



# NEWS LETTER

A quarterly newsletter for the friends and family of Christian Care Retirement Community

May 2022–July 2022

## *Introducing Our New* **Executive Director**

We are excited to announce that Austin Smith joined the Christian Care Team on February 28, 2022 as the Executive Director. Austin comes with 21 years of finance and marketing experience in various roles, most recently as Corporate Controller at Pretzels Inc. here in Bluffton. Austin is married to Rachel and they are blessed with five children, Lydia age 12, Laura age 11, Ellie age 8, Gerrit age 6 and Quentin age 4. He lives in rural Decatur and his school age children attend Adams Central Community Schools. The Smith family is active in their church and participate in various extracurricular activities. They also enjoy gardening, taking care of their farm animals and selling produce in the summer months.

“It’s been such a blessing to meet the residents and their families, volunteers, and the staff at Christian Care. Everyone has been so welcoming and the outpouring of encouragement is humbling for this next chapter in life. It’s an honor to serve alongside the dedicated

Christian Care team as we carry out our mission of ‘enriching senior living with Christian values and compassionate quality service.’ I appreciate each one of you and I am glad to be here.”

– Austin Smith



### INSIDE:

Activities Department .....	2
Birthdays .....	3
Hospitality Services .....	3
Admissions .....	4
Our New Receptionist .....	4
Farewells .....	5
Nursing Notes .....	5



# Activities Department

April showers bring May flowers, and how beautiful our patio is looking. Thank you to the Apostolic Garden Club for all of their hard work maintaining it. We look forward to the cherry tomatoes this summer.

On April 16th we had our first Easter Egg hunt. We hid over 2,000 eggs for our little ones to find. We enjoyed seeing their smiling faces. The Easter Bunny also made an appearance. Let's not forget the true meaning of Easter – the resurrection of Jesus Christ!

We look forward to having our first Mother's Day lunch and Father's Day meal in two years. Invitations have been sent for the Mother's Day lunch – please RSVP. A date and time for the Father's day meal will be announced at a later date.

We look forward to fishing in the pond, wheelchair rides, walks outside, sitting on the patio, and van rides – especially to Wilshire Ohio for ice cream! It is one of the resident's favorite places to visit.

Families and friends are welcome to join the residents in the chapel where masks must be worn at all times and safe distance should be maintained from others. Please contact our Activities Director Betty Lough with any questions at 260-565-3006 ext 2172.

We have celebrated a few special days over the past few months, National Mustache Day, National Hot Chocolate Day, the Super Bowl and many others. I hope you enjoy the pictures. We did our first "Wheelchair Rodeo" which entailed inspecting all the wheelchairs for the residents in Healthcare. There was a horse, and snacks for the residents to enjoy.

## Volunteer Corner

The week of April 18th is National Volunteer Week. We are so blessed to have an amazing volunteer team. They have supported Christian Care in so many ways over the years. Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts.

– Betty Lough  
Activity Director

*"Volunteers are the only human beings on the face of the earth who reflect this nation's compassion, unselfish caring, patience, and just plain love for one another."*

– Erma Bombeck



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Retirement Community consisting of:

Independent Living

- North Shore Estates
- Lakeview Estates
- Patio Pines Apartments

Assisted Living

- Three Oaks Apartments
- Sugar Maple Suites

Skilled Nursing

- The Orchard
- Golden Apple

## ADMINISTRATION

Executive Director .....Austin Smith  
Interim Executive Director .....Leon Gerber  
Administrator .....Donna Emshwiller  
Administrator in Training .....Maria Bates  
Director of Nursing .....Kaitlyn Ort  
Asst. Director of Nursing .....Lindsay Holmes  
Business Office .....Donna Geisel  
Social Service Director .....Jen Kinyo  
Hospitality Services Director .....Deb Dove  
Scheduling Coordinator .....Barb Werling  
Maintenance Supervisor .....Dion Dubbeld  
Human Resources Director .....Katie Holloway  
Activity Director .....Betty Lough

Members of:

- Leading Age Indiana
- Wells County Chamber of Commerce

Mission Statement:

**"Enriching senior living  
with Christian values and  
compassionate quality service."**

# Happy Birthday!!!!!!

## Residents

Violet Meyer.....	June 2
Virginia Rauch.....	June 2
Mary Lantz.....	June 8
Rudy Frauhiger.....	June 11
Cheryl Flack.....	June 16
Delores Fry.....	June 22
Thomas Smith.....	June 23
Sally Tinkel.....	June 26
Mary Jane Hamilton-Marvo.....	June 27
John Krinn.....	June 29
Robert Isch.....	July 1
Betty LeMaster.....	July 4
Betty J. Davis.....	July 5
Joan Pursifull.....	July 5
Simon (Pete) Heyerly.....	July 5
Janet Turmail.....	July 9
Thomas Stephens.....	July 12
Frank Howe.....	July 16
Sherry Hilliard.....	July 18
Jerry Petzel.....	July 21
Harry Gerber.....	July 21
Al Ringger.....	July 21
Melvin Frauhiger.....	July 31
Mary Coffield.....	August 1
Ellen Geisel.....	August 2
Eleanor Benes.....	August 7
Bonnie Worden.....	August 8
Marilyn Baumgartner.....	August 11
Lucile Frauhiger.....	August 19
Harold Arnold.....	August 21
John Cupp.....	August 21
Sandra Wright.....	August 22
Darlene King.....	August 23
Dorothy Zaugg.....	August 24
Jeanette Gilbert.....	August 25
Lela Moser.....	August 26
Betty Yaney.....	August 26
Bev Troxel.....	August 26
Paul Haffner.....	August 28
Etta Steffen.....	August 28
Rita Reinhard.....	August 29

## Employees

Patricia Ketron.....	June 4
Margo Haiflich.....	June 6
Debra Elsten.....	June 8
Caleb Hudson.....	June 8
Kirsten Bennett.....	June 12
Dawn Brickley.....	June 17
Haillie Welch.....	June 17
Allisa Beck.....	June 18
Alan Carpenter.....	June 18
Stacey Quinones.....	June 18
Kara Reckard.....	June 18
Jenny Gerber.....	June 21
Ashley Green.....	June 24
Thomas Isch.....	June 27
Cole Arnett.....	June 28
Jolan Gerber.....	June 30
Daisy Herrera.....	June 30
Nicole Affolder.....	July 3
Cecily Kaehr.....	July 4
Hutchenson Craighead.....	July 5
Savannah Huss.....	July 6
Melissa Clark.....	July 7
Katie Holloway.....	July 10
Ruby Mosser.....	July 11
Jennifer Kinyo.....	July 12
Rebecca Bradtmueller.....	July 17
Frederica DeBolt.....	July 25
Terri Urshel.....	July 25
Jamie Gregory.....	July 28
Angela Kiefer.....	July 31
Cassandra Smith.....	July 31
Savannah Eckelbarger-Girvin.....	August 3
Stacey Bagley.....	August 6
Rene Biberstein.....	August 9
Carol Klopfenstein.....	August 10
Barbara Ticas.....	August 10
Tiffany Turner.....	August 10
Cierrah Walden.....	August 10
Michele Briede.....	August 16
Kristin VanDeman.....	August 20
Maria Coffield.....	August 25
Elaine Kipfer.....	August 27
Christy Day.....	August 28

## Hospitality Services

Spring is here and Summer is on its way! What better way to enjoy these seasons than with fellowship and food. We are so excited to be preparing for our Mother's Day Luncheon on Tuesday, May 3rd. This is a time we can take to celebrate these special women.

We will then be coming up with something fun for Cinco De Mayo for residents and staff, there could even be a piñata or sombrero around that day! Before we know it the grill will be fired up for some cookouts. Hamburgers and hot dogs, how can you go wrong?

I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream! National Ice Cream Day is June 7th.

We are looking ahead for our Father's Day Lunch to honor them. The date is yet to be determined.

We are so blessed to be able to do the events and things we do with our residents. On behalf of the Hospitality Services Department, thank you for sharing your loved ones with us.

– Deb Dove  
Hospitality Services Director

*My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command.*

– John 15:12-15





# Welcome!!!!!!

## Admissions & Discharges

### Christian Care welcomed...

- Robert Isch
- Karen Kaehr
- Darlene King
- Jerry King
- Carolyn Meyer

### Christian Care discharged...

- Melvin Frauhiger

### Assisted Living welcomed...

Harry and Mabel Geisel recently moved to Christian Care from their home at Hamilton Lake. Harry and Mabel have been married for 61 years and have one son who lives here in Bluffton. Harry was a truck driver for 32 years before retiring. He enjoys watching movies. Mabel worked for Blue Flame Gas for 33 years, and 10 years for Dekalb Co. Council on Aging. Mabel collected all kinds of dolls for years, and loves cats. Harry and Mabel loved to travel and have visited 11 different countries.

### Independent Living welcomed...

Jerry Petzel was born and raised in Wells Co. He worked at Panhandle Eastern Pipeline Co. for 35 years before retiring. He then worked for Bluffton Harrison School system for 27 years as a bus driver until his move to Christian Care. Jerry was married for 50 years. His wife passed away in 2021. He has three children, two girls and a boy, several grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. Jerry states his favorite “hobby” is going to Hardees twice daily to meet up with friends and talk. He also loves playing cards with several other residents here at Christian Care and states that the men are beating the women tremendously.

Nancy Shane was born in Noblesville, Indiana. She was married for 55 years and has three sons, eleven grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren – and one on the way. She worked in an office when she was first married, and after having her children she stayed home and babysat. When her children went to school, Nancy got a job as a cook in the cafeteria at the school. Nancy’s sons own and operate the Gospel Barn in Bluffton and she enjoys helping them out in various capacities. Nancy also enjoys doing puzzles.

## Our New Receptionist

Friday, March 25th was a bittersweet day for Christian Care as we said goodbye and best wishes to Jen Whicker. Jen has been the smiling face of CCRC since 2018 and was truly loved by the residents, family members and team members. However, we continue to wish her the best of luck as she begins her new journey at Edward Jones.

Jen says, “Christian Care has been a wonderful place to work. I truly appreciate being given the opportunity to work for such a great organization with compassionate and awesome team members and residents. Christian Care will always hold a very special place in my heart. I have learned a lot and grown professionally during my time with Christian Care. I can’t thank CCRC

enough for the guidance and support over the past three years. I wish you all the very best.”

While we are sad to see Jen go, we are ecstatic to welcome Amaya Wilder as our new receptionist! She officially joined our team on April 4th and has taken quickly

to the role. Originally from Fort Wayne, Amaya is new to Bluffton and is excited to get to know the residents, their families and the team members! We are thrilled to have her and wish to extend a warm welcome from the CCRC Family!

Jen Whicker



Amaya Wilder



## Christian Care Says Farewell

Leon Johnson came to Healthcare November 29, 2021 and passed away on March 22nd. He is survived by five children, thirteen grandchildren and twenty great-grandchildren. Leon taught 6th grade at Rock Creek School in Wells County and was a Harrison Township farmer. He was a member of the Six Mile Church. We express our deepest sympathy to his family.

Edwin Bryan came to Healthcare January 29, 2022 and passed away on February 13th. He is survived by two children, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Ed served as a teacher, coach, athletic director and principal at Adams Central Community Schools from 1930-1989. He also worked as a farmer on the Bryan family homestead. He enjoyed spending time at Pretty Lake and was a member of the Pleasant Dale Church of the Brethren. We express our deepest sympathy to his family.

Alvin Fiechter came to Healthcare December 12, 2020 and passed away March 2nd. He is survived by two children, six grandchildren and twenty great-grandchildren. Al worked at International Harvester for over twenty years and was a life-long farmer in Wells County. He was a member of the Apostolic Christian Church. Al enjoyed wintering in Florida with his wife, and spending time at the lake with family. We express our deepest sympathy to his family.

Vernon Gerber came to Healthcare February 2, 2022 and passed away February 28th. He is survived by three children, thirteen grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great grandsons. Vernon was a member of the Apostolic Christian Church. He worked for his dad at the Airplane Station and spent most of his career as a commodities broker. Vernon had a passion for music

and enjoyed spending time in God's word. We express our deepest sympathy to his family.

Linda Brigham came to Healthcare January 14, 2021 and passed away March 13th. She is survived by her husband, two daughters and two granddaughters. Linda enjoyed animals and spending time with her family. We express our deepest sympathy to her family.

Bonnie Gerber came to Healthcare April 12, 2021 and passed away February 2nd. She is survived by two daughters, five grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren. Bonnie worked for the Fuller Brush Company and for the bakery at Gerber Grocery Store in Berne. She had a passion for baking and spending time with her family. Bonnie was a member of the Apostolic Christian Church. We express our deepest sympathy to her family.

## Nursing Notes *Wheelchair Rodeo*

Here at CCRC, we are always looking for ways to integrate process improvements in a way that is thorough and efficient, but also enjoyable for our staff and residents. Many of our residents require the use of assistive devices, such as wheelchairs and walkers. These devices require routine cleaning, maintenance, and inspection to ensure they are in good condition, work properly, and are appropriate for each resident as an individual.

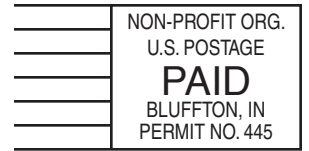
Last month we held our first ever "Wheelchair Rodeo," where each department was present and able to complete these routine tasks, but with a western twist. We had music, food, western décor, and even had a horse! I should clarify that this "horse" was our MDS nurse dressed up in an inflatable horse costume, which the staff and residents thoroughly enjoyed! This was a simple and fun way to collaborate as a team to provide quality care to our residents, and we look forward to having this event again soon.

– Kaitlyn Ort  
Director of Nursing





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Return Service Requested

## Memorial Giving *A Thoughtful Tribute with a Living Legacy*

A Living Legacy continues to live on because many of you have contributed to Christian Care's Good Samaritan Charitable Program in memory of a loved one. We always want to remember our loved ones. Memorials were given in memory of the following persons in 2021:

Jon Aschliman	Wendell Gerber	Patty Moser
Ada Bushee	Frank & Ruth Ifer	Phil Moser
Richard "Dick" Clark	Ernie Isch	Walter Neuenschwander
Bernice Fiechter	Richard Kaehr	Jan Reinhard
Rose Frauhiger	Jay Kipfer	Jessie Shelley
Pete Geels	James "Jim" Kleinknight	Harry Steffen
Charles Gerber	Pauline Kolter	Alice Stevens
Frederick & Margaret Gerber	Marjorie LaMar	Donna Jean Warnimont
Jeanne Gerber	Robert "Bob" Meyer	Marcella Yergler
Rochelle Gerber	Marcia Meyer	Bob Zaugg
Victor Gerber		

We thank all of our charitable contributors for their generosity and consideration of being a Good Samaritan and offering "A Thoughtful Tribute with a Living Legacy."

– Good Samaritan Charitable Program Committee  
Brad Fiechter, Klint Moser, Brian Tonner, Austin Smith, Leon R. Gerber