

#### From the desk of the director

I am sitting in the quiet of Christmas Eve, in the building alone and I can't help but reflect on the past year. It has been a big one!

It got me thinking about where it all began. It all started with lunch between friends. Ryan and I have always had dreams, big dreams. Where do we fit in to the lives of the youth in our community? What can we do to make a difference for them? How do we go about it? Where do we start? From that lunch, One Step Ministries was born!

In July of 2016 One Step Ministries became official and Ryan and I began focusing on the next steps. Eventually, we both quit our full time jobs to put all of our energy into the non profit.

Since then, we have established a board of directors which includes our teacher representative, Ms. Kim, and our parent representative, Leighann Doucet whose son is in the Blue Jay class. We are working towards partnering with churches to provide teen centers in the community as well as mentorship for youth who are aging out of the foster care system.

Most excitingly, we were given the amazing gift of this school and all of your wonderful children! I could not have dreamed that things would have worked out the way that they did, but God's plan is always bigger than mine.

On February 22nd, we will hold our 3rd annual Even the Odds Casino Night to raise money for One Step and Nature's Path Academy. We would love for you to join us and bring your friends. If you would like more information, come see Ryan or I or you can check out our web site at One-stepministries.org and click on the events button.



### **BIRTHDAYS**

JaQuan 1/11 Immanuel 1/19 Corey 1/20 Evelyn 1/31

# **Upcoming Dates**

1/1/2020 School Closed 2/17 School Closed/Staff Day



We reached our level 1 goal on Giving
Tuesday! This will allow us to improve our
outside area with bins for outside toys, sandboxes, and other activities for the children to
enjoy while exploring nature



Already have an Amazon account? Go to www.smile.amazon.com, use your current user name and password and choose One Step Ministries. Every eligible purchase will send money to your child's school.



Starting in January, you can support Nature's Path with your everyday spending. Shop with scrip is a way for families to help the school raise extra funds. It is easy and takes only a few minutes. Sign up, pick where you shop, go shopping! That is all it takes. Keep an eye out for an email containing the information you need to sign up and get started.

## Referrals

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We have great news! When you refer your friends to Nature's Path Academy, we will give you a \$50.00 credit on your account once they enroll. We can advertise, but the best way for our school to grow is by word of mouth. If you need some business cards or flyers, come see me and I will be happy to give you some to share.



One Step Ministries will be partnering with Heritage UMC to provide breakfast for the community members who will come to the food pantry. Various groups will volunteer to help prepare and serve the food. The pantry is open the 2nd Saturday of each month. If you would like to help with this important outreach, contact Ryan at exec.directo@onestepministries.org.