

# MUSTARD TREE NEWS



**MUSTARD TREE MINISTRIES**  
 a ministry of First-Centenary United Methodist Church  
*Working to eradicate homelessness and poverty one life, one community at a time — here and around the world.*

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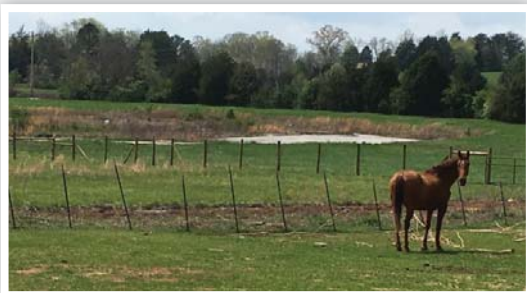
[www.mustardtreeministries.org](http://www.mustardtreeministries.org)

If you would like to make a donation to support Mustard Tree Ministries, make your check payable to Mustard Tree Ministries and mail to PO Box 4002, Chattanooga, TN 37405.

**MTM Regular Weekly Activities**

- Wednesday Lunch Downtown Chattanooga
- Thursday at First Baptist Church Chattanooga – The fellowship hall is open at 5 p.m. for a meal and time of worship with Barry.
- Sunday at First-Centenary UMC Breakthrough Worship  
 Worship at 5 p.m. and a meal following.

## The Farm



Mustard Tree has many chickens that roam around free range. They have about 40 chickens of different breeds that lay about 36 eggs total every day. The eggs are brown, white, blue, or tan in color and are delicious to eat. There is one rooster in the bunch that keeps the ladies in line! For every dozen they sell they give a dozen to someone in need.



### Homemade Soap

Kathleen Kidwell has begun to perfect this art and she is planning to sell it. Goat milk soap is a great organic product for your skin.

### Tractor Repair Needed

Mustard Tree Farm's tractor is in need of repair. Can you help with this need? They need to plow the fields



### Future Site of Several Tiny Houses

They will be built around this cul-de-sac on the Mustard Tree Ministries land on 9125 Snow Hill Road in Ooltewah, TN. They will sit on a beautiful piece of land right next to the farm.



Mustard Tree Farm does petting zoo events for different activities. They have 2 goats, 2 bunnies and a chicken that go on these trips. This provides a way to be with the community and share God's creation. It is another way of bringing in funds as well. In order to give, you must have the means to make it happen and God is opening doors for Mustard Tree to give so much through this farm.

### First-Centenary Youth Group Work Day at The Farm

They are starting to prepare the raised garden beds for planting.





# Breakthrough Worship

## What is Breakthrough Worship? ...Inner City Poor

This is how to describe the congregation of the Mustard Tree Breakthrough Worship Service on Sunday nights at First-Centenary.

This congregation consists of those who are homeless, living in low income housing, living in tents, and just regular working folks from all walks of life. This is a very diverse congregation that finds a home and a bond in which they share the love of Jesus through fellowship and worship together.

They begin worship at 5 p.m. and communion is served each week. A meal and fellowship is enjoyed after the worship service.



## Hola familia de FCUMC

Thanks to you *El Día de Alegría* was wonderful! The volunteers who gave their time and donations made it possible to kick off what will be a long term outreach for our church family.

Through this special day, we were blessed with many of our very own such as the praise team singing in Spanish! We were honored to include two former First-Centenary alumni: Daniel Perez, led worship and sang in Latin. Also, Areli Solorzano spoke from her heart about how being "raised" at FCUMC impacted her entire life. Both are impacting the Hispanic community in great ways!

The Hispanic families that were present were thrilled to receive wonderful gifts of clothing and groceries. And just like the fishes and loaves, we had enough leftover to send to a Hispanic church in Highland Park who was in great need of food.

"Muchas gracias" to Becky Miller, a full time UTC student/intern, along with her mighty LOFT team.



Barry and Troy Hamilton visited Romania in preparation for First-Centenary's youth mission trip this summer.



## Article from the Newsletter of the Kids Day Center at Light to Light United Methodist Church in Sibiu, Romania



Meet this little and thin girl, Claudia. She will be 10 years old this year, in July. She was born in a happy family, legally

formed by marriage. She loves math and excels at the school, being the first in her class. She is joyful, optimist, opened and talkative. She shows respect towards others and loves to be involved in activities.

Unfortunately, two years ago, her mother was diagnosed with cancer. The father hardly tried to keep up with all the expenses for his wife's medical care. Few months after the death of his wife, the father got sick and suffered a surgery that forced him to quit his job and stay home. He lives now from the social help he gets from the state (which is under the limit of surviving). Exhausted at the end of the day :) He is struggling financially, but he does his best to take proper care of his daughter and his desire is to continue to help her maintain high grades.

Though his daughter is brilliant in

school, he cannot afford anymore to pay for the afterschool's program offered by school, where Claudia was getting extra school work, so he gave up that program. We found out about Claudia and her situation from a social worker that tried to help the family. Before this, we tried to get contact with the school, but the director said, they can manage all the children they have so the school doesn't need our services in this moment". Sadly, we found out, that the schools in Sibiu do not want the "free afterschools" because they lose the income of their own offer, which they impose even on the social cases, putting a bigger burden on them.

We clearly see the hand of God with Claudia and her family through all this struggle. And true is His word, God indeed is working out all the things good. Though the school was against any partnership with us, God was for us and we got to know Claudia anyway.

She is now coming to our center and she is very excited! And we hope, someday, she will get to know the One who has done her so much good!