Echoes of Mercy

A PUBLICATION OF LUTHER HOME OF MERCY, WILLISTON, OHIO

HOLIDAY EDITION 2019

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The Most Wonderful Time!

Luther Home of Mercy is a Lutheran Ministries of Mercy Affiliate
At Luther Home we are ever grateful for the friends, volunteers and donors who support our growing mission. Quite often in our work folks step forward in unexpected ways…the call to serve others inspiring creativity in doing more. So it is with the participants of Luther Home’s adult day program at Advent Lutheran Center in Sylvania. For the past several years Lutheran Social Services of Northwestern Ohio and Luther Home have been sharing this building, operating separate and distinct programs and services—one focused on mental health and the other on disability services.

The participants of LHM’s day program have a strong desire to give back to their community but are often hindered in these efforts by the lack of handicap-accessible transportation and availability of volunteer opportunities that can routinely accommodate people with special needs. In response to these obstacles, this caring group has stepped forward to lead the work in creating a new personal needs pantry for the Sylvania community. Partnering with LSS’s “Feed Your Neighbor” Program, collections of items such as shampoo, soap, and detergent are now underway to stock the shelves of this new community resource.

Unlike any other in the state, the pantry at Advent will be entirely manned by adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. These new volunteers will be responsible for most work involved in operating the site such as solicitations for donations, shopping for needed items, stocking shelves, bagging orders, and greeting pantry customers. LSS will assist by sharing expertise; providing overall program guidance and customer screening services. With an approximate 15% of Ohio residents living below the federal poverty level, this needed resource comes just in time to help meet the pressing needs of local residents.

During this fall and holiday season of giving should you be inspired—like our friends at Advent—to do more, we welcome your contributions of personal care items. These items will help stock our new venture for many months to come. The power of friendship…what a difference it can make!

—Terri Rodriguez
President & CEO

Shannon is ready to accept your product donations and assist her neighbors in need. If you would like to contribute to the pantry, items can be dropped off at the Lutheran Social Services main office: 2149 Collingwood Blvd, Toledo or at Advent: 3941 N. Mccord Rd., Sylvania. Pick-ups can be arranged by calling 419-243-9178.

If you are needing assistance with personal hygiene products, please call to make an appointment (419-243-9178) and ask for the Personal Needs Assessor.

Advent Personal Needs Pantry
Requested Items:
- Dish Soap
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Tissues
- Deodorant
- Laundry Soap
- Fabric Softner
- Body Lotion
- Razors
- Body Soap
- Tooth brushes
- Toothpaste
- Sanitary Pads
- Tampons
- Band Aids
- Shampoo
Throughout our many volumes of Echoes, we have often talked about the numerous changes that have marked time at our Williston campus. Mud-soaked planks that once allowed people to walk through our then cornfield have long been replaced by extensive modernized facilities. As we have cultivated our understanding of developmental disabilities, the array of services we are able to provide have grown and evolved. Though we often celebrate change, the unwavering devotion offered by the LHM Nursing Department has been a steady constant that has marked each day and night with quality care delivered with love and compassion.

In the early days at the Home, serving as a nurse was a live-in commitment. Intellectual disability was considered to be more of a medical problem than anything else and the role of Nurse was also that of a “house mother”. Expected duties reached far beyond caring for medical needs and also included tending to resident living quarters and overseeing many aspects of daily life. As times have changed, the medical needs of those we serve have become more complex, shifting the duties of the Department to a more singular focus that is medical in nature. Clinic nurses serve as the key point of contact with physicians, oversee medications and serve as the hub of campus care while cottage nurses offer reassurance at doctors’ office and hospital visits, carefully tend to and record each bump or wound and assist Direct Care Staff with patient care.

While daily medical duties may resemble Nursing positions in other healthcare facilities, working at the Home is unique in that often our nurses are able to provide personalized care to the same residents for many years and in some cases, the span of their entire career. For many of those we serve, receiving medical care can be quite frightening. Limited cognition and ability to communicate make it difficult for residents to understand the need for examinations and express pain. It is through the strong bonds that are formed over years and often decades of daily care that trust is built between nurse and resident; offering security and cooperation on even the roughest of days. In this way, while nurses may no longer be seen as “house mothers” they are often considered extensions of family by the residents who depend on their care.

We are always on the lookout for caring nurses to join our team! For more information and to apply, visit lutherhome.org/careers.

As 2019 comes to a close, we remember the staff, residents and clients who are part of the LHM family and have passed away this year.

We treasure your memory and hold you in our hearts.

Shirley Rumbaugh  Mark Coffey  Andrea Proctor  Beverly Baker
Melissa Manns  Ronald Tilton  Linda Baudendistel  Joey Rosol
A Legacy of Love

“Promise me you’ll always remember... you’re braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, smarter than you think, and loved more than you know.”

— Christopher Robin

I love this conversation between Christopher Robin and Winnie the Pooh. In working with the staff, volunteers and residents of Lutheran Home of Mercy (LHM), I believe it is our promise “to love” that brings out the very best in the people we serve. The smiling faces of our residents as they engage in activities, clients enjoying activities at one of our day programs, lunchroom chatter over a shared meal, celebrating our faith at Fall Festival, and so many other shining moments are happening because of your generosity. And, we know there is more to do!

We have enclosed an envelope for you to use today or in the future. When the time comes, we would be honored to hear from you. In addition to giving today, we are also equipped to accept gifts that ensure our missions future! Bequests, IRA rollovers and Beneficiary designations are all ways to share your love of LHM through a legacy gift.

As the new Director of Giving, I will look forward to getting to know you and to see what the future holds. Until then, be assured of my continued prayers for you and your family.

I am honored to join you as we move Together, Toward Tomorrow!

— Jeanette Hrovatich, Director of Giving, 419-779-4193 or jhrovatich@luthmin.org

With more than 30 years of non-profit development and planned giving leadership, Jeanette Hrovatich joins Lutheran Home of Mercy and the other affiliates of Lutheran Ministries of Mercy as the Director of Planned Giving.

Legacy Society

As part of our on-going desire to learn more about you and those who are remembering us with a legacy, estate or planned gift, we have created the Legacy Society. When you notify Lutheran Home of Mercy that you have remembered us in your giving plans, you become a member. Our Legacy Society is simply our opportunity to say thank you, today! It’s not about how much you give, but the love your gift will have for those individuals served.

❖ Legacy Society benefits include:
❖ Special communications from our staff and President & CEO
❖ Invitation to events
❖ Recognition in our Legacy Society Honor roll (Unless you choose an anonymous gift)

Please contact Jeanette Hrovatich, Director of Planned Giving at 419-779-4193 to learn more.

On the Lutheran Ministries of Mercy Calendar:

Tuesday, December 3:  #Giving Tuesday
Remember Luther Home of Mercy and our Lutheran Ministries of Mercy affiliates on this day of generosity.

Saturday, February 1:  Soup R Bowl-A-Thon for Lutheran Social Services
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Forest View Lanes

Sunday, March 1:  Lutheran Social Services Night at the Toledo Walleye
5:00 p.m., Huntington Center

Monday, March 9:  Lutheran Ministries of Mercy Annual Meeting
5:30 p.m., The Pinnacle

Friday, May 1:  Luther Home of Mercy Bi-Annual Auction
The Pinnacle: Look for more details in the next issue of Echoes.
New Beds Offer Comfort to Residents

Anyone who has spent time away from home will tell you, there’s nothing quite like the feeling of a good night’s sleep in your own bed. The solace that comes with being in your own space...the relaxation our bodies feel from a familiar place to rest. For many of those who are served by our ministry, significant medical needs and limited mobility make the use of traditional beds both uncomfortable and potentially dangerous. Medical beds are often the best option as they offer the security of side railings, the ability to reposition with greater ease and enable staff to provide care in the least invasive manner possible.

Two years ago, Luther Home of Mercy identified the need to replace 72 medical beds used by residents at our Williston campus. With older foot-pump models exceeding two decades, broken parts can no longer be replaced and lack modernized features that enhance well-being and quality of care. At a cost of nearly $2,000 per bed, substantial funds are required to meet the needs of each person entrusted to our ministry.

Through the generosity of friends and donors just like you, we have made great strides in securing resources to procure brand new battery operated medical beds that offer improved safety features and comfort. Golf outing sponsorships, individual donations, 2018 #GivingTuesday contributions and grant funding from the Zion Lutheran Church-Waterville Foundation and Zoar Lutheran Church-Perrysburg Foundation Fund have enabled 36 beds to be purchased with funding in place for an additional five to be ordered in the near future.

As we work to acquire those final beds for residents still in need, we invite your partnership. Financial contributions can be made online at lutherhome.org/donate with “beds” written in the comment or on the memo line of your check. In addition, all gifts received on December 3 in honor of #GivingTuesday will go to this cause. We are ever so thankful for the many generous friends who have supported this effort and truly appreciate your continued help as we move to ensure that all who are served can rest easy.

Debbie loves the security and coziness of her brand new bed. Your #GivingTuesday donations on December 3 along with designated bed contributions will help her friends to enjoy this same comfort.

O Come Let Us Adore Him!

As we remember the birth of our Savior, we invite you to join us Sunday, December 15, at 2:30 p.m. for our traditional Christmas worship service. Staff, volunteers, families and friends are encouraged to help us celebrate the joy of the season as those we serve portray the Christmas story.
Gifts

July 1, 2019 – September 30, 2019

Amazon Smile
ANONYMOUS
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Anson
Baldwinsville, NY
Ms. Judith Ann Anzelmo
Columbus, OH
Mr. and Mrs. William G. Beery
Perrysburg, OH
Ms. Linda M. Berhent
Marblehead, OH
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Pemberville, OH
Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Billow
Maumee, OH
Rev. and Mrs. Chuck Campbell
Toledo, OH
Mr. and Mrs. Loren H. Dillon
Upper Sandusky, OH
Ms. Pamela Doan
Oregon, OH
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Dobrosky
Curtice, OH
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Draves
Cridersville, OH
Mr. & Mrs. James Dunn
Oregon, OH
Mr. Thomas R. Duris
Lambertville, MI
Mrs. Marilyn J. Flick
Bowling Green, OH
Mr. and Mrs. Donald C. Fry
Norwalk, OH
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Gill
Canton, OH
Mr. David I. Gould
Toledo, OH
Mr. and Mrs. Lowell L. Hartman
Williston, OH
Mr. John F. Heminger
Genoa, OH
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Higgins, Sr.
Fostoria, OH
Mr. Frederick Honneffer
Bowling Green, OH
Hope Lutheran Sunday School
Bowling Green, OH
J. Henry Huseman Endowment Fund
Bloomville, OH
Jason's Pumpkin Patch
Oak Harbor, OH
Pastor Robert Johnson
Stony Ridge, OH
Clayman A. & Ruth M. Kabat Trust
Pompano Beach, FL
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kieswether
Englewood, FL
Mrs. Ruth Lahti
Sylvania, OH
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Lajti
Graytown, OH
Lake Erie Tree Service
Oregon, OH
Mrs. Helen Lambert
Toledo, OH
Luckey Farmers
Graytown, OH
Mr. Henry Lusiak
Reynoldsburg, OH
Lutheran Church of The Master
Perrysburg, OH
Ms. Beverly Mackey
Port Clinton, OH
Manulife Financial
South Hackensack, NJ
Ms. Ruth Matesz
Toledo, OH
Memorial Lutheran Church
Toledo, OH
Messiah Lutheran Church
Toledo, OH
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald S. Miko
Upper Sandusky, OH
Ms. Kathy Morfier
Bellevue, OH
Network For Good
Washington, DC
Nice Car Company
Ottawa Lake, MI
Nissen Concrete
Oregon, OH
Olivet Lutheran Church
Sylvania, OH
Otawa County Community Foundation, Inc., Brian and Robin Beck Gift Fund
Port Clinton, OH
Mrs. Alnita Paterson
Chardon, OH
Dr. Renee Paye
Warren, MI
Mr. and Mrs. David Pfisterer
Findlay, OH
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Phillips
Curtice, OH
Mr. and Mrs. Milton R. Pommeranz
Toledo, OH
Rev. David D. Proctor
Bryan, OH
Resurrection Lutheran Church
Port Clinton, OH
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Rospert
Norwalk, OH
Mr. Kyle D. Ruff
Marysville, MI
Ryan's Family Farm
Monclova, OH
Mr. and Mrs. Craig R. Salhoff
Hagerstown, IN
Mrs. Margaret San Gregory
Bellevue, OH
Mr. and Mrs. Barry Sandrock
Elmore, OH
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Scheiding
Whitehouse, OH
Mr. & Mrs. Lewis C. Schild
Norwalk, OH
Jim and Livvy Schleicher
Nashville, TN
Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Schneider
Lima, OH
Mr. and Mrs. Larry N. Schultz
Toledo, OH
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey L. Schwartz
Maumee, OH
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Sevits
Perrysburg, OH
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
Perrysburg, OH
Christine Sievert Trust
Cleveland, OH
Ms. Patti Skinner
Hartsburg, MO
Ms. Sandee Sledd
Doraville, GA
Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Smith
Martin, OH
Solomon Lutheran Church
Woodville, OH
St. John Lutheran Church
Oak Harbor, OH
St. John Lutheran Church
Perrysburg, OH
St. John Lutheran Church Women
Williston, OH
St. Mark Lutheran Church
Fremont, OH
St. Matthew Lutheran Church
 Lima, OH
St. Michael Lutheran Church
Ottawa Lake, MI
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Blissfield, MI
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Sulphur Springs, OH
St. Paul Lutheran Church Women
Clyde, OH
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Napoleon, OH
St. Peter Lutheran Church
Martin, OH
St. Peter Lutheran Church
Norwalk, OH
Mr. Robert Storer
Holland, OH
Dr. & Mrs. John F. Sundermeyer
Sylvania, OH
Ms. Christine Sutton
Muskegon, MI
Rev and Mrs. Al Swartz
Gibsonburg, OH
Pastor Al Swartz
Gibsonburg, OH
Mrs. Dorothy J. Tebbe
Fremont, OH
Thrivent Choice
Minneapolis, MN
Trinity Lutheran Church
Elmore, OH
Trinity Lutheran Church
Sandusky, OH
Trinity Lutheran Church
Willard, OH
Mr. Terrance Vacha
Marblehead, OH
Ms. Ruth Wiechman
Columbus, OH
Mr. Max Ziegler
Ann Arbor, MI
Ms. Anne Zielinski
Millbury, OH
Zoar Lutheran Church
Perrysburg, OH

Bequests

Lois M. Pollauf Living Trust
Sylvania, OH
Honor Roll

July 1, 2019 – September 30, 2019

Deborah Craze
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Craze
Sterling Heights, MI

Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Craze
Sterling Heights, MI

Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Johannsen’s 59th Wedding Anniversary
St. John Lutheran Church Women
Oak Harbor, OH

Levi Timothy Tank’s Birth
Mrs. Frances Wilson
Holland, OH

ANONYMOUS
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Anson
Baldwinsville, NY

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Baldwin
Sylvania, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Ray F. Bauman
Findlay, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Arlyn J. Bensch
Oak Harbor, OH

Mr. John O. Bossart
Sandusky, OH

Mr. Richard H. Bosse
Millbury, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brandt
Pemberville, OH

Mr. and Mrs. William Brownson
Defiance, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Bury
Oregon, OH

Rev. and Mrs. Chuck Campbell
Toledo, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Clark
Caro, MI

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald W. Clark
Sylvania, OH

Mr. James R. Coldren
Toledo, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Craze
Sterling Heights, MI

Miss Jean DeWalt
Delaware, OH

Mr. Eugene Dierksheide
Fremont, OH

Mr. & Mrs. Mark Dotson
Waterville, OH

Mr. and Mrs. James L. Farrow
Oak Harbor, OH

Mr. and Mrs. John E. Flick
North Ridgeville, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Freytag
Napoleon, OH

Rev. and Mrs. Ray G. Gottschling
Maumee, OH

Mr. Steve Graf
Defiance, OH

Mrs. Elaine Gruetter
Curtice, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Jack L. Haar
Doswell, VA

Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Haaser
Holland, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Larson Haines
Holland, OH

Mrs. Lorene M. Halsey
West Alexandria, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Lowell L. Hartman
Williston, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald V. Hazel
Perrysburg, OH

Mrs. Ruth Hill
Van Wert, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Edward C. Holtz
Swanton, OH

Mr. Frederic Honneffer
Bowling Green, OH

Mr. Michael House
Perrysburg, OH

Mrs. Gladys A. Kroos
Elmore, OH

Ms. Jean Linke
Indian Land, SC

Mrs. Cheryl Maas
Dadeville, AL

Ms. Cecilia Martaun
Alexandria, VA

Mr. and Mrs. Richard M. Mendelsohn
Maumee, OH

Rev. and Mrs. Kurt T. Meyers
Toledo, OH

Mr. & Mrs. Randy S. Miller
Genoa, OH

Mr. and Mrs. G. Thomas Moore
Circleville, OH

Mr. and Mrs. William Nelson
Oregon, OH

Mr. Robert H. Ness
Gibbon, MN

Mrs. Janet Nestander
Sioux Falls, SD

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew H. Nowak
Graytown, OH

Mr. Lyle Peters
Oak Harbor, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Milton R. Pommeranz
Toledo, OH

Mr. & Mrs. Dennis L. Price
Napoleon, OH

Mr. Dean H. Pyers
Sterling Heights, MI

Mrs. Phyllis Rasmussen
Fraser, MI

Mr. and Mrs. Arnie Rodriguez
Sylvania, OH

Mr. James Rybarczyk
Maumee, OH

Mr. & Mrs. Roger R. Scheid
Monroeville, OH

Mrs. Norma Schneiderbauer
Toledo, OH

Mrs. Carol Schroeder
New Bavaria, OH

Mr. Tim Schumm
Napoleon, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Sherlock
Toledo, OH

Mr. Duane G. Shively
Grand Rapids, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence A. Skinner
Norwalk, OH

Miss Jeanne M. Sonnenberg
Toledo, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Stein
Perrysburg, OH

Mrs. Doris Titgemeyer
Curtice, OH

Mrs. Ruth A. Weisenauer
Brevard, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel L. Whitacre
Toledo, OH

Ms. Janet Witker
Bradner, OH

Dr. and Mrs. S. James Zafirau
Port Clinton, OH
Lawrence and Anna Avers
Mr. Dale J. Avers
Lucky, OH

Ronald Baker
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Woessner
Lindsey, OH

Gregory Blackburn
Mrs. Carol Blackburn
Huron, OH

Deborah Booze
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence A. Skinn
Norwalk, OH

Carolyn Vie Brooks
Mrs. Karen Haensch
Elmore, OH

Burnard and Zafirau families
Dr. and Mrs. S. James Zafirau
Port Clinton, OH

Janie Casoria
Mrs. Cheryl Peterson
Fort Lauderdale, FL

Chris Christopher
Royal Oak Methodist Womens Bowling League
Royal Oak, MI

Alice Crossman
Mrs. Diana Coyne
Temperance, MI

Calvin Damschroder
Mr. Dale J. Avers
Lucky, OH

Mr. Karen Haensch
Elmore, OH

Mr. George J. Keeter
Orange Village, OH

Mrs. Gladys A. Kroos
Elmore, OH

Mr. Loren Nowak
Elmore, OH

Roger Dehring
Mr. and Mrs. Arlyn J. Bensch
Oak Harbor, OH

Mrs. Phyllis L. Bensch
Oak Harbor, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Carl W. Dierksheide
Bradner, OH

Mr. James Tomor and Ms. Brenda Carter
Williston, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Jason Tomor
Martin, OH

Richard Eckermann
Mrs. Carol L. Eckermann
Millbury, OH

Donna Figy
Mr. and Mrs. Philip Milbrodt
Genoa, OH

Mrs. JoElaine Schimming
Williston, OH

Whitey and Alvera Fishbaugh
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A.
Fishbaugh
Green Springs, OH

Pat Florio
Mrs. Bernadine Florio
Elmore, OH

Howard and Bertha Gahn
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A.
Fishbaugh
Green Springs, OH

Donald J. Genzman
Mrs. Donna L. Genzman
Oak Harbor, OH

Ruth Griffith
St. Paul Lutheran Church Women
Clyde, OH

Clyde M. Haar
Mrs. Donna M. Schell
Genoa, OH

Betty Henline
Mr. Luther Henline
Pemberville, OH

Bob Hollanshead
St. Paul Lutheran Church Women
Upper Sandusky, OH

Jeffrey Hossley
Mr. and Mrs. George Beery, Jr.
Bellevue, OH

James Hubscher
Mrs. Joyce A. Hertzfeld
Elmore, OH

Linda Lieske James
Mrs. Donna M. Schell
Genoa, OH

Dan Johnson
St. John Lutheran Church Women
Williston, OH

Sandy Johnson
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Ziance
Columbus, OH

Wayne Keller
Mr. and Mrs. Duane Arndt
Elmore, OH

Paul Kimball
Mr. and Mrs. Duane Arndt
Elmore, OH

Sandra Krose
Mrs. Karen Haensch
Elmore, OH

Leslie E. Lahti
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas B. French
Sylvania, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Jay Hawkins
Robinson, IL

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Heisler
Sylvania, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Klein
Maumee, OH

Mr. Erik Lahti
Sewickley, PA

Mr. and Mrs. Brian McTierian
Sewickley, PA

Mr. and Mrs. Kerry Mulholland
Toledo, OH

Ms. Judith Torma and Ms. Sharon
Moreland
Milaca, MN

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Walker
Toledo, OH

Mr. and Mrs. John Ware
Sylvania, OH

Ms. Vicki Webber
Palm Springs, FL

John Lockwood
Miss Mary E. Lockwood
Grove City, OH

Glenn and Jean Moenter
Mr. and Mrs. Brad Moenter
Waterville, OH

Howard Moffat
Mrs. Marie McCrate
Barnesville, OH

John Mohrman
Mr. Fred Johnlin
Woodville, OH

Eleanor Richards
Mrs. Judith A. Placko
Oregon, OH

Mary K. Roberts
Mr. S. Dean Roberts
Holland, OH

George E. Rudd
Mr. and Mrs. George Beery, Jr.
Bellevue, OH

Don Ruthsatz
St. John Lutheran Church Women
Williston, OH

Joseph Rybarczyk
Mr. and Mrs. Stanislaw J. Szczera
Toledo, OH

Edmund and Wilma Schleicher
Mr. and Mrs. Uwe L. Schuettler
Manassas Park, VA

Mary Lynn Zatko Sefarian
Mr. and Mrs. John Zatko
Oregon, OH

Caroline Sell
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen P. Bartus, Jr.
Toledo, OH

Dave and Jean Shugert
Mrs. Judith Pfieger
Sandusky, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Uve L. Schuettler
Manassas Park, VA

Cleobelle Grace Slotto
St. Paul Lutheran Church Women
Clyde, OH

Louis Snyder
Mrs. Jean Snyder
Perrysburg, OH

Richard Thorbahn, Sr.
Rev. and Mrs. Richard C. Ferne
Pickerington, OH

Carol Vaffis
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A.
Fishbaugh
Green Springs, OH

Mr. and Mrs. John Zatko
Oregon, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Walker
Milaca, MN

Ms. Judith Pflieger
Toledo, OH

Mr. & Mrs. Stephen P. Bartus, Jr.
Toledo, OH

Edith Wessel
St. Paul’s Sarah Circle
Oak Harbor, OH

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The Ottawa, Sandusky, Seneca County Joint Solid Waste District has generously granted Luther Home of Mercy funding through their Competitive Funding Grant. The Competitive Funding Program provides resources to local governments, educational institutions and non-profits with existing recycling programs and provides the opportunity for funding to purchase products containing a minimum of 25% recycled content. Luther Home of Mercy was awarded a grant for in-ground main entrance signage made from recycled materials for 12 of the main campus buildings, including each of the 8 residential cottages. The signs were purchased as part of our efforts to improve security as we lock outer doors and designate one main entrance per building.
Each fall, we gather together with friends and family for an annual celebration of ministry. This year’s Fall Fest began with outdoor worship led by Pastor Al Swartz and special music by Basic Grace; both of Grace Lutheran Church - Toledo. Following worship, residents and guests enjoyed goodies from the craft and bake sale, entertainment, activities and a delicious picnic supper. We would like to extend our thanks to the many volunteers who helped to fill the day with fun!

For the seventh year in a row, our ministry was blessed to receive the help of area congregations during the ELCA Day of service. Held each year on the Sunday after Labor Day, nearly 50 friends and volunteers gathered from St. John Lutheran – Rocky Ridge, St. Luke’s – Curtice, St. Peter – Blackberry and St. John – Williston to interact with residents and finish projects on our “to do” list.

This year, participants tackled several outdoor painting projects, tended to landscaping, prepared signage for Fall Fest, washed vehicles and hosted a cottage bingo party. We are tremendously grateful for the heartfelt assistance!

“(L-R) Richard Phillips & Kent Delventhal of St. John – Williston, freshen the porch of the habilitation center with a coat of paint.”

“God’s Work. Our Hands.”
It is always an honor to have the opportunity to show our ministry to others and share its impact in northwest Ohio. Christa Luttmann, Regional Liaison to Governor Mike DeWine, recently spent extensive time meeting with members of our team and those we serve to see first-hand the quality and compassionate care offered at our Williston campus, community housing and day programs. In addition, our campus chapel area was the scene for a gathering of elected officials, community leaders and friends for a Genoa Area Chamber of Commerce Open House. Here, attendees interacted with staff and residents and took in the size and many amenities of our 25-acre campus and several newly renovated spaces. Would your group like a tour or talk about our extensive ministries to persons with Developmental Disabilities? For more information, contact 419-972-4436, mobrien@lutherhome.org.

Join the Global Giving Movement

In 2012, #GivingTuesday was established as a worldwide effort around the holidays to encourage philanthropy during what is typically seen as a season of shopping. This day of giving back has grown in momentum each year with millions of participants across the globe completing volunteer projects and giving to causes they care about.

To be held on Tuesday, December 3, we invite you to remember Luther Home of Mercy this #GivingTuesday through an online contribution at lutherhome.org/donate. Checks are also welcome with #GivingTuesday written on the memo line. Your support will be used to purchase medical beds for residents living at our Williston campus.

Community Leaders, Elected Officials Visit Luther Home

It is always an honor to have the opportunity to show our ministry to others and share its impact in northwest Ohio. Christa Luttmann, Regional Liaison to Governor Mike DeWine, recently spent extensive time meeting with members of our team and those we serve to see first-hand the quality and compassionate care offered at our Williston campus, community housing and day programs. In addition, our campus chapel area was the scene for a gathering of elected officials, community leaders and friends for a Genoa Area Chamber of Commerce Open House. Here, attendees interacted with staff and residents and took in the size and many amenities of our 25-acre campus and several newly renovated spaces. Would your group like a tour or talk about our extensive ministries to persons with Developmental Disabilities? For more information, contact 419-972-4436, mobrien@lutherhome.org.

(L-R) Marty Sutter, President of GenoaBank, visits with Cottage Supervisor, Toni Fletcher and Jason.

(L-R) State Representative, D.J. Swearingen, Ottawa County Republican Party Chair, Jill Stinebaugh, and ICF Services Director, Dan Housepian discuss the important issues that effect persons with developmental disabilities.

Chrissy takes pride in showing Luttmann (center) how she uses her new talking device.
Meet Sue and Tammy

Sue has been a resident at one of our Supportive Living Homes since the LHM outreach ministries began. A 1961 graduate of Central Catholic High School, Sue is a friend to everyone she meets; —in fact her friends say she is a social butterfly and she doesn’t mind that at all! Sue is a volunteer at Advent Day program, welcomes guests in her home for Monday night Bible study and always enjoys getting to see her former classmates. According to Sue, “I love being with people and living here gives me every opportunity I need. The staff is great, I get to do fun things like travel to a Mud Hen games (Muddy and Muddonna are her favorites!), attend church, volunteer and try new things. I never have to worry, because I am well cared for. The staff go out of their way to help me.”

One of those staff members is Tammy. She and Sue have worked together for more than 4 years. Tammy holds a Bachelor and Master’s in Gerontology and Administration, has a contagious smile and is dedicated to her work. When asked, what makes you love your job? Tammy replies with a gleam in her eye, “Sue and all of the people I work with, bring sunshine to my life. People often say you must have the patience of Job---and I simply say, not really, I just love working with people with disabilities, LHM gives me the tools I need to do my job and to feel good about my work.”

Making Christmas Merry

Each Christmastime, friends of the Home have made sure that those we serve are thought of during the holidays. In the early years, yuletide cheer might have come from neighbors bringing a plate of homemade cookies or a hand-made scarf. Today, gift cards to a favorite restaurant or a brand new set of markers bring excitement to Christmas morning.

Some of the residents and clients who are served by our ministry receive visits and something special under the tree from family and friends. But many others miss that sense of belonging that comes from being remembered.

This holiday season, we invite your partnership to ensure that each person entrusted to our care has a special gift chosen just for them. Through our “Adopt a Resident” program, Christmas sponsors are matched with an individual and his/her “wish list”. As a sponsor, you then select and purchase several items you wish to provide and deliver them to Luther Home several weeks before the holiday. In this way, there is something special for everyone come Christmas morning.

We are happy to provide Adopt a Resident wish lists to both individuals and groups. If you are interested in adopting a resident or would like more information, please contact Jeanne Rollins at 419-972-4427, jrollins@lutherhome.org.
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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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Luther Home of Mercy is an ICF/DD (Intermediate Care Facility
for Developmentally Disabled) — the main campus is located in
Williston and Community Ministry serves
clients in four NW Ohio counties.

Luther Home of Mercy Presents...

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Bid for the Roses
Spring Auction & Dinner
May 1, 2020
The Pinnacle, Maumee, Ohio
Look for more details in the next issue