



APPLETREE CHRISTIAN LEARNING CENTERS CELEBRATES 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Grand Rapids, Michigan – AppleTree Christian Learning Centers (ACLC), a family of owner-operated daycare centers based in West Michigan, celebrates its tenth anniversary this February.

Co-founded by husband and wife Doug and Bridgett Tubbs, the first ACLC opened in 1998 at 1935 Monroe NW in Grand Rapids. Doug passed away in November 2007, just a few months prior to the 10th anniversary, but their simple vision – to be the most nurturing environment for children and the most trusted by parents – continues to be the foundation for every AppleTree center.

“From the beginning, our focus has always been the children,” says Bridgett. Their daughter, Anna, attended the Monroe center which enabled Bridgett and Doug to monitor the curriculum and play an integral role in program development and facility management.

The Tubbs locally pioneered secure webcam access for parents to help ease separation anxiety and initiated electronic keycard entry with a dual check-in/check-out policy to provide security. They also based their programs on nationally recognized curriculum and Christian principles.

Currently, there are over 1,700 children enrolled in the twelve AppleTree Christian Learning Centers across West Michigan with over 6,500 past students having been touched by ACLC’s programs.

“The celebration is a bittersweet milestone since Doug passed away,” says Tubbs. “But as we celebrate, we’ll reflect on all of the families we have positively impacted and look forward to the continued growth of our family of centers.”

The 10th Year Anniversary kicks off in February with the sponsorship of the “Books Alive” exhibit at the Grand Rapids Children’s Museum. During the exhibit, children and adults not only read their favorite stories, but become central characters creating new storylines through improvisation. “Books Alive” runs February 26 through April 11. Visit www.grcm.org for additional details.

A 10th Anniversary summer picnic is in development for current and past AppleTree families and the community. Information will be made available as the details are finalized.

AppleTree Christian Learning Centers is headquartered at 839 Sibley St. NW in Grand Rapids. All centers offer full-time, part-time, before- and after-school care, with several offering bus transportation to and from local schools.

Locations include Grand Rapids, Walker, Holland (2 locations), Lowell, Allendale, Rockford, Otsego, Kalamazoo, Kentwood, Portage and Caledonia. Four new centers are opening later this year.

For more information, including details on 10th Anniversary events, programs and curricula, visit www.appletreekids.cc.

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