



BETHEL COMMUNITY FOCUS

“Sharing Christ Through Caring Service”



A Message from Bethel’s Administrator & CEO

June 2020

*By Chuck Johnson,
Administrator/CEO Bethel
Community*

I hope this note finds everyone healthy and safe. Our thoughts are with everyone as we experience one of the worst pandemics in history. COVID-19 has impacted many things we have taken for granted, such as family gatherings, Sunday worship services, attending school and going to the store, just to name a few.

Why are nursing homes so vulnerable to COVID-19? Nursing home residents are typically elderly with underlying chronic medical conditions. As such, nursing home populations are particularly susceptible to severe complications and mortality from COVID-19. Unlike a hospital, a nursing home is someone’s home. Often, residents live in close quarters with one another, so it can be quite challenging to move or quarantine residents if they become sick.

Visitors and healthcare personnel are the most likely sources of introduction of COVID-19 into a facility. As you may know, we have taken and implemented the necessary precautions in efforts to

prevent the spread of COVID-19. In addition, we are in daily contact and following the recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as well as the South Dakota Department of Health. The residents and staff are screened daily for symptoms associated with COVID-19 as an early detection measure.

We encourage everyone to use alternate forms of communication to stay connected with their loved ones. We have iPads available to FaceTime,

Skype or use other apps to further assist you to stay connected. Our staff will help facilitate calls upon request.



Chuck Johnson

We update our Facebook page (Bethel Lutheran Home) periodically to allow people to see what is happening at Bethel. It and our new website, www.BethelCommunity.com, provide lots of helpful information.

Our primary concern is

the safety and health of our residents. We do not know how long this will last; however, we remain committed in serving our residents. Please allow us to be vigilant in the fight against COVID-19. I urge everyone to be mindful and adhere to social distancing recommendations as well as state and local emergency orders. Thank you to everyone for their continued support in these uncertain times. Your thoughts and prayers are much appreciated.

God Bless and Take Care

Your Gifts at Work

Bethel Foundation Board approved the purchase of 59 (one per nursing home room) overbed tables for each resident. They were ordered, delivered and assembled within one week for residents to have a solid and higher surface to enjoy meals.



Harriet Erickson uses her overbed table while enjoying her meal.



The west wing hallway on overbed table delivery day. Thank you donors!

Bethel Community During COVID-19

Every department at Bethel is ensuring residents' safety through enhanced preventive measures during COVID-19.

Nursing

From Stacie Thompson RN, Director of Nursing and Sabrina Susanen, RN, Infection Control

As you know, there are changes daily to what we know about COVID-19, thus staff are busy keeping up with them and handling the changes in the most up-beat way possible. We are following the Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines to keep our residents and staff healthy and safe. To name a few:

- Screening our staff every shift before they begin work – including taking their temperature and asking how they are feeling. Staff are sent home if they have any symptoms of the disease and directed to contact their physician.
- Residents are screened daily – with the same health questions and completing a

physical assessment with their temperature, heart rate, respirations, blood pressure and oxygen levels checked.

- CNA's are currently wearing face masks upon entry in the building until their shifts are over. They take them off for eating/breaks only. We have been so fortunate to have many staff and members of the Community make fun masks for us. We also have face shields that are available for staff if they choose extra protection.

- If we are screening any residents for COVID-19, they are placed in isolation and staff wear the full PPE of face masks, face shields, gowns and gloves upon entry to the resident's room.

- All staff are diligent in handwashing or using hand sanitizer to prevent the spread of illness. Staff education is the key and they are educated on changes almost daily.

- The hardest changes have been the restriction of visitors in the facility. Family, physicians, beauticians and outside activity groups are not allowed to come into Bethel at this time.

- We have had many youth/church groups who have made cards and sent flowers to our residents to brighten their days.

- Family can Facetime their loved ones or come to their window and talk to them on cell phones. Families are sending flowers and care packages to their

loved ones and they look forward to this.

- Physicians are doing rounds via secured Zoom to ensure continued care.

Our goal is to keep our residents and staff healthy and to do this we know all these changes are necessary but are looking forward to when things get "back to normal." Thanks to our residents and staff families for understanding and for helping us all get through this together! If anyone has any questions about Facetime or what they can do to help, please call and ask for one of us.

Dietary

From Carli Nighbert, Dietary Manager

During this time, residents who can eat independently are served meals in their rooms. Residents needing assistance eat in the dining room and are seated at least six feet apart. Instead of having coffee time in our dining room, every afternoon residents are offered a beverage and snack in their rooms. In addition, we continue to have snack carts that go out to each wing mid-morning and before bed. Dietary just switched to spring/summer menus a few weeks ago. Menu/meal options are continuing the same during COVID-19 precautions.

To prepare in room service of meals, residents now fill out a week's worth of menus at a time. Although not ideal for residents, it helps in delivering meals



Pastor Feistner serving communion to Helen Lygtebo during Easter Maundy Thursday service.

timely. We are checking additional vendor options to help ensure our ability to get food items to continue menu selections.

Chaplaincy

From Pastor Mary Feistner, Bethel Chaplain

As Bethel Chaplain, I have been an advocate for families when a resident is critically ill and pray with them and their loved one. Holy Communion was held on Maundy Thursday and for those of Catholic faith, Stations of the Cross were experienced during Holy Week. In addition, Good Friday and Easter celebration services were held.

During the coronavirus precautions, I am connecting daily with residents and staff. In addition, Catholic Rosary is done weekly. Finally, Chapel service is held every Thursday with me as Chaplain and devotions are held other days of the week from Bethel Activities staff, all are with adherence to COVID-19 precautions for residents.

Activities

From Deb Rohde, Activities Coordinator

As we are living with our "new normal," we are



Lloyd Schultz enjoying family over Easter by Facetime.

keeping activities as close to normal as possible, to aid in our residents' well-being. We are blessed to have a large chapel and activity room where we can still hold small group activities for up to eight residents following social distancing protocol. Everyone gets to take a turn attending activities and we even have coffee time at a distance. Bingo continues once a week, which is a favorite activity for many. It is played three days a week with our players divided into three groups.

Our staff also spends time in the day rooms or with the residents in their rooms doing an activity or having a good visit. If it is nice enough, we go outside to enjoy the sunshine. Thank you to all the students who wrote letters and for the cheerful gifts family and community have given us.

Environmental Services
From Teresa Wise, Environmental Services Manager

We are concentrating more heavily on our high touch areas in the facility by cleaning and sanitizing these areas repeatedly throughout the day. With residents eating in their rooms, we thought it would be more involved to clean them well. Instead, we find it allows us more time to visit with each resident every day while ensuring the cleanliness of each room. Laundry continues as usual for residents with additional treatments

to clothing protectors.

Bethel Suites/Apartments/ New Hope Adult Day Services

From Jill Eggert, LPN/ Director of Community Services

Things look a little different for the residents of Bethel Suites since the strict guidelines were put into place per Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the CDC in March. Staff are wearing masks at all times when at work, residents are screened daily and vital signs are taken, only small group activities are taking place while practicing safe social distancing, residents alternate eating in their rooms and in the dining room every other day due to social distancing, and all outside visitors are suspended at this time.

Unfortunately, we are unable to have New Hope Adult Day program run now for the well-being of our participants and residents. The residents at Bethel Apartments are currently not able to enter Bethel Home, but they are able to have visitors. We all pray for better times ahead; however, we will practice precautions as directed to ensure our Bethel Community safety.

Maintenance and Transport

From Jerry Bergheim, Maintenance Supervisor

We follow precautions with our necessary vendor maintenance visits, supply delivery and equipment handling. If a resident

transport is needed, the Bethel vans are sanitized before and after every passenger. Any additional COVID-19 related supply and equipment has increased care with freight deliveries, storage and handling. Gloves and masks are required of staff for every piece of freight handled as restrictions warrant. Any vendor that must enter the facility is screened as a precaution by nursing staff.

Social Work and Business Office

From Cathy Stromberg, Social Worker

Residents and family members have been missing each other since Bethel Home and Bethel Suites closed our doors to outside visitors due to COVID-19. Staff help family members and residents stay in contact in some creative new ways. Currently, family members will call the Bethel Home or Bethel Suites staff and set up times to talk to loved ones on the phone while looking



Pauline Habeger visits on the phone with family standing outside for each to see one another.

at each other through the resident's window or the windows in the North or South dayrooms. Family members are also Facetime-ing or Skyping with their loved ones. Staff have access to a Bethel iPad that they will take to residents' rooms and contact loved ones. The Office Manager, Becky Glanzer, and I contact family members weekly to keep everyone up to date on any changes. Family may call us anytime to talk to staff about an update on their family member.

Bethel Resident Updates

February 1 – April 30, 2020

Bethel Lutheran Community

From Cathy Stromberg, Social Worker

Welcomed:

Glen Nordland
 Elvira Eaker
 John Barrick

In Loving Memory:

Glen Nordland
 Joyce Bunker

Community Change:

Joanne Jensen
(Bethel Apartments to Bethel Home)

Said Good Bye To:

Glenn VandenBosch
 Russell Fischer
 John Barrick
 Wilbur Gehrels

Bethel Dinner & Auction and Golf Tournament Update

Due to COVID-19, the Bethel Lutheran Home Foundation Directors decided to cancel both fundraising events and gatherings due to the many unknowns. We want you to remain safe at home for as long as necessary without the pressure of attending an event to provide support

as a friend of Bethel.

We plan to offer these important events for fellowship and support to Bethel for resident care once again in 2021. In the meantime, please consider a gift of what you would have given of support at the Bethel Annual Dinner and Auction or Bethel

Annual Golf Tournament online or send your gift to us at 1001 S. Egan Ave., Madison, SD 57042 as a Benefactor or general gift.

You make a difference to us and our care of residents who call Bethel "their home."

Special thank you to our partners and friends for

sponsoring, hosting a table or purchasing dinner tickets and for graciously allowing us to keep their prepayment as a gift despite the events not being held. Our need for resources is still needed and allows for our enhancement of services, technology and maintenance of Bethel.

2020 Bethel Dinner & Auction Sponsors – Thank You Partners

PREMIER – \$1,500

Barger Electric
Ellsworth/Willoughby
Funeral Homes
Lewis
Vast BUSINESS

GOLD – \$750

Goodcare, LLC

SILVER – \$500

Eide Bailly
First Bank & Trust
First Premier Bank
Great Western Bank
Keppen Construction, Inc.
Lake Madison Lutheran Church
Marco
Marsh & McLennan Agency
Montgomery's
United Technologies

BRONZE – \$250

ABC Automated Building
Controls Inc.
Avid Hawk, LLC
Christiansen Complete Water
Edward Jones Investments
Karen Kalvig
Presto X Pest Control
SODEXO – DSU Dining Services
and Catering
Sunshine Foods – Madison

2020 Bethel Table Hosts – Thank You for Participating

(without event now a gift to Bethel Foundation @ \$350 each table)

Dr. Richard Belatti (2)
Gary and Bonnie Callies
John and Linda Collignon
Larry and Mary Ann Collignon
Marv and Jackie Eich
Dona Hansen
David Hyland *(in honor of
Mary Ann Hyland)*

Infotech Solutions, LLC
Ron and Roberta Janke
Mark and Kathy Kontz
Lake Madison Lutheran Church
Madison Regional Health System
Marsh & McLennan Agency
Don and Jackie Miles
Joe Minnaert

Marc and Lana Molskness
Montgomery's
Millie Moser (2)
Mustang Seeds
Prostrollo Auto Mall
Mark and Cathy Schultz (1.25)

2020 Dinner Attendance Tickets – Thank You Registrants

(now a gift to Bethel @ \$45 each)

Jane Barthel
Greg and Vonnie Benda (2)
Dan and Judy Bohl (2)
Marv and Rose Brinkman (2)
Lorraine Crouch
Randy and Linda Cundy (4)
Larry and Anita DeKramer (2)
Marlys Drewes

Linda Fischer
Lloyd Gundvaldson
Pastor Dirk and Bishop Constanze
Hagmaier (2)
Phil and Eileen Halverson (2)
Delores Hammer
Dona Hansen
Jim and Cheryl Iverson (2)

Warren and Marilyn Jackson (2)
Lana Johnson
Jerome and Nancy Lammers (2)
Linda Meier (3)
Norma Patterson
Barb Sample
Victor and Zona Sanderson (2)
Donna Smith

2020 Bethel Golf Gifts & 2020 Dinner Auction Donations for 2021

(both will be included in our next edition)

The (New) Art of Communication

*By Rosie Jamison,
Development Director of
Bethel Lutheran Home
Foundation*

Consider yourself hugged. I realize now just how often I touch another person by either a handshake, pat on the shoulder or with an embrace. As we practice preventive measures some personal contact is lost in business relationships and personal conversations. I miss it. However, opportunities now exist for more conversations through social media, overdue phone visits or more quality time at home. As a recipient of our Bethel Community Focus, it is vital for you to know what is going on at this special place, with in-person visits not currently possible.

The team at Bethel is practicing every precau-

tion to help ensure our residents are safe in their Bethel home and provide a healing touch, tender voice, welcomed smile and listening ear. This is what friends of Bethel, residents and families depend upon when personal visits are not possible. Thank you for your trust in us to provide compassion and comfort to our residents and their families.

In late April we began a new Facebook page and in early May we unveiled a new website to provide more timely information (Bethel, staff, happenings, and background), plus resident action photos. Please check out our website and Bethel Lutheran Home on Facebook, and please "Like" our page.

For some time, we have wanted to have an

opportunity for you to give online. The new website allows you to make a gift at



Rosie Jamison your convenience. You may also consider an electronic funds transfer and direct deposit or remember to name Bethel as your charitable organization from matching programs. Of course, we still accept gifts mailed to us and once visitation is again open, stop in where you can see your gift at work.

To ensure your safety, we canceled our fundraising events for 2020. These were difficult decisions, as we like to show our appreciation to you in person while we gather and enjoy

fellowship. Given this, Bethel will be without the funds generated at our Annual Dinner and Auction in April or the Golf Tourney in July. Our work continues at Bethel providing care and comfort for resident needs; now more than ever. These event cancellations come just after the 2019 flood and evacuation and when additional supplies and equipment are required due to COVID-19. Your support to help maintain Bethel's ministry of care for this community and residents is vital.

Thank you for your generosity and for taking the time to read about your Bethel Community.

"I can do all this through Him who gives me strength."

~ **Philippines 4:13**

New Bethel Website Unveiled – www.BethelCommunity.com

The first week in May brought May Day for all, the splendor of green to God's masterpiece with spots of red tulips and yellow daffodils along with pink and white apple tree blossoms to the enjoyment of us all. It also brought our new and improved Bethel Lutheran Home, Community and Foundation website for Bethel Lutheran Home.

We invite you to visit us at www.BethelCommunity.com and learn more. You will find out about our services, team, event photos, job

opportunities, foundation information and events, plus newsletters can be found on the site.

In addition, for those interested in making a gift anytime from anywhere, we now accept online giving. Another feature is a more user-friendly online employment application and useful links to our partners for viewers. Finally, it allows us to be more prominent in online searches for skilled nursing care, assisted living and age-in-place facilities and services.



Thank you to our webmaster, designer and platform host Avid Hawk, LLC of DeSmet for their expertise and timely customer service provided to help us with production and ongoing maintenance.

We hope the website allows you to learn even more about us, resident

care and options at Bethel.

Pictured above is the website home page featuring a view of Bethel that is seldom seen by the public. It is the outside of the Vickmark Chapel, facing west to the grounds and trees on the edge of Bethel property, opposite from Egan Avenue.

Bethel Benefactor Gifts: February 1 – April 30, 2020

Benefactor Gifts are welcomed the entire year and recognized annually. Thank you Benefactors! If you are not a Benefactor, please consider becoming a Bethel Benefactor by signing and sending in your membership and gift. A Benefactor Gift is separate from gifts to memorials, endowment, Christmas or fundraising events.

SKYLIGHT: \$1,000 – \$2,499 Annually Dona Hansen	Leland and Carol White	Agatha Fods Kiara Glanzer Dr. Larry Green Lowell and Sharyl Hass Gene and Marilyn Hexom Joel and Jamie Husher Leonard (Bud) & Doris Janke Elizabeth Jensen Nancy Jensen-Miller Pat and Tammy Kuusela Randall and Laverne Lafrentz Barbara Leonard Tanchicca Meredith	Gerald and Carol Petri Bill and Joyce Richter Halley Riedel and Nancy Riedel Merlin and Bev Riedel Berna Schaaf Dan and Sharon Siemonsma Mark and Jill Stearns Maynard and Pat Stock Heath and Stacie Thompson Ted and Kathy Weiland Grace Wolf
KEYSTONE: \$500 – \$999 Annually Marv and Jackie Eich	FOOTINGS: \$100 – \$249 Annually John and Darlene Basler Greg and Vonnie Benda Irma Beukelman Michael and Artyce Brooke		
CORNERSTONE: \$250 – \$499 Annually Jody Bossman Tom and Kim Boyko Gordon and Henrietta Johnson Ray and Marcia Wenk	Les and JoLynn Bulick Dennis and Sharrie Danielson Kevin and Angela Donlin, D.M.D., P.C. Eleanor Enga Christina Erickson		

Memorial Gifts: February 1 – April 30, 2020

In Memory of Beverly J. Bamberg Barb Hyland	In Memory of Martin Connor Vernon and Kay Schmidt	In Memory of Gordon Hageman Merlin and Bev Riedel	In Memory of Joanne Owens Kay Johnson
In Memory of Joyce E. Bunker Scott and Rosie Jamison Merlin and Bev Riedel	In Memory of Janet Dickerson Linda Schroeder	In Memory of Duane Hyland Sharon Abraham Jerry and Connie Hegdahl Barb Hyland Leland and Diane Spilde Bonnie Stratton	In Memory of Betty Sunde Carsten and Karen Bergheim Wayne and Dawn Bessman Jerry and Connie Hegdahl Barb Hyland Mary Ann Hyland Bonnie Stratton
		In Memory of Robert Lundin Lana Johnson	In Memory of Jean Tommeraaasen Gary G. and Rochelle Johnson
		In Memory of Joe Maher Peach Seten	

Continuum of Care Endowment Pledges and Gifts: February 1 – April 30, 2020

*Donors are listed by amount of their gift made to this
Bethel Lutheran Home Foundation endowment.*

\$25,000

Vanguard Charitable Trust –
Dr. Joel and Sharon Ziebarth

\$5,000

Ronald Nelson
Darrel and Patti Simon

\$1,500

Terry and Lori Schultz

Thank You

Thank you for a non-cash gift of \$500 from Black Studios – Michael Black for professional staff photos and environmental images for use in print and on our new website, www.BethelCommunity.com.

Gifts to Other Funds: February 1 – April 30, 2020

CHAPLAINCY FUND

Linda Fischer
In Memory of Olga Abraham
In Memory of Carol Stewart Bedo
In Memory of Rhoda Benjamin
In Memory of Gordon Hageman
In Memory of Glen C. Nordland
In Memory of Holly Stubbs
Pastors Ross and Karen Youmans

In Memory of Beverly J. Bamberg

CHURCH GIFTS

First Lutheran Church – Colton (2)
First Lutheran Church Endowment – Colton
Trinity Lutheran Church – Madison (3)

DINNER FUND

Grace Lutheran Church WOL
Scott and Jeri Daniels
Jim and Cheryl Iverson
Elizabeth Jensen

Linda Meier
Mark and Cathy Schultz
Darrel and Patti Simon

GIFTS

Randy and Julie Bobzin
Dorothy Christianson
In Honor of Imogene C. Ellis
Marie Millage
Heather Noel
Steve and Carol Oftedal
Adelyne Stearns
Stacy Ulwelling

GIFTS – THRIVENT

Thrivent Choice

Wayne and Dawn Bessman
John and Joyce Dragseth
Lloyd and Rebecca Hegdahl (2)
Gene and Marilyn Hexom
Gary G. Johnson
Dennis Learned
Rudolph and Ione Schmidt
Robert Trulock

RESTRICTED GIFTS

Drew and Joanne Clausen (3)
Sioux Valley Energy
Brady and Kristin Wiebe

leg·a·cy /'legəsē/

By Kathy McHenry, Executive Director, Lutheran Planned Giving of South Dakota

I've spent a lot of time with my mom-in-law the past few weeks. She is 93 and a half. There is an unwritten rule somewhere that when you reach 90, you get to count half years again just like when you were six. She has been a widow for almost 40 years now, and raised four great kids, including my husband.

I love to hear her stories about growing up in the "Dirty 30's" and how she climbed the windmill tower to see where the men were in the field to know whether they would soon be coming in for lunch; how her mother knew just the exact number of corn-cobs it took to bake perfectly browned loaves of bread each week; how they ate way too many potatoes and eggs because there

wasn't money for anything else; and how Sunday breakfast was special, because cornflakes were on the menu.

She laughs when recognizing the changes, she has witnessed – she was



Kathy McHenry

one of the first virtual visit patients with her doctor in March. They marveled at the technology as she remembered hearing about this thing called television when she was in eighth grade and did not believe it could possibly be real.

I tell this story because like so many from her generation, Kathleen is an example to me of grit and survival, compassion and gratitude, faith and generosity who makes me

want to be better, to do better. In the midst of these uncertain, frightening times, she reminds me that we'll be just fine. We will endure some hardships and do without, but our priorities will change and understand the difference between needs and wants. Also, we will know beyond a shadow of a doubt, what it really means to make a difference in the lives of others and create a legacy that future generations will look to as an example.

The ministry of Bethel will do the same. Through quality compassionate care and various age-in-place

choices Bethel will continue to bring Christ's love to the community in even more meaningful ways with resident dignity at every stage. But they need our help to do so – both now and in the future. Thank you for continuing to give today and for considering Bethel to be a part of your estate plan. You can make a difference by choosing to leave a legacy.

For information about how to make a tax-advantaged gift to Bethel today, or to benefit our foundation with your estate plan, contact me by phone at (605) 274-5030 or email kmchenry@sdsynod.org.

Thank You

Special thanks for face masks sewn, letters written, treats sent, PPE's made, flowers and gifts sent for residents and staff during COVID-19 from our community of friends to Bethel. God Bless.



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Madison, SD 57042

*If you would like to receive the
Bethel Community Focus
electronically, please send
your email address to
rosie@bethelcommunity.com*

Notify Bethel of a change of
address using "Contact Us" at
www.BethelCommunity.com

For additional information
about this edition, contact
Rosie Jamison, Bethel
Community Focus editor

Find us on 

Bethel Lutheran Home has a new Facebook page since April. Periodic posts let you see happenings at Bethel, visitors (following COVID-19 social distancing rules), resident activities and staff interaction with them. Please sign in, take a look and "Like" our page.

You Enrich Bethel through your Relationship with Us.

Enclosed is a gift of support to continue
Bethel's Ministry and Community of Care



Bethel Benefactor Information

Print Name(s): _____

As your name(s) should be printed and recognized. Please provide your current contacts for the Foundation database.

Address: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Email: _____

I/We wish to participate annually at the giving level marked below, until notification is given to discontinue:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Footings \$100-\$249 | <input type="checkbox"/> Cornerstone \$250-\$499 | <input type="checkbox"/> Keystone \$500-\$999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Skylight \$1,000-\$2,499 | <input type="checkbox"/> Builder \$2,500-\$4,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> Architect \$5,000 or more |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Send information about planned giving to provide a gift to Bethel and help secure my future fixed income | | |

(Your gift can be made by electronic fund transfer or in installments. Contact the Foundation.)

**Please make your check payable to Bethel Foundation and return it with this form to
Bethel Lutheran Home Foundation, 1001 S Egan Ave, Madison, SD 57042**

Contributions are tax-deductible. Thank you for your involvement to help us enrich our ministry!