good to us as many of you have come and seen us and supported us by the sacrifice of your praise to God. All of you have brought joy to the heart which has given so many a reason to smile.

I cannot help but think of the kid’s song that says: ‘when you’re happy and you know it then your face will surely show it’. Every person that I remember, I remember with a smile. Even though I could choose a different picture to frame in my mind, my memories of the people that have been in my life are with them having a happy face. Do not get me wrong I gave my earthly dad plenty of reasons to frown (and perhaps several of my teachers as well). But I will tell you without a doubt the smiles are the only thing I remember. I hope and pray the smiles are what my children and grandchildren remember. I know if God has my picture on his fridge, I sure hope he took one of me smiling.

I think of children smiling and adults filled with joy as they worked and played and worshiped here this year. I remember smiling when a teenager had more paint on their clothes than on the walls. I remember seeing pictures of Jerry dancing and Tammy sliding down the inflatables with kids of all ages. I recall Chris smiling because he was done baling hay that day and I recall seeing Brittaney smiling when she told me her son was baptized. I remember and I will not forget when Dora received her

oversized key from the work team that helped finished building her home. I remember when many of you were first saying hi at the beginning of the week and I remember when you left and said 'see you later'. I remember... Do you remember what has brought joy to be seen on your face? I want you to know that the simple fact you are reading this letter has brought joy to my heart and a smile to my face. By helping us help others, You bring the possibilities of creating happy hearts that results in a smiling face. I pray that your smiling face is a true reflection of the joy that God has poured in to you and invested in you as HIS minister!

Love You with the Love of the Lord,



John Newman, Executive Director



How Can We Partner Together

- Prayer
- Physical Presence
- Financial Assistance
- Praise to God

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Staff Spotlight

Work Camp does an incredible job of helping with Community Home Repairs and Campus building and repair throughout the year.

Volunteers spend time, money, and a witness for Christ to accomplish that. However, those projects don't just pop up or determined at the last minute. We have a wonderful individual named Harry Jennings that is our projects coordinator. Applications from the community and campus requests come to the work camp office and those are given to Harry



to visit community homes and campus locations in order to evaluate what can be done. Once he does that he determines a material list to accomplish each job and then prices the material for each of those to arrive at a project cost. He will then hand draw a map to the community home to give to each group that adopts a project. That alone is a big job and he accomplishes that in a 3 to 4 month time frame. But the job doesn't end there. Once a job is adopted and a group is less than a week away from arrival, he orders the materials for each job or physically goes to get them himself. Some weeks can have 20 to 30 different projects going on at the same time. An overwhelming task for one person. He then explains those jobs, answers questions, gives instructions, does site visits, and halfway through that week begins prep for the upcoming week. And he does it with a calm and ease and efficiency that few could pull off. Harry is the backbone of Work Camp and if you have ever been here you quickly learn that. We are grateful and Blessed to have him on our staff.

Harry is a lifelong resident of the Frakes area and has worked at Henderson Settlement for 25 years. He began as a projects assistant and when the coordinator job opened up it was an easy decision to move him into the position. He has a quick wit and a joy to be around. What many folks don't know is his talent for wood carving. He has a long history of having items in the Craft Shop here at the Settlement until he got so busy he wasn't able to do much carving and wood work. He has been featured in the past in a magazine about wood working and attended multiple exhibits with his work. A man of many talents certainly describes Harry Jennings very well. If you visit, stop by the work shop and express your appreciation for his dedication and hard work. He deserves it!

Volunteer Spotlight

A recent sermon titled “What it means to be a blessing”, stated that blessings work two ways. We can bless others and also be blessed. I thought of Henderson Settlement and our recent experiences. We were blessed as Henderson Settlement blessed the community of Frakes. The atmosphere of the Henderson Settlement is a caring Community.

We arrived in Henderson Settlement on March 9th excited and ready for an adventure. We were not disappointed. The very next day was an all-staff meeting. This gave us a great overview of the ministry and the departments where employees worked. We learned right away the emphasis executive director John Newman has on prayer. Prayer is important to the Christian journey it was refreshing start to our time at Henderson Settlement.



The first week Ed settled into work in the tool shed where he met Al a volunteer who would be there for 6 weeks and began working on organizing the supplies. Ed also helped with various items around campus that needed assistance. He replaced swings on the playground. He cut out signs for the ball field. He helped move furniture in the youth offices. He served as hands and feet in many ways.

I spent the first week exploring the campus and finding areas in need of extra hands. During that first week I worked in the greenhouse and I also spent time in the food pantry packing food boxes and helped to load boxes for pickup. I got hooked on the afterschool program and when a staff person moved on to a new job I stepped in and helped with the after-school program, cleaning, helping to prepare, planning, and just being present.

We were able to spend 10 weeks in Frakes, this allowed us the opportunity to see amazing ministry happening and be a small part of the process. The needs in this community are great as are the opportunities to give and serve.

2023 Community Home Build is Complete!!

On August 24th we held a home blessing and completed the 40th home build in the community. It was an emotional and rewarding time to once again be a part of a life changing event for a community family. We know that Dora and her son Marty will enjoy this home for a long time.

This year's build began in early May for 2 weeks, then July for 2 weeks and finally the last 2 weeks of August to complete the build. Sixty volunteers participated in this years build and we send a multitude of thanks and appreciation to each of them for being part of this. We had people from Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Wisconsin, Florida, and Georgia (if I missed one I apologize) make up the total of participants. We also give our appreciation to Harry Jennings and Tim Lambdin for the roles they played as staff in coordinating the build and Jessica Partin in the Work Camp office for her scheduling and coordination. Most importantly we praise God for enabling everyone that participated and supported the build to succeed.

We are still short on fully covering the materials cost for the build and any donations to assist that are appreciated and needed. If your donation puts us over the cost we will apply that to the 2024 Home Build. If you wish to donate contact us by phone or email and we can assist you in doing so. If interested in being a part of the 2024 build contact Jessica at 606-337-3613 extension 314.



Summer Rec Goes to Ripley's Aquarium

Henderson Settlement's Youth Development department has been blessed with a wonderful summer! We spent 8 weeks in Summer Recreation where we learned and grew in God's love together. At the end of the summer we had the opportunity to provide a field trip to the Ripley's Aquarium in Gatlinburg TN. Fifty six children ages four to twelve years old attended this field trip. For most of the children, this was the first time they had seen sea life and watching their faces light up was truly a blessing. Several hours were spent seeing every single fish, jelly fish, crab, and shark. The children were amazed at the size of animals they had only ever seen in books or movies before. Summer Recreation has been a special time every year and we pray that it has had an impact on the children who participate. We cannot thank our supporters enough for helping to make this possible.



After School Program Begins

In September the After School Program will begin. This year we will be spending four evenings per week with children from the Frakes School Center and Clairfield Elementary School. Students from kindergarten through eighth grade will attend. Henderson Settlement Youth Development staff will be picking up participants from school at the end of the school day, transporting them to the Youth Center, and then taking them to their homes at the end of the program. We spend two hours with the children doing devotions, bible lessons, snacks, homework help, and structured activity time. The time we get with these students is so precious as it allows us the opportunity to spend time in in both bible study and homework study ensuring that the children have support in growing spiritually and educationally.

Summer Feeding

Our summer backpack feeding program was a great success with help from Feeding God's Children. The youth development staff distributed 85 food bags to community children each week. Each bag was filled with healthy easy to prepare meals that helped bridge the gap of food insecurity during the summer. Along with the backpack program, we were able to participate in the summer feeding program that offered two nutritious meals to any child ages one to eighteen. Thanks to our kitchen staff children received a hot breakfast and a hot lunch at no charge in our dining hall four days a week. During June and July we fed 1,800 breakfasts and 1,920 lunches. We are so thankful and blessed to be able to offer this ministry to our children.



You are the God Sighting...

It's never easy when you say goodbye and yet it is something that happens here at Henderson Settlement almost every day. This year has had many challenges and yet with the many challenges we have been fortunate to see God show up over and over again and do what is necessary through and for His people. The God sighting that we want to highlight this time is **YOU!** It is so remarkable and such a privilege when we are actually allowed to recognize Jesus walking into our presence through the people we are blessed to get to know. Every week so many of you walk into our lives on Sunday evening or Monday morning only to say goodbye on Friday or Saturday later in the week. On top of all of that many of you call or write and send donations in the mail because Christ lives in you. Over and over again we see Christ in our partners and this place would not be this place without you. We always hope you'll come back to the holler and we always pray that you'll visit us soon, but with Christ we will see each other again.

The good news is with Jesus Christ in our relationships, we don't truly say goodbye.

We just say... "See You Later".



Just One More Thought...

Every once in a while Folks stay around a little bit longer than a week. There are some that might stay for two weeks or two months or they might even go back home pack all their stuff and move down here because God is calling them to this place. This year we have had a young couple stay for two months and get some college credits along with life experiences. We have had a retired couple that have ministered many places come here and stay a couple months and share their talents. We have someone from Texas here and bless us with her heart for mission. We have had so many of you come here and bless us by listening to what God is asking them to do for our community. This place would not be the same place without their touch.



And then there is the wonderful Staff. This year we have had some employees move on from this place like Jackie, Missy, and Hagon who have blessed us by sharing their abilities to help the ministry. We hope and pray the very best for them. Another employee that is moving on is Brittaney, and many of you know her. The blessing that she brings to this ministry since at least June of 2017 is her heart for the ministry, as well as her knowledge and wisdom. That being said, we are sad that she is going, but we are happy for her opportunity to better herself and stay obedient to doing what God is calling her to do. We personally hope and pray the very best for her as well and for her family. We believe that their future will continue to be promising and she knows that this place will always be another “home away from home”!



**“Creating Opportunities For Better Lives
Through Christ Centered Service”**

**My little children, let us not love in word,
neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.**

1 John 3:18

Ways we can serve you:

Volunteer

- ◆ We can serve you as you serve others.
- ◆ Come for the day or stay for the week.
- ◆ Groups from 1-100 people.
- ◆ Volunteer on campus or adopt a community project.

Guest

- ◆ We can serve you as you are on a retreat.
- ◆ Come for the day, a weekend, or week.
- ◆ Groups from 1 - 100 people.
- ◆ Have a retreat for yourself, your family, your work, or your church.

RV camping - Dorm Accommodations – Private Housing

Nightly rates available.

For details and reservations please contact:

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Jerry Lambdin - (606) 337-3613 ext.315 or by email at: vimdir@hsumc.org