

Apostle Church is venturing into a new undertaking! Our large building and beautiful space can be better served by serving others. Read below about "Shared Journeys" and you will understand why Apostle has taken this bold step to help our students to become adults, seeking life with a purpose for themselves and their children.

If you would like to help with any kind of support: prayers, time, talents or treasures, please contact Apostle Church at 414-476-2043. We would be so grateful for your kindness and love shown towards these students who just need a chance to succeed.

When the Session of Apostle learned what Shared Journeys charter school was all about, we took the opportunity to hold a very successful rummage sale on their behalf. It also made the session think about how we could help them by providing a much larger school space for them, also providing an Infant Lab (child care), which they currently do not have. The kids in the charter school all have a child. Currently that child is with the student all the time. There is no child care (Infant Lab) provided to the students where they are currently located. It is hard to study with a child in your lap. Yet these kids have a 100% graduation rate!

Shared Journeys is a charter school within the West Allis-West Milwaukee School District whose mission statement is *"To provide expectant and school-aged parents an opportunity to complete a high school education, encouraging strong parenting, healthy lifestyles and building post-secondary skills through a supportive community and innovative learning environment."* The Dean of Students and lead teacher is Lisa Colla. Currently, the program is located in the lower level of a building at 9004 West Lincoln, in a space that is donated by Aurora Medical Center.

Pastor Cathy Manthei has a strong connection to Shared Journeys and she will be happy to tell you her very personal story as to why she is very involved at Shared Journeys.

Shared Journeys has 100% student graduation rate. The students also enjoy a 95% average daily attendance rate, which is much above the district average. Another key piece for Shared Journeys is the poverty rate. While the median household income for the State of Wisconsin is \$52,738, the median income for West Allis is \$44,475. It is estimated that between 14-16% of our student population are homeless. Can you imagine being a teenager, having a baby and being homeless?

The school district provides the salary for Mrs. Colla but that is all. The rest of the program comes from generous private support as well as many community partners. Aurora Health Systems pays their rent.

To be a mentor, please call Mrs. Colla at 414-328-6535. We are always looking for strong, positive mentors for our students. Training is provided.

Or, you might want to be a community, business, or academic partner.

If interested, please contact Mrs. Colla at 414-328-6535. We are always looking for community partners. Many of our students job shadow, volunteer, are seeking

employment and are in need of a tutor. We work closely with many local businesses which support our endeavors on a regular basis.

Apostle Church thanks you for reading about and supporting this worthwhile mission. Your prayers, time, talents and treasure are all very valuable as we move forward this spring, moving Shared Journeys into their new space here at Apostle Church.