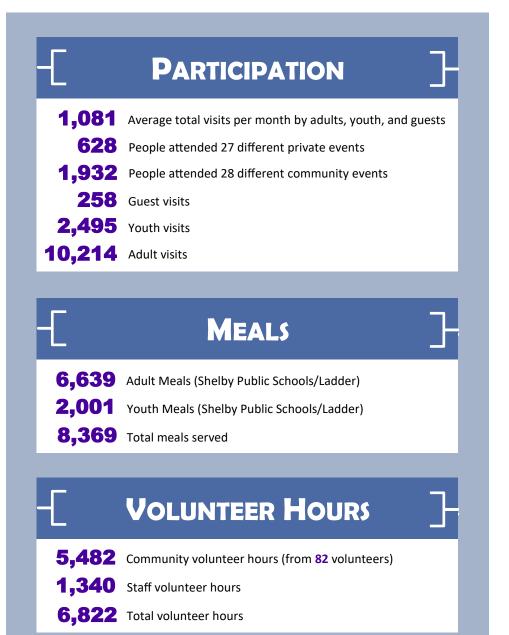
2022 YEAR IN REVIEW







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ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

The 12 Days of Christmas

By Jodi Byers & Michelle Deuling

"Happy Birthday, VESUS!" and "Merry Christmas!" rang throughout The Ladder during our "12 Days of Christmas" events in December. The 12-day countdown was filled with laughter, Voy, and birthday celebrations for our LORD.

The first day of Christmas started off with the Christmas Fam Fest (See article on Page 2 of the newsletter). It was a remarkable evening filled with family **engagement and "happy birthday, Jesus" activities.

The Celebrate CHRISTmas Luncheon was also a memorable event this year. We were blessed to have Judie McGovern (pianist) and Beth Pranger (vocalist) kick off the luncheon by leading the Christmas Carols. The Shelby Public Schools Kitchen provided a delicious meal with many choices and lots of leftovers, serving approximately 115 people. The food, fun, and fellowship were a beautiful thing to behold as we celebrated Christ.

As the meal was served, Ruthie Eilers provided beautiful vocals and skilled piano playing, in addition to presenting encouraging stories for the 92 people in attendance. We were reminded that the celebration is not about the gifts, but about the gift we have been offered from God. Through Ruthie's personal testimony, we were encouraged to refocus this season: keep the world's gifts in perspective, and make Jesus Christ our true focus.

Some other highlights noted by the members include the Christmas crafts, where they painted and created beautiful ribbon Christmas trees and cards; Christmas bingo; an ornament exchange, where members were able to share contained their favorite ornaments from years gone by; and Christmas trivia, where folks tried to recall inique Christmas facts.

Even though some of the activities were canceled or postponed due to weather, we are happy to announce that we will be moving our cookie decorating activity to our Valentine's Day Party on Wednesday, February 8 (stay tuned for more information).

As the Christmas Season concludes, we reflect upon and appreciate the cherished times that we were able to celebrate togetherness this year. We are grateful for all those who participated in the "12 Days of Christmas" events.

Our love is bold for <u>VESUS</u>, and it is our prayer that <u>VESUS</u> leads your path in 2023!

Our Youth & Men's Coach, Troy, welcomed everyone to the Celebrate CHRISTmas Luncheon with stories of how God is moving at The Ladder.



Staff and volunteers served food from a buffet, which included ham, turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, green beans, and more! We had so much food that most folks took their pumpkin pie to go!



Twenty people came to make Christmas crafts. They loved it so much, they asked us if they could do it more often at The Ladder!

> Left: Twenty-two people had a blast making their own Christmas cards.

Far Left: Ladder member Debbie made four beautiful cards!

Right: The 16
people who exchanged ornaments had many
laughs passing
them around the
table as Ladder
staffer Michelle
read a story with
word prompts to
pass the ornaments.





