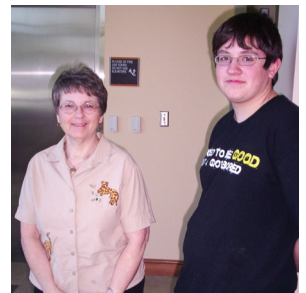




Congratulations, Vickie!

We are so excited that she is enjoying her retirement days.

"Vickie's legacy of service, compassion, and peacemaking will continue to shape this agency for years to come."



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“Will You Commit?”

Jim Powell, Executive Director



At the beginning of each new calendar year, the Development Department, in conjunction with the other administrators, chooses a theme, or word, to guide each of us as we develop written communications to our supporters. This year we have decided to use the word “Commit” as we write articles, appeal letters, thank-you receipts, etc.

Commit is really a very unusual word. A quick word search revealed something to me that I had never given much thought to. Most of the uses of the word “commit” had a negative connection, relating to sin, wrong doing, or something evil. I sense that the majority of people apply the word “commit” as I always have, as a gauge for loyalty, such as being committed to a specific mission, cause, or relationship. But the Psalmist David reveals another facet of the word “commit”, as he reminds us that God will not forsake His own. He wrote, “Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him, and He will act.” (Psalm 37:5)

David challenges each of us to “roll everything concerning our life onto the Lord.” The concept is to take anything, and everything that is too heavy for you, and place it squarely on God. Everything regarding the manner in which we live, including choices we make about a path or direction, plans we hope to accomplish, everything, must be committed to the Lord! Then David follows that thought by saying, “trust in Him, and He will act!”

A great example of this challenging concept happened today as I was struggling with what to write in this message. Vickie Terhune, our recently retired school principal, came in today to spend several hours working in the Development Department to help them get caught up from the end-of-the-year details. Why would she do something like that? The answer is because she has “committed her way to the Lord!” I know without a doubt that she is committed to Shults-Lewis, but more than that, her life is a living testament to her commitment to serve God, and she sees this ministry, and the kids we serve, as just that!!!

I want to personally thank each and every one of you who continue to support the mission of Shults-Lewis through financial donations, prayer, volunteering on campus, and so many other avenues. Please continue to spread the word that we are seeking faithful couples who are committed to God’s leading in their lives, to join our family as houseparents. We are also in need of a certified Math or Science teacher looking to begin a career in teaching.

My prayer for 2017 is that we can all “commit” ourselves to God, and trust fully that He will act in our behalf to fulfill His purposes! Blessings to you all.

For Christ and the kids,

James Terhune, stepped down as part-time school secretary in December. James’ compassion and willingness to help others is already missed. James always stepped up and helped with sound equipment at all of our events and became the Box Top King while he was here. He will be missed, but since he is staying local, we plan to call upon him for many projects in the future.

Taking James’ position in the school is Imani Davis. Imani is the daughter of our History teacher. Imani has a wonderful positive attitude and volunteer spirit. She has worked in various positions on campus and we are excited that she has accepted this new role.



Latest Developments

Beth Frump, Director of Development
bethfrump@shultslewis.org

There's a card game I play with some friends that is sort of mix between Rummy and Phase 10. The object of the game is to get groups and runs, in various combinations, each hand. Many times I find myself with a decision of which card to let go, in hopes that just the right card will fall to me. And as my friends will tell you, I will start to discard, pull back, start again, pull back, and then usually the words, "I'm not very good at commitment" will come out of my mouth. I enjoy the game win or lose, yet the struggle of which combination of cards to "commit to" sometimes is nerve wracking.

So when "Commit" became the chosen theme for 2017, my joking declaration of being "not very good at commitment" really began to become an opportunity for me for this year.

There are many areas of my life which my commitment is strong. I am completely committed in my faith and trust in God. I'm fully committed to being the best Development Director I can be, for the kids and for you.

But are there areas where I could have a stronger commitment? Absolutely.

Are there areas where you could make a stronger commitment?

And we all know that I'm going to ask more specifically about going deeper with your commitment to our ministry. Many of you do SO much for us and I am so humbled and grateful for that. I truly thank God daily for you, but can we consider some ways to push a little farther in 2017...

Have you ever been to campus, actually seen the missionaries you support, met the kids? Have you ever considered volunteering some time on campus, or sharing your career or hobby with the kids?

Have you ever been to **Annual Day, our Open House**?

Have you pre-planned your financial support for the kids this year? Have you thought about your pledge for our upcoming **Phone Campaign**?

Did you know that when you commit to give monthly to the children, at whatever level fits your budget, that you will not receive the annual "fundraising" letters or phone calls during the Phone Campaign and that you receive a special **Helping Hand Update** every month?

Have you started thinking about who your foursome will be on Friday, June 16th for the **Golf Tournament**?

Have you marked July 30th on your calendar as the **Day of Prayer & Giving** for Shults-Lewis? Do you pray for our kids and staff? Do you send e-mails/notes to encourage the staff and children? Have you met with your financial advisor and considered leaving a legacy of hope for the children at Shults-Lewis? When's the last time you invited Jim Powell to give an update to the congregation or me to give an update to the women's classes?

Is it possible that you are our much needed staff member? I often get asked about why we have so few kids on campus. The honest truth—lack of staff. There are at least 12,000 people with this newsletter in their home right now. Yet, we are still in desperate need of houseparents, a Math teacher, and even some secretarial/assistant positions. Please do not glance over that. In fact, let me say it again, we are still in desperate need of staff. There are families, many in our home congregations, who are waiting in line for help. And the only reason we cannot give them the help they need is because we don't have the houseparents fill the homes.

I can almost hear the "I can't possibly do that job"s resounding as you read that. It circles me back to the first question—have you been on our campus? For over 60 years, we have served children and families not because houseparents came with doctorate degrees in raising kids, but because couples and families, said, "I'll try". I already know you care about children and want them to have hope for a future. That's where it all begins. Pray about it (we are definitely praying for you!!!). Come visit. Commit to encourage others to come visit. If you can't fully commit, commit to try. "Showing up" is sometimes the hardest part.



Congratulations
to Matthew & Janine French,
the 2016 Board of Trustees
Award winner and to
Shirely Bacus for the
2016 Service to Children Award.





I stared at a blank screen for a very long time because I simply do not have the words to convey my admiration, respect, and love that we all have for Vickie Terhune. I thought about sharing the Proverbs 31 woman which describes her perfectly. My Bible is open to 1st Corinthians 13, what we call the "Love Chapter", and every description of love defines Vickie. Deep in thought and trying to gather my words, a little 10 year-old came into my office and said, "Now that Ms. Vickie is gone, who is going to help me?". Tears still filled my eyes as I simply responded, "I'm asking the same question."

Vickie came to Shults-Lewis back in 1991 as a Math teacher and retired December 31, 2016 as Math Teacher and Principal. Vickie always had a special bond with every

student that came into her classroom. If you ever visited her classroom, it was plastered with pictures of kids from her years of service. Through Math, she taught life skills and shared her faith in God to thousands of students.

As Principal, she filled the school with excitement with her yearly themes and activities. She encouraged students, who came to us with failing grades, to dream about college and future careers. If you are a Facebook friend of Vickie's, you'll see the hundreds of kids who stay in touch with their precious "Mrs. Terhune-y".

As an Administrator, she led by being a servant to all. Beyond her official school duties, she would fill in at homes when

From My Heart to Yours

Angela Robertson, Program Director

I cannot believe 2016 is over and we have begun another new year. We saw many changes in 2016, both with staff and with our program itself. And although change is hard for almost everyone, it is also inevitable; life continues to move forward. We can choose to move forward or we can choose to stay stagnant. But remember what a stagnant pool of water looks like? It is dark, murky and dirty, not going anywhere. I know that is not the way I want to be and doubt there are many others who would choose that way.

We have been blessed to work in a Christian environment and have an everyday "job" in service to Christ. I have worked in this service for 16 years in several different capacities. However, I must admit my working with the residents as therapist and now as Program Director has been the most challenging and also the most rewarding. I am committed to this ministry. I am committed to making Shults-Lewis the very best residential treatment facility it can be. I don't want to be stuck in stagnant, murky water; I want to travel in clean, clear water and I want to have our residents and

staff right there with me.

Shults-Lewis has many needs as we begin this new year. One of our greatest needs is staff. We need houseparents to help take care of these kids and to be willing to be Christian examples in their lives. It is pretty difficult to admit kids into placement when we don't have houseparents to oversee them in the homes! As of this writing, we have one boys' home and one girls' home open; we have one set of relief houseparents. We have seven residential homes available, which means we have four homes sitting empty, just waiting for people to answer the call for help to care for teens. I ask that everyone search their hearts and ponder seriously if this is something you could do. Pray for God's guidance in your life. Commit to helping us in this important ministry. You won't be alone.

May God Bless all of you in this new year.



School Happenings

Mike Zandstra, Interim Principal

Hello! My name is Mike Zandstra and for those that may not know me, please allow me introduce myself. I have been working at Shults-Lewis since 2008 in various roles such as a houseparent in two homes, the science teacher and now have the added roles of math teacher and Interim Principal.

Thank you for still saving and sending us the Box Tops for Education. These are what allow us to help the kids and provide various activities for them so please continue to save the Box Tops, watching the dates on them and sending them in. The Campbell's soup Labels for Education is discontinued.

Please continue to pray for the children and families we serve. Also for our school as we are looking for a math teacher. If you or someone you know is interested in this blessed mission work please contact us to learn more. There is additional information about this position and others in this Telegram.

I look forward to meeting you during Annual Day, with visiting groups and congregations and other events.





Thanks, Vickie

By Beth Frump

needed, travel with Development, lovingly working behind the scenes, late at night, and through the weekends to ensure that she had "done what she could".

My sophomore year of High School, I was struggling with Geometry (apparently, you really did need to take notes during class, who knew?!). Frustrated with my homework, I came over to campus and Vickie stayed after hours to help me through it. Staff kids (just like the aforementioned 10 year-old) knew that Vickie's door was always open for help.

Her door was also open to listen to non-academic problems. She spent many days listening, sharing her wisdom, and helping kids, staff, staff children, and friends. I was blessed to

have her tutor me through Geometry, to work for her as school secretary, to serve alongside her as an Administrator, but even more blessed to call her friend.

We are so excited that she is enjoying her retirement days. We will be more excited when she starts visiting, with her amazing sugar cookies in hand. Vickie has already begun doing some volunteer work and we are thankful that she is forever a part of this ministry.

She is missed daily, but Vickie's legacy of service, compassion, and peacemaking will continue to shape this agency for years to come.



THANK YOU for the Christmas gifts, yummy treats, and visits

Current Ministry Opportunities

Shults-Lewis Child and Family Services, a residential facility providing therapeutic services located in Valparaiso, Indiana, ministering to children and families in the Midwest, is accepting resumes for the following positions:

House Parent

If you hear the call of teenagers that are struggling with their lives, and if you are ready to play a role in forever changing those lives, consider the position of House Parent at Shults-Lewis Child and Family Services.

The House Parent applicants should meet the following minimum requirements:

- Faithful member of the Church of Christ • Strong passion for the mission of Shults-Lewis • A high school diploma, preferably some experience working with teenagers • Couples should be married at least 3 years • Good organizational skills • Valid driver's license • Be able to provide spiritual leadership to teen residents • Works well with others

Secondary Mathematics Teacher

The applicants should meet the following minimum requirements:

- Faithful member of the Church of Christ • Strong passion for the mission of Shults-Lewis • Preferred: State Certified for 7-12th grades

All positions offer Health Insurance and Retirement Package

If you have any questions or would like to send a resume, please contact Jim Powell, Executive Director, at 800-462-0513, ext 222 or jimpowell@shultslewis.org

HONORS & REMEMBERS...

HONORS

Our Lord

Willie & Janet Taylor

My 11 Adopted Grandchildren

Christine Miller

Bonnie Anderson

Marc Anderson

Samantha Bass

Happy Birthday!

James & Patrice Bass, Jr.

Marion Beals

Susan Stearsman

Mark BuBolz

Hebrews 13:17

Dr & Mrs Phillip Vermillion

Joe Burleson

*For being a Christian example
to your teams for 50 years!*

Gerald & Phyllis Frump

Sheilla Davis

For your many years of service!

Bruce Chelf

Matthew & Janine French

Their dedicated service!

James 1:27

Marty & Debby Birk

Dan & Shannon Boren

Gerald & Phyllis Frump

Jim & Ruth Maxwell

Shirley Funston

Happy Birthday!

Randy & Terri Brown

Jan Hathaway

Bob & Linda Jones

Jeremy & Jennifer Kaldobsky

Bernice Myers

Nancy Truex

Sonny & Joye Girdley

Merry Christmas!

Jeanne Kilgore

Sam Harley

Hebrews 13:17

Dr & Mrs Phillip Vermillion

Florence Marlow

For being a great Grandma!

Ryan Weaver

Drew McGinness

For your inspirational message!

Christopher & Beth Underwood

Jesse Alan Stewart

Sarah Yoakum

Vickie Terhune

Happy retirement!

Gerald & Phyllis Frump

Rob & Sheri Salley

MEMORIALS

Staci Curtis Adams

Maureen Curtis

Jeffrey Alexander

Gretchen Bleicher

Bonnie Babb

Jim & Mary Anne Watters

Denise Barker

Randy Barker

Rita Darlene Barker

Charles & Kathleen Barker

Reuben Barnes

Don & Mary Jane Baugh

Lucy Benham

Robert & Jackie Benham

Ginny Blanquart

Kevin & Kara Vick

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Bob Bolinger

Emma Jones

Mark Bolinger

Emma Jones

Larry Bouman

Martha Bouman

Kieth Bowers

Jim & Mary Anne Watters

Vernon Boyd

Alice Boyd

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Ruby Pierce
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Hazel Park Church of Christ
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Robert & Beverly Stanger
Jim & Kathy Stone

Summer Nicole Quinn
Martha Bouman

Gail Reeves
Robert Reeves

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Ray Romig
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Meredith Schug
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bethfrump@shultslewis.org

Thank you for helping the children and their families through the ministry at Shults-Lewis.