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Increasing Participation in Children and Adults with Disabilities at Christ Presbyterian Church

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Increasing Participation in Children and Adults with Disabilities at Christ Presbyterian Church



Taylor Boggus, OTD/S

School of Occupational Therapy, Belmont University

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Tamara Lemmonds, EdD, OTR/L | Expert Mentor: Gigi Sanders

Mission and Vision

Christ Presbyterian Church Mission

To follow Christ in his mission of loving people, places, and things to life.

Christ Presbyterian Church Vision

As a family united in Christ and led by Scripture, we at Christ Presbyterian Church exist as partakers in a movement of God's Kingdom that offers spiritual life, public faith, mercy, and justice, and the integration of faith and work to the people, communities, institutions, and churches of greater Nashville, and through Nashville, to the world.

Special Needs Ministry Mission

Because we follow Jesus, first and foremost above all other things, kids and adults with special needs are highly valued at Christ Presbyterian Church. We believe every person, whether an expert or a person with special needs, is a carrier of an everlasting soul.

Identified Needs

Identified needs of the Special Needs Ministry at Christ Presbyterian Church:

- Knowing the needs of the families they serve outside the context of the church setting
- Knowing what resources are available in the local area when the church is unable to directly meet a family's need
- Limited space available for programming

Goals of Experiential Component

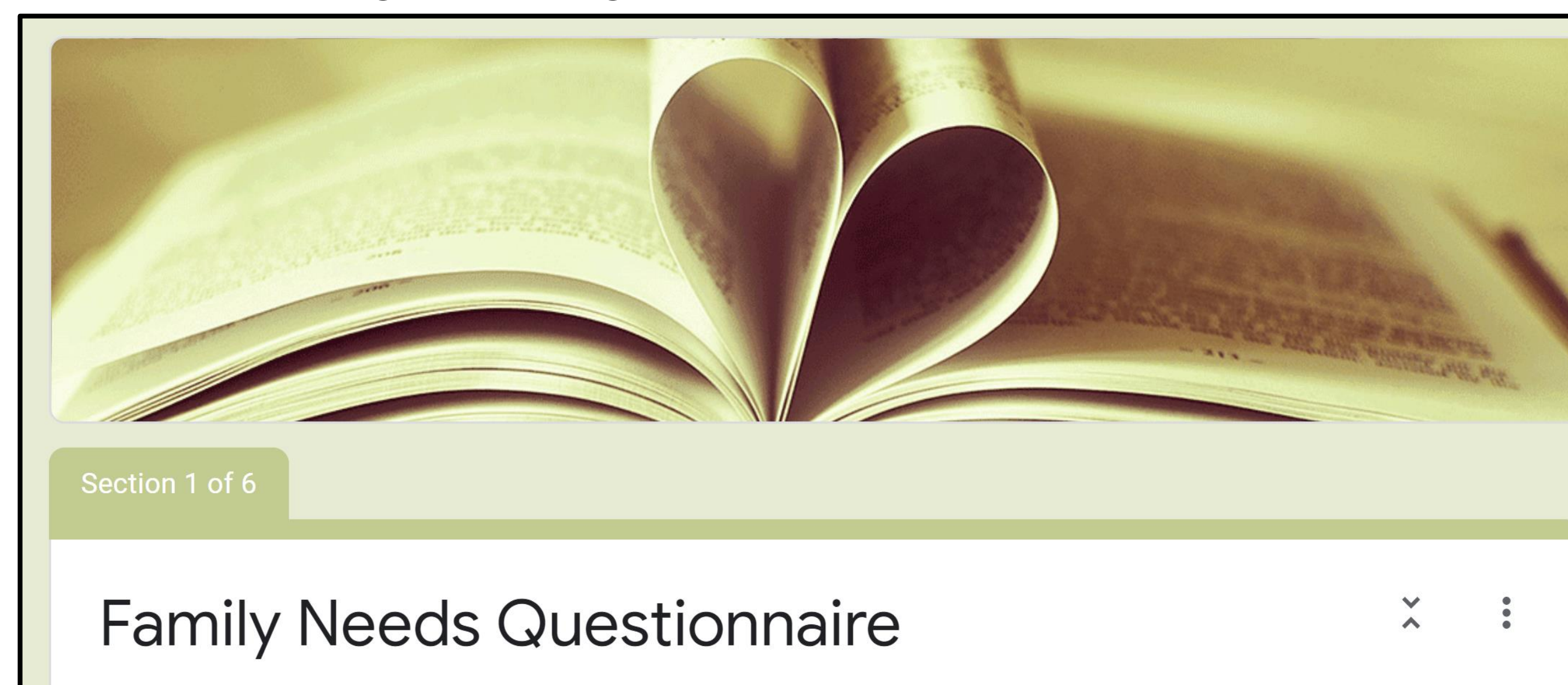
This Experiential Component consisted of three individual projects, each with their own goals.

1. Family Needs Questionnaire
 - Goal: To increase knowledge and awareness of the "life needs" of the families they serve
2. Resource Guide
 - Goal: To serve their families by providing available resources in the Nashville area
3. Job Skills Curriculum
 - Goal: To enhance employment skills of adults with disabilities in their church community

Outcome of Project 1

Family Needs Questionnaire

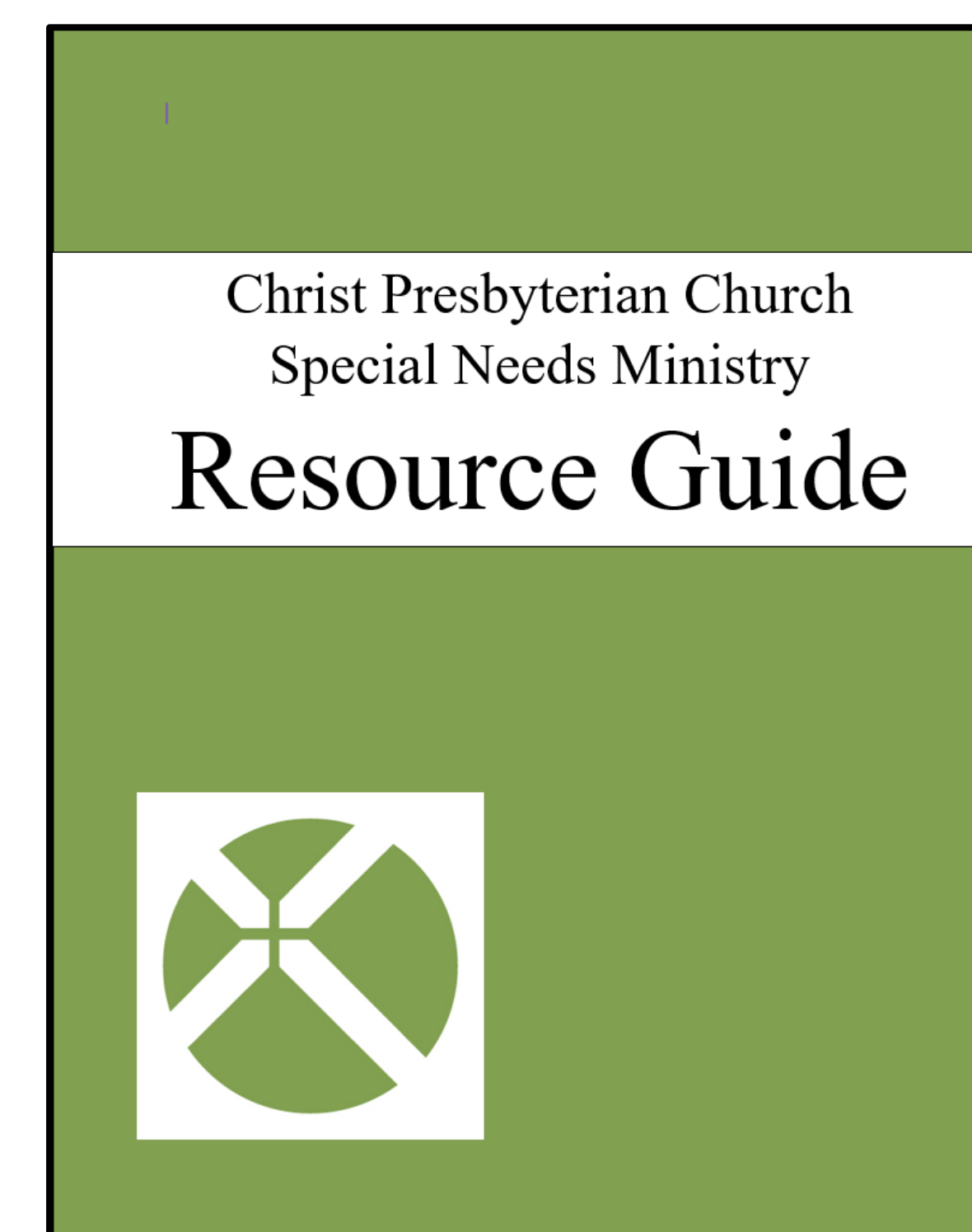
- Conducted an informal needs assessment through an online survey and a focus group to gather information on the common needs of families who have a member with a disability
- Families felt that their voices had been heard and that they were cared for
- Development of Family Needs Questionnaire with the following needs being addressed:
 - Spiritual Growth/Church Community
 - Personal Support
 - Care Needs
 - Child Programming
 - Adult Programming



Outcome of Project 2

Resource Guide

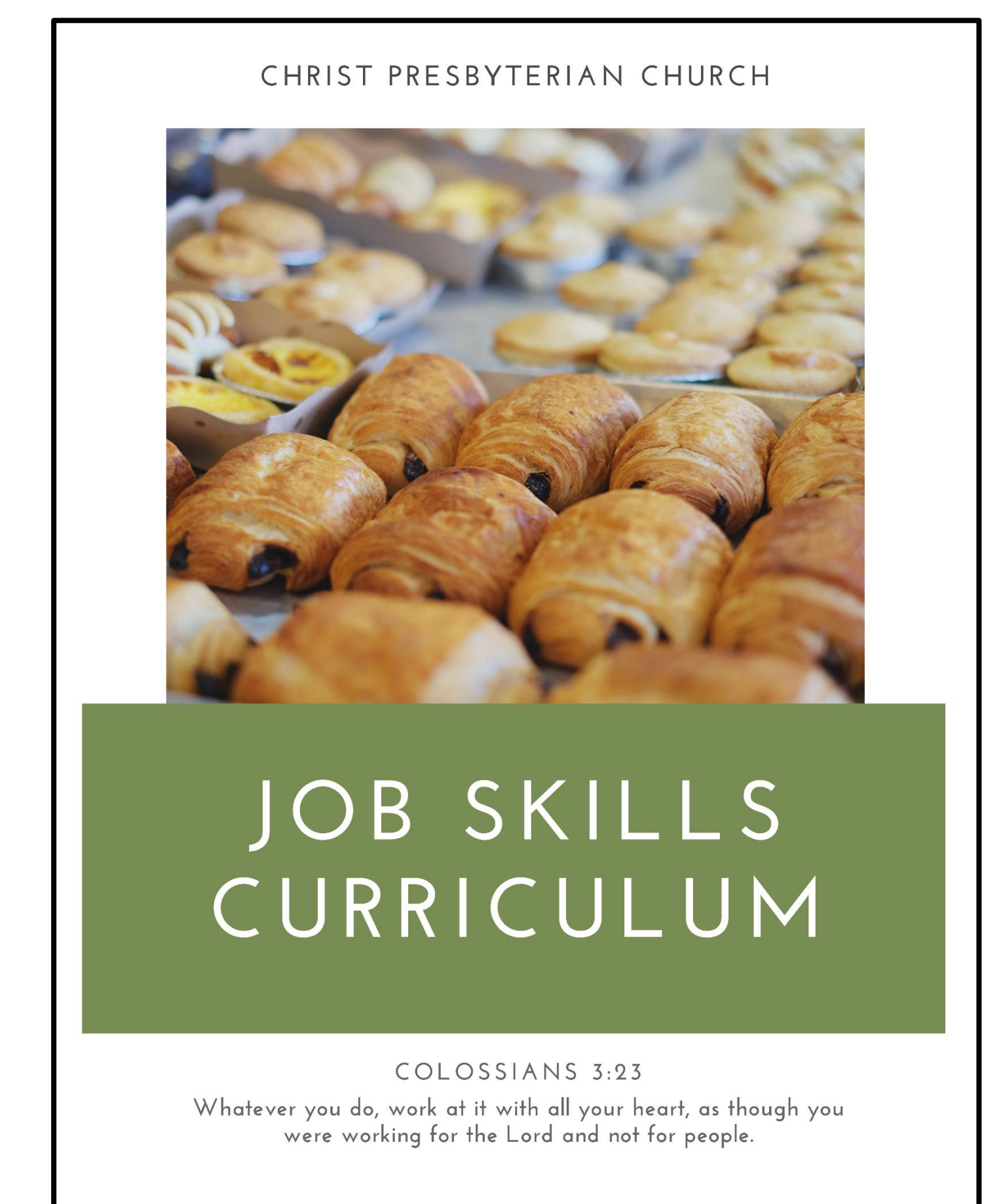
- Increased awareness of available resources in the community
- Development of a Resource Guide including resources in the Nashville area, including descriptions and contact information



Outcome of Project 3

Job Skills Curriculum

- Completion of online curriculum development course
- Development of Job Skills Curriculum for adults with intellectual disabilities
- The curriculum addresses various job skills in the following modules:
 - Employment 101
 - Workplace Attitude
 - Communication
 - Cleanliness & Hygiene
 - Organization
 - Kitchen Skills
 - Transactions
 - Work Simulation



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