



## The Saturday Tutoring Program: “Building” on the Past

During Saturday tutoring sessions, most of the rooms on the lower level of the church are packed with students and volunteers. Picture, if you will, high school students and their tutors seated around tables in the activities room. The tutors are a diverse group of men and women of all ages from Case Western Reserve University, other colleges, and community organizations. The group is busy reading, playing educational games, studying maps, and planning for their futures.



Most of them are unaware of how many other ways the activities room has been used over the years. An old photo depicts a group of servicemen in the activities room of the Church of the Covenant. During World War II, women of the church operated a lounge for Army Air Force

cadets undergoing training at Western Reserve University. An American flag and several maps hang on the wall. The men, who seem so young, are also seated at tables, reading, playing checkers, and perhaps talking about what the future holds for them.



In that vintage photo, the activities room is mainly recognizable because the window looks the same as it does today. In a sense, our church building connects us to the past, and to the people who walked and worked here before us. The walls, which could have been barriers, have actually connected our congregation to the neighborhood. Decades from now, how will the activities room and the rest of our building be used? As times change and people change, may the Covenant always be a welcoming place where the needs of the community are met.