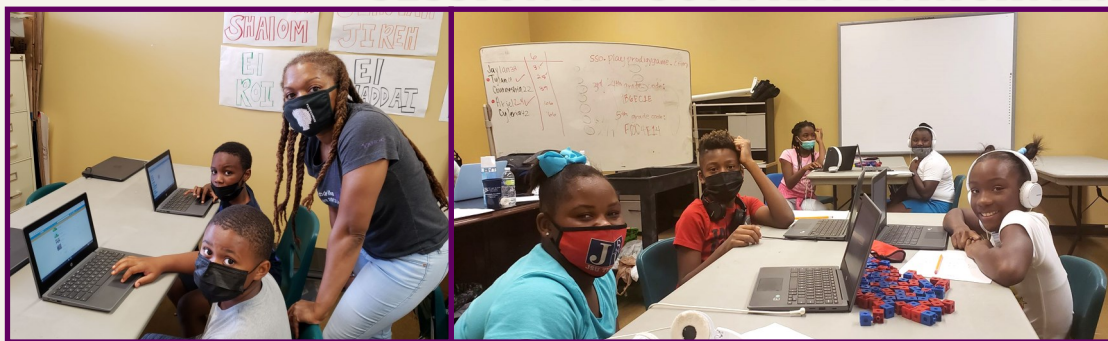


SESSION II - SUMMER ENRICHMENT



Dr. Yolanda Rankin conducting coding class during IHS Summer Enrichment

IHS students working on new Chromebooks

This summer, we are excited to have some students from our S.P.A.S.E. program come to be a part of our Summer Enrichment program. Last summer, the program had to be at home and virtual due to the pandemic. This year we were able to accommodate a limited number of students and introduce them to something new, algorithms.

During this second session of our Summer Enrichment program, we have been helping a group of elementary students and preparing them for the next school year. The program is led by Jasmine Thompson, it runs from 8am-12pm, and includes Bible devotions, food science, and a coding class. **Jasmine Thompson and Dr. Yolanda Rankin (mission native) introduced the students to algorithms first through cooking activities then with a computer coding program called Scratch.** Dr. Rankin is a longtime supporter of IHS and has a passion for supporting young people when it comes to educational opportunities. Dr. Rankin, a professor of information technology at the University of Florida, expressed the importance of creating age appropriate activities for

students to gain exposure to computer science and to think in a computational perspective. Dr. Rankin expressed that "My hope is that this is just the beginning, this is an intro to exposure and access."

The goal of introducing coding is to create new opportunities for students and expose them to abstract ways of thinking. The students played a game called Dessert Wars where they broke up into different groups, and each group was given the same ingredients. Each group had to come up with a unique dessert using the ingredients and write down the instructions. After creating the recipe and dessert, the groups had to swap recipes and try to recreate the other group's dessert. A recipe is one example of an algorithm. The goal of this activity was to introduce that concept to the students in a fun way that they could understand.

Dr. Rankin teaches college students so she has adapted the same concepts of computational thinking in a way that resonates with elementary-aged children. After completing the food and cooking activities, the students were introduced

to a computer program called Scratch, designed specifically for kids by MIT. In Scratch, students are able to create and program their sprites and visual blocks on a screen. **Kids are encouraged to think outside the box using their creative and computational thinking skills.** The program introduces simple math concepts in a way that's applicable and understandable. Students learned about the x and y axis how an object move using coordinates. Students can manipulate the x and y axis to create motion and movement for their characters.

It is important for young students to be introduced to abstract concepts and computational thinking skills because it will help them not only academically but in every aspect of their lives. **Dr. Rankin said, "My intent is to continue working with IHS and establish a curriculum based on Christian values in the context of what it means to be creators and producers of technology."** Eventually, the students will learn about creating and coding their own apps. IHS strives to expose students to many educational experiences so that they are equipped to enter spaces in STEM and other educational areas. We want to prepare students for their future education.

KEEPING THE VISION ALIVE

"God has truly been blessing In His Steps Ministries. The new property is something to see, if you have not seen it, you should make a visit. We are happy to be donors each month."

William and Mary Franklin, Canton, MS

GARDEN AND IHS SUMMER WORKERS

The teaching garden at the IHS Main Campus has served as a way for youth and families to learn about gardening, science, and more importantly, to hear about the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Each day a portion of time is set aside for a bible devotion for summer youth workers. One of our former SPASE students and recent high school graduate, Ian Harris, is working in the garden this summer. Ian said that "Working in the garden is a great way to earn money for college. It's been a great working experience. I've learned a lot about vegetation and where

our food comes from and it impacts on the community." Ian is saving money to start school at Holmes Community College in the fall and he is currently enrolled at the Mississippi Coding Academy. He is studying computer science and intends to transfer to University of Southern Mississippi.

Ty Hunter has been a part of various IHS programs since he was 10 years old and also serves in the IHS Earn and Save



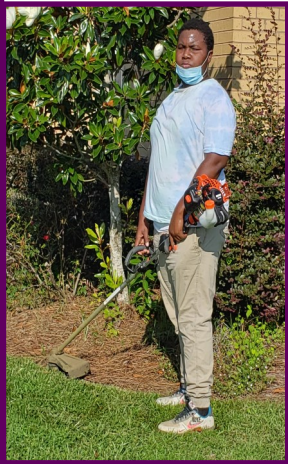
Fresh organic produce from IHS garden

*Ian Harris
IHS summer worker*

Program. This program is where local youth can learn about gardening and

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)



*Ty Hunter
IHS summer worker*

proper work ethic and other life skills. This program also encourages entrepreneurship and financial responsibility in youth.

This year IHS has been fortunate to hire three youth, Tyra Sims, Ian Harris, and Ty Hunter. They come five days a week 4 hours a day, helping with the garden and other different projects. Picking produce is their main responsibility. While

working with IHS, we encourage them to save, so they're able to assist with the purchase of their clothing and supplies for school.

IHS is very thankful for master gardener, Deb Primos, who guides IHS through the gardening process. She has indeed been sent from God. This year the garden produces over 275 pints of blueberries as well as an abundance of peas, tomatoes, okra, lima beans, and peppers. God blessed our garden tremendously.

THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER REQUESTS

- ♦ Praise God for a successful summer enrichment program and the opportunity to serve incarcerated youth and community youth through the sports ministry.
- ♦ Praise God for a special charitable trust gift toward the Camp Development.
- ♦ Pray for the development of our Agape Training Center. The main objective of the center is to provide relevant and biblically based training and resources on such subject areas as family, marriage, parenting, singleness, racial and cross-cultural issues.
- ♦ Pray for a resolution concerning opposition from one neighbor. The enemy is attempting to use this one individual to hinder the work of In His Steps.
- ♦ Pray for our strategic planning for our evangelistic outreach into the Northgate Subdivision and Saw Mill Quarter communities. The main objective is to spread the love of Jesus through the demonstration and proclamation of the gospel among youth and adults.
- ♦ Pray for God's guidance and wisdom in the overall development of the IHS Campsite, including its master plan.
- ♦ Pray for necessary adjustment for parents, students, schools, and IHS as kids return to school. Also, pray for God's protection on all.
- ♦ Pray for IHS as its ministries return back to normal and full capacity.
- ♦ Pray for special needs of IHS friends (Rev. Clark, Falana, Irene, and Dorothy).

Wheaton College Visits Canton, MS



(Left to right) Christin Howard, Annie Allen, Carolyn Bacon, Jasper Bacon (IHS Staff), and Dr. Rob Ribbe (Executive Director, HoneyRock),

In June 2021, Rob Ribbe, a friend of Jasper and Carolyn Bacon from Wheaton College, came to visit the IHS campus. Dr. Ribbe is on the faculty at Wheaton College in the School of Mission, Ministry, and Leadership of Wheaton College and He serves as executive director of HoneyRock camp. HoneyRock is a Christian camp and a branch of Wheaton College which exists to build the church and benefit society through outdoor experiences. Many years ago, before IHS existed, Jasper and Dr. Ribbe met while he was on a short-term mission trip in Mississippi, under the leadership of Dr. Jerry Root and Dr. Dave Gieser.

Through Jasper's alma mater, he and Dr. Ribbe have reconnected to collaborate on the development of the IHS camp-site. He serves on the IHS camp committee as a consultant and offers insight concerning preliminary and long-term camp development strategies. He will also help with the specifications like mission/purpose, Christian camp philosophy, housing, activity areas, and more. Because he has experience with camping through his role at Wheaton College and his leadership

programs at HoneyRock, he will be a most valuable partner.

Jasper and Dr. Ribbe envision a renewed partnership in the future, bringing students from programs at Wheaton and HoneyRock to serve with IHS Ministries. Another collaborative opportunity at IHS would be to provide training in cross-cultural relations and rural and urban ministry training for Wheaton undergraduate and graduate students.

Jasper's desire is to reconnect with individuals who served in Canton as volunteers on short-term mission trips. Building a network of people who have worked with IHS in the past is one way we can continue the mission of IHS. It is exciting for the Bacons to be reunited with Wheaton College and former graduates of Wheaton. The Bacons invite IHS friends to visit our website and social media to see the amazing work God has done in Canton. **Please join the network of friends and become a part of the transforming work through In His Steps Ministries.** Do not hesitate to reach out to the Bacons to learn more about how to get reconnected and get involved! Contact us at jbacon@inhissteps.org.

A Prayer for Greater Sensitivity

Father in heaven may your love flow through us and to those around us. Forgive us for being self-centered. Lead us to show Christ-like love for our neighbor and all of our fellow human beings. Give us the compassion we need to understand what those in our community are going through. Help us not to judge or condemn, but rather come alongside them to offer support and to be Christ hands and feet. Amen. (Philippians 2:4,5)