



Teaching *for*
TRANSFORMATION

Neumann Senior Center Project Bible 11th Grade

Megan Guensch
The City School



Deep Hope:

My deep hope is that we would see the grand narrative of Scripture and understand our role in light of His story.



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Long Term Learning Targets:

- 🎯 We can exercise our role as followers of Jesus in light of His example.
- 🎯 We can wrestle with the idea of how God can be good in an unjust world as we explore Habakkuk and discern how it fits in the grand narrative of Scripture.



Curricular Outcomes:

Acquire and utilize practical tools to study the Bible in an accurate and meaningful way while allowing the Spirit to change our hearts. This change leads to action.



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Habit(s) of Learning:

Gracious Communicating- Students have to graciously communicate in a way that is kind and helpful in order to fulfill the needs of the residents at the Neumann Senior Center during our event. They will carry on this way of communication as they interact throughout their pen pal journey.

Joy-Filled Collaborating- Students will bring joy to both the residents and their classmates as they complete the FLEx and continue their relationship with their pen pal. They will also work together as they connect with residents in an intentional way, serve them, and continue to engage with residents through the pen pal program.



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See God's Story:

Students will see that we are all created in the image of God. We can reflect God's image by seeing the beauty in others and honor them by listening, serving, and knowing them. Students will prayerfully recognize the value in all people even if relatability is not initially obvious.

We are meant to live in unity with one another, seek justice for one another, and see value in one another. It is delightful in that when we function as God intended and love others as He first loved us, relationships flourish. The brokenness comes when we cannot see beyond our personal narrow perspectives or lived experiences and judge or look down on others. Ultimately, through Jesus we have restoration available. We can create a culture of healing and love by exercising the example we see in Christ.

Storyline:

His Story. Our Role

We are actively living out our role as Jesus followers by serving others, by moving towards the often overlooked, and speaking and walking in love.





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Throughlines:

Justice Seekers:

Students will move toward those who are often overlooked. They will serve residents, offer a listening ear, and continue on a relationship showing them the value they deserve.

This will help them reflect on God's view of justice and how Jesus exemplified a spirit of service and humility always.

Image Reflectors:

Students reflect the image of Christ through their acknowledgement and care for others. They practice their role as followers of Jesus by emulating His example and reflecting His character in their actions.

Students get to put action to their belief. They get to live out the story rather than simply seeing the story.



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Throughlines:

Community Builders:

Students will serve residents at the Neumann Senior Housing who live in our community. They will foster and prayerfully maintain a relationship with residents.

This will give them a tangible way to share the goodness of God with others and build a bridge to a group of people that they otherwise would not likely interact with.



Formational Learning Experience:

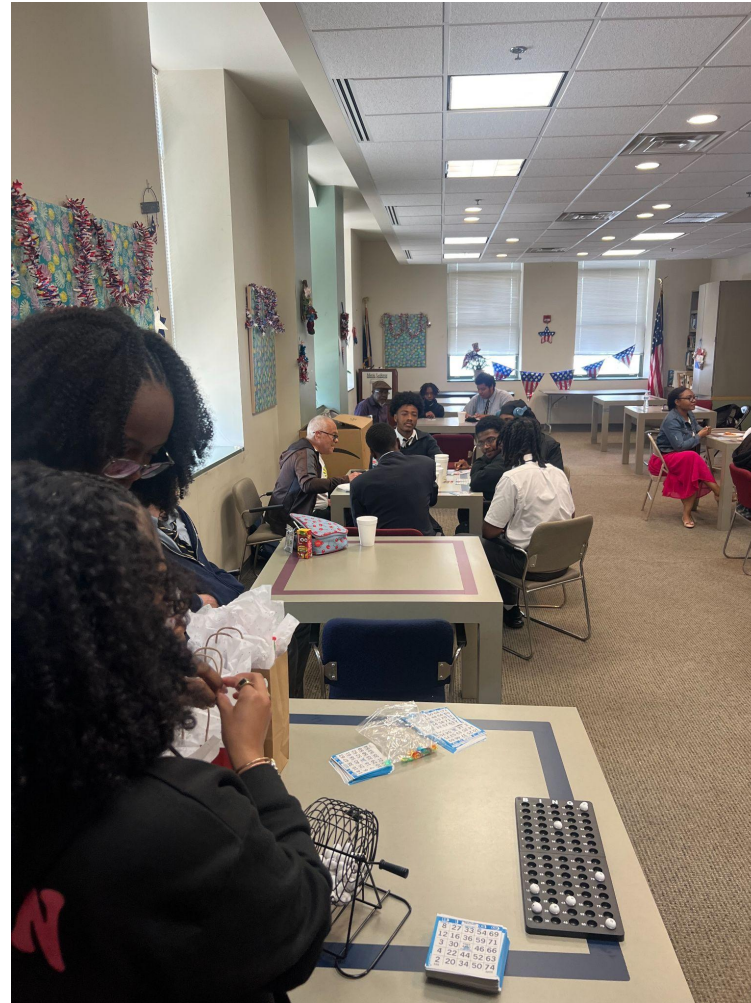
Real needs: Value, Acknowledgement, Honor

Real people: Low-Income Seniors at the Neumann Senior Center in the Fishtown neighborhood in Philadelphia.

Real work: Organizing an event that provides pizza, entertainment, and socialization for seniors through a bingo event with pizza and refreshments. Students will continue their relationship building with the residents by participating in a pen pal program.



This whole idea came after a student asked me about providing an opportunity to do a service project. I told her I would help make it happen if she took some initiative to brainstorm ideas and make the initial connection. She came to me with a list of thoughts and we settled on serving at the Nemann Senior Center. She made the initial phone call and connected with Shantell, the Director of Events at the senior home. I then took over communication for logistical reasons. This was inspired as a student-driven project.





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Residents were able to sign up for a pen pal program with our students where they can stay connected and grow in relationship. This is beneficial for both resident and student as they grow in kindness, empathy, and wisdom from learning other life experiences.

1601 E Palmer St Philadelphia PA 19125

Pen Pal Program Sign-Up Sheet

#	Name	Preferred Contact Method (Mail, Email)	Interests or Hobbies
Apt #2P 1	KATHY HASKELL	KTHASKELL2@gmail.com	COOKING + BAKING
Apt #4E 2	MARGE HUNTER		BOWLING WORKING W/ CHILDREN
Apt #1E 3	Patricia Cairns		
Apt #1K 4	Kay Rambo	Reg. mail: 1601 Palmer St Room 1K Phila 19125	Gossip, philadelphia sports, Concerts in the park, zoo
Apt #4D 5	Patricia FET 4-0	1601 E Palmer St	ALL NEW THINGS OK
Apt #5B 6	Merry D. Hoviano	charmelmb395@gmail	Dance, cards, watch the View, God Bless
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Student Reflections:

See the story:

- We were able to see how we could be hope for people. Asking them for wisdom and instilling value, showing them there is still things to live for.
- “Do good unto others as you would want them to do unto you.”
- Jesus moved towards the overlooked, the marginalized, the hurting, the lonely.

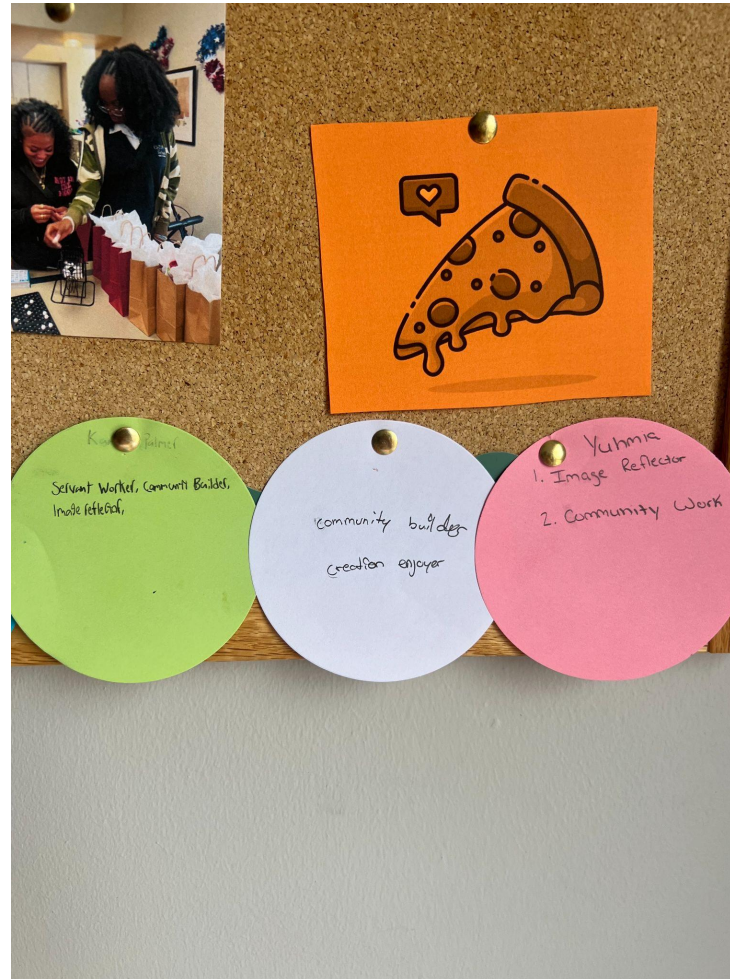
Live the story:

- We were able to live out the example of Jesus and be a blessing to the lonely.
- Let your light shine to help others in their dark season.
- Helped use our stories and experiences to encourage others.



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Student Reflections:





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Teacher Reflections:

Students were able to tangibly see how they can live out their role and walk in Jesus' example by caring and moving towards others. They also can pursue justice in a way that reflects God's character as they love those who are often overlooked and emphasize their value.

The FLEx was the part of TFT I had the most hesitation about. Up until the actual event I felt very overwhelmed. I am happy/relieved/thrilled to report the experience far exceeded my expectations. Not only did the students impress me in every way with their love and engagement of the residents, but the future relationships that I think will develop from this experience is so encouraging! Students were community builders, image reflectors, beauty creators, and justice seekers all at once!



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Additional Information to tell the story:

- Email correspondence in preparation for the event.



Shantell Rowland

to me ▼

Thu, May 8, 11:32 AM (13 days ago)



Hi Ms. Guensch,

I absolutely love the ideas you have in mind! A bingo day with light refreshments sounds like a fun and engaging way for the students and residents to connect. Donuts and coffee would be a great treat, and I know our residents will really enjoy the time spent in conversation. May 20th works well on our end, and the 12–2 PM time slot is perfect. I'll start preparing on our side to ensure we're ready to welcome you and the students.

I also think the pen pal program is a beautiful idea, and I'm sure we'll have several residents who would love to participate. It's a thoughtful way to keep the connection going beyond the visit, and I'd be happy to help coordinate that.

Looking forward to partnering with you on this! Please feel free to send over any additional details or needs as we get closer to the date.





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Additional Information to tell the story:

Sign up sheet for the pen pal program.

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Pen Pal Program Sign-Up Sheet

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Apt #1E 3	Patricia Cairns		
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Apt #4D 5	TOP Zia b	1601 E Palmer St Apt 4-D	ALL NEW THINGS OK
Apt #5B 6	Merry D'Haviano	charmehmb395@gmail	Dance, cards, watch the Vet, Book Bless
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