



TLHA Quarterly

Summer 2021



Resident honored through weekly lunch dates

In the spring of 2020, Hope Residence resident Shannon was honored with a drive-by birthday parade. Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, a drive-by parade was the safest way to celebrate her 45th birthday.

Nearly a year later, in the same location, Shannon's loved ones gathered to honor her life. Shannon was recently called home to Heaven.

Shannon had called Hope her home for nearly two decades. She was a social butterfly and served as the unofficial Hope greeter to all who entered. Shannon's family, especially her mother, Joyce, has grown close to the team at Hope and continues to stay involved.

With COVID restrictions in place, Shannon could not leave the community, so her mother would bring her a meal from Dairy Queen. Joyce continues this tradition by bringing lunch from Dairy Queen for a resident each week.

"I want them to know they are appreciated and that somebody cares about them," said Joyce. "It is a memory of her that I am bringing back."

A birthday celebration in Heaven

"Shannon was present at almost all the "Worship at



the Cross" services. She would pray for good weather so she could celebrate a special outing," said Pastor Patrick Feldhus, Chaplain at Hope. "She definitely knew who Jesus was and she cheered whenever we talked about going to heaven to live with Jesus forever."

During a recent service, Bruce, a friend of Shannon's and resident at Hope, made a prayer request. He asked Pastor Feldhus, "Pastor, will you please ask God to send Shannon back from Heaven so she can come to my birthday party?"

Pastor Feldhus, replied "Bruce, how about I ask God to let Shannon plan a birthday party for you in Heaven? This way, Shannon can celebrate your birthday with Jesus, the angels, and all the saints in glory."

Bruce smiled, laughed, and clapped. He thought that was a great idea for her to celebrate his birthday in Heaven with Jesus.

Sharing God's Word is at the heart of what we do.

Read more heartwarming stories from our ministry at tlha.org.



Happy 100th birthday, Charlotte!

One of TLHA's most senior residents is enjoying peace, safety, and independence. In January, Charlotte DeFrance marked a very significant milestone. Her 100th birthday was a joyful celebration shared with family and friends. Charlotte has called Highland Regency House [New Ulm, Minn.] home for the past six years.

Highland is just one TLHA care community offering quality senior living. With locations in Minnesota and Wisconsin, we have a place for you. View our locations at tlha.org.



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Chaplain sees impact of God's word daily

Pastor Ed Fredrich serves as chaplain at The Lutheran Home: Belle Plaine. Pastor Fredrich, who can't believe that his JOB is to share God's love with people, admittedly finds it challenging to pick which stories to share.



"I see the impact of God's Word and Gospel every day," said Pastor Fredrich. "It is hard to pick a story. It is not me; it is the good news I share and the person I represent."

Below is one impactful story:

Visiting with residents during meals or after worship is common for Pastor Fredrich. Recently, after a service, Pastor Fredrich sat down with a few residents, including one who had just moved in.

A longtime resident whispered, "He's the pastor. He gives the comfort of God's Word. He really has good messages."

Keep in mind that a senior's whispering is audible to all. "This brought joy to my heart, and I quickly said a prayer of thanks to the Lord for giving me this opportunity to share his love and grace," explained Pastor Fredrich.

Our chaplains share a weekly devotion. Jump start your week and receive weekly inspiration delivered to your inbox! Sign up at tlha.org.

Heritage Homes hosts memorial service in new way

Each year, Pastor Mark Bartsch, chaplain at Heritage Homes, hosts a memorial service to remember and honor residents who have been called home to Heaven.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the team at Heritage transitioned the service to a virtual event.

Kristine Learman, daughter of Armin Schuetze, watched the service. Her father, who passed away in 2020 at the age of 103, was honored.

"It was very nice that they could do that. It is so difficult at this time, but they did their best to honor everyone," Kristine explained. "It was a very thoughtful service."

In anticipation of the service, Pastor Bartsch reached out to all of the loved ones of those who had passed away.

"I had some good conversations with families. I was able to get to know the families throughout their time at Heritage Homes, and they really appreciate the spiritual aspect of our work here," explained Pastor Bartsch. "Many of them shared that they would have loved to come but understood they could not."



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COMMUNITIES AND PROGRAMS

Boessling Village Apartments,
Belle Plaine, MN

Faith Residence,
Belle Plaine, MN

Heritage Homes,
Watertown, WI

High Island Creek Residence,
Arlington, MN

Highland Regency House,
New Ulm, MN

Hope Residence,
Belle Plaine, MN

Jesus Cares Ministries (JCM),
Belle Plaine, MN

Kingsway Retirement Living,
Belle Plaine, MN

St. Michael's Assisted Living,
Fountain City, WI

The Lutheran Home: Belle Plaine,
Belle Plaine, MN

Wellhaven Senior Living,
River Falls, WI

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