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Servants to the Children's Home

Nancy Oates

About twenty students from Montreat have "adopted" little brothers and sisters from the Presbyterian Home for Children in Black Mountain. This is a service whose purpose is to show love through special attention to those children who have, perhaps, never had a family who cared for them.

The children who come to the home are not, in most cases, orphans. Rather, they come from broken homes where there is not a parent willing or able to care for them. At least once a week the students from MAC involved in this ministry go to the Home and spend time with his or her brother or sister.

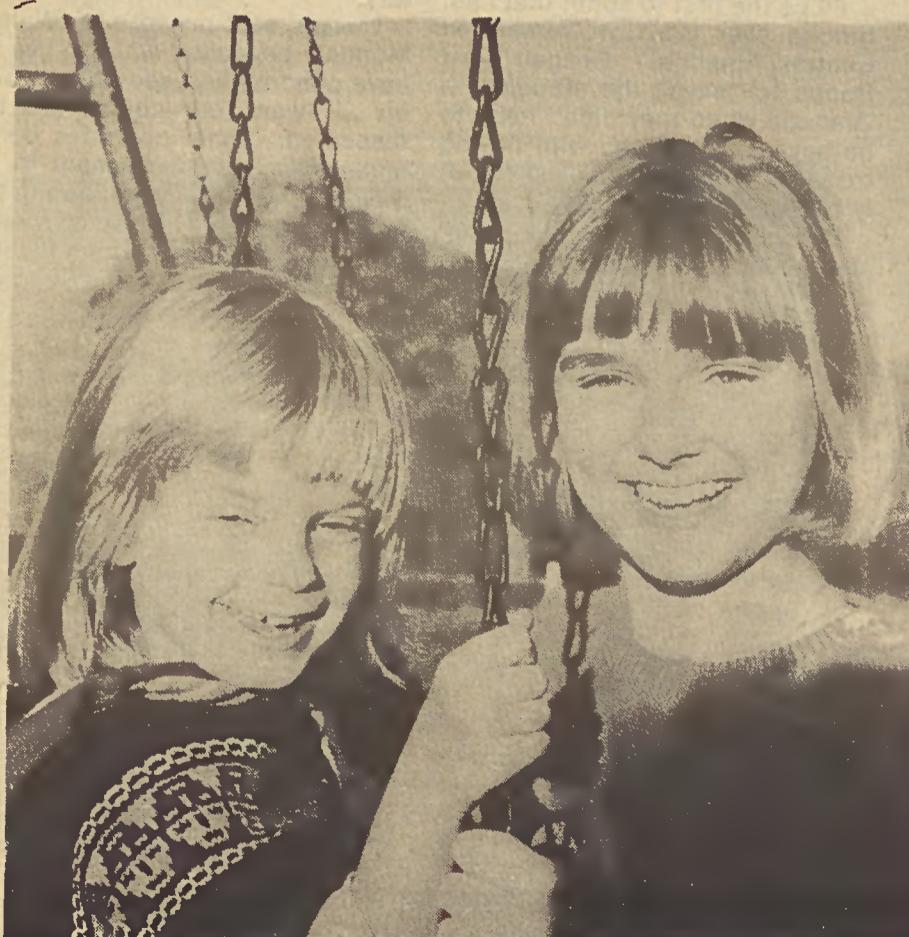
Kristy Gault says her reason for going to the home is "to be a friend to those who need love, and by doing so show God's love to them." On her visits to see her little sister, they may talk about things they

have done in the past week, or just go for a walk around the grounds.

Kim Rustay, who was also involved in the children's Home last year says that her reason for being active in this service is because she loves children and feels that this is an opportunity to share with these kids a love from a family that they have never felt before.

Kim said that she feels a love from the kids that lifts her up. In other words, while we may think we are serving them, they may be serving us. Kim has taken her little sister to the mall, to the movies, had her stay in the dorm, and other things the children do not have a chance to do regularly.

For a person who enjoys children and showing love to the broken, this is an excellent opportunity to reflect Christ in our lives, for as we "do it unto the least of these" we do it unto Him.



Melanie and Kathy Russell swinging while at the Presbyterian Home for Children.



Building a pyramid at the Presbyterian Home are (top row) Crystal, Sheila, Melissa, (bottom row) Carla Newman, Danny Hardesty, Kathy Russell, (lying down) Melanie.

More of That Montreat Love

Mindy Clinard

Goodwill and love seem to be unending on the campus of Montreat-Anderson. Students display their love in the dorms, in the classrooms, and with involvement in the many student ministries. Many students are involved in the volunteer programs and feel that they benefit from the experience.

Freshman Jill Schenk best describes her involvement, "Being a volunteer really is a self-rewarding kind of work that helps me get to know myself better by helping others. I love it!"

One of the programs offered is visiting the J. E. Center or the Juvenile Evaluation Center in Black Mountain. Headed up by Sophomore Kim Keyser, students visit the center twice weekly and volunteer their time. Saturday mornings are spent talking or just hanging out, and a vespers style program is held on Wednesday nights.

Only girls participate on Wednesdays, but everyone is welcome to visit on Saturdays. The hour meetings give everyone a chance to share with each other and to just enjoy each other's company. Debbie Hughes feels, "Going to the J.E. Center is a really rewarding experience. They look forward to us coming."

Some of the M-AC students that take part in this ministry commented on how they feel about the opportunity and how rewarding the results are. Mandy Thomas visits regularly and commented, "I became involved with J.E. because I felt that there was something missing in my average boring life. Now I've added a little excitement by talking to young women who have lived totally different lives from my own. I have really learned about the troubles of young people."

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