



# NEWS LETTER

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

November 2022–January 2023

## A New Normal

The past eleven months have been challenging for all of us at Christian Care Retirement Community as well as for everyone. We are bound to live in a new normal at Christian Care as well as the whole world.

A year ago when I returned to Christian Care, we were just coming out of the depths of Covid-19, and since then our employees and residents have experienced the ebbs and flows of Covid-19 and still live under the safety requirements of the CDC and Indiana Board of Health.

As many of you have experienced in the past month, we have implemented new Accushield Kiosks for employees, residents and visitors to login their Covid-19 status. It seems the consensus of our industry, for the safety of our residents and employees, that answering applicable health questions will be with us for the future.

Many positive things have occurred, especially with our employees. Hiring is still a challenge, however, we have many dedicated employees who have remained steadfast during the past years, and some of our former employees have returned because of their dedication to Christian Care’s residents. Many of you have seen Elaine Kipfer and Diane Heyerly as our new receptionists. We have had other employees in various departments returning. We are very thankful that many of our volunteers have also returned, giving of their time and talents enriching the lives of our residents and staff.

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My role, since we hired Austin Smith as our Executive Director last February, remains part time, as I usually work on Tuesdays and Thursdays. I am doing some of the accounting work, Independent Living admissions and North Shore construction, as Austin focuses on obtaining his Administrator’s license and the employee/hiring challenges we continue to deal with.

It is our hope to utilize South Woods to help accommodate the admission challenges we face with the Covid-19 requirements, as well as adding a private room environment for our short stay Skilled Care residents.

– Leon Gerber  
Interim Executive Director

# Activities Department

As the first snowfall quickly approaches we look forward to celebrating the holiday season with our family and friends. We are excited to decorate for the season, build a snowman and have snowball fights. We are hoping to be able to have Christmas carolers and other entertainment back in the building.

Plans are being made for the upcoming holiday season. Deb and her staff have planned a traditional Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner to be served to all in-house Christian Care residents. We will do our best to navigate through the holidays the best we can, keeping many traditions as in the past.

We will again be offering Christmas Light Tours this holiday season. Details for these trips will be determined at a later date.

We have kept busy by enjoying golf cart rides, sitting on the patio, van rides and walks outdoors. We enjoyed a taste of the Bluffton Street Fair with elephant ears, zum sticks and lemon shake ups, which were delicious as always. Orchard ladies enjoyed

lunch at Cracker Barrel. We enjoyed the last bit of warmer weather with trips to Willshire, Ohio and Zesto for ice cream.

We love our veterans and are thankful for their services, along with the sacrifices of their families. Veterans Day is November 11th, and we salute all who have served and are currently serving in the military.

## Volunteer Corner

I can't express enough appreciation to all of our volunteers. First, how important our families and friends are to us. Second, how much we depend on our volunteers to assist Christian Care to run smoothly. Christian Care has several opportunities for volunteering, so if you are interested, please contact Betty Lough, Activity Director, at 260-565-3006 ext. 2712 or by email [blough@christiancarerc.org](mailto:blough@christiancarerc.org).

*Jesus looked at them and said, "with man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God." Mark 10:27*

Have a blessed and safe Holiday Season!

- Betty Lough  
Activity Director



720 E. Dustman Road  
Bluffton, Indiana 46714-1214  
Phone (260) 565-3000  
Automated Phone (260) 565-3006  
Administrative Fax (260) 565-3009  
Nursing/Orchard Fax (260) 565-3003

Web Site:  
[www.christiancarerc.org](http://www.christiancarerc.org)

E-mail:  
[info@christiancarerc.org](mailto:info@christiancarerc.org)

Retirement Community consisting of:

- Independent Living
  - North Shore Estates
  - Lakeview Estates
  - Patio Pines Apartments

Assisted Living

- Three Oaks Apartments
- Sugar Maple Suites
- Willow Lane

Skilled Nursing

- The Orchard
- Golden Apple

### ADMINISTRATION

Executive Director/AIT .....Austin Smith  
Interim Executive Director .....Leon Gerber  
Administrator ..... Donna Emshwiller  
Director of Nursing..... Melissa Clark  
Business Office Manager..... Donna Geisel  
Social Services Director .....Jen Kinyo  
Nutritional Services

and Purchasing Director ..... Deb Dove  
Scheduling Coordinator.....Barb Werling  
Maintenance Supervisor .....Dion Dubbeld  
Human Resources Director .....Katie Holloway  
Activity Director.....Betty Lough  
Residential Services Coordinator ....Michelle Gould  
Environmental Services Director....Victoria Hilliard

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

Bette Erxleben .....	Nov. 1
Carroll Scott .....	Nov. 1
Gloria Kaehr .....	Nov. 4
Carolyn Meyer .....	Nov. 4
Ruth Ann Monroe .....	Nov. 4
Jayne Schriver.....	Nov. 10
Lois Summers.....	Nov. 11
Joyce Troxel.....	Nov. 11
John Schauss.....	Nov. 12
Mary Kay Prough.....	Nov. 16
Joyce Longenberger.....	Nov. 19
Jerry King .....	Nov. 20
Doyle Keith Meade .....	Nov. 23
Betsy Strahm .....	Nov. 28
Louise Deihl.....	Nov. 29
Bette Mathias .....	Nov. 30
J. Keith Fuller .....	Dec. 4
Karen Kaehr .....	Dec. 5
Susan Paulson .....	Dec. 5
Earl (Dale) Wass.....	Dec. 9
Anita Bertsch.....	Dec. 12
Joyce Phillabaum .....	Dec. 13
Darrell Jones .....	Dec. 15
Rita Knowles .....	Dec. 15
Richard Longenberger.....	Dec. 15
Bea Alberson.....	Dec. 17
Marcia Terhune.....	Dec. 19
Gloria Shinn .....	Dec. 19
John Meyer .....	Dec. 20
Elizabeth Andrews .....	Dec. 22
Norma Sweeten (Imler).....	Dec. 22
Carol McCune.....	Dec. 25
Carol Jean Scott .....	Dec. 27
Bill Triplett.....	Jan. 2
Rita Snider .....	Jan. 3
Karolyna Farling.....	Jan. 6
Lois Gerber .....	Jan. 7
Pat Gerber.....	Jan. 8
Marilyn Franke.....	Jan. 10
Chuck Stevens.....	Jan. 13
Susan Maynard.....	Jan. 14
Randal Smith.....	Jan. 16
Sonja Hook .....	Jan. 23
Harry Geisel.....	Jan. 24
Roger Eymer.....	Jan. 27
Wilmer Gerber .....	Jan. 29

## Employees

Heather Carlson.....	Nov. 4
Amy Anderson.....	Nov. 6
Ruth Allen.....	Nov. 8
Emily Hough.....	Nov. 9
Holly Meadows.....	Nov. 11
Alicen Rinehart.....	Nov. 12
Ron Dubbeld .....	Nov. 13
Colten Jones.....	Nov. 21
Maria Coffield.....	Nov. 25
Betty Lough.....	Nov. 28
Alaina Bertsch.....	Nov. 29
Cassandra Priester .....	Nov. 30
Stephanie Russell.....	Nov. 30
Laney Sawyer.....	Nov. 30
Kinyette Briede.....	Dec. 3
Elizabeth Terry .....	Dec. 3
Kathy Steffen.....	Dec. 4
Victoria Hilliard.....	Dec. 5
Mathew Kardys.....	Dec. 7
Lindsay Holmes.....	Dec. 8
Ashlynn Feasel.....	Dec. 9
Devin Smith.....	Dec. 9
August Hicks .....	Dec. 10
Natalya Goddard .....	Dec. 11
Lillian Lanning .....	Dec. 12
Brielle Nunley .....	Dec. 16
Elaine Bricker.....	Dec. 21
Emily Blaisdell.....	Dec. 22
Diane Heyerly.....	Dec. 23
Breanna Dolby .....	Dec. 27
Autumn Parker .....	Dec. 29
Jennifer Ley.....	Dec. 30
Saddie Buffenbarger .....	Jan. 2
Michelle Carter.....	Jan. 2
Phoebe Lantz.....	Jan. 2
Megan Brown.....	Jan. 6
Donna Geisel.....	Jan. 6
Kylie Frauhiger .....	Jan. 9
Keoka Gephart.....	Jan. 9
Julie Bullard .....	Jan. 13
Felicia Sewell.....	Jan. 16
Hannah McCullough.....	Jan. 22
Michelle L. Gould .....	Jan. 23
Zayden Campbell.....	Jan. 28
Corina Rector .....	Jan. 31

## Nursing Dept.

The Nursing Department has been busy the last several weeks with admissions. We have also had several new CNAs start, and we are thankful for this! We are quickly moving into the flu season. Our Healthcare residents received their flu vaccines on October 3rd. Employees had the opportunity to receive flu vaccines by CVS flu clinic. Flu vaccines are highly encouraged with our residents and employees, but not mandatory.

We are thankful that we have had no Covid-19 cases among our residents in Healthcare since July! We are looking at having another Booster Clinic in November, and more information will be sent to residents' families regarding this.

We are grateful to all of our employees and families that have been instrumental in keeping our residents safe. It is such a joy to see our residents enjoying a lot of the activities that have started back up again, and we are thankful that it seems life is slowly getting back to “normal.”

- Melissa Clark  
Director of Nursing

**Christian Care Laundry  
Department  
Is in need of  
wire hangers!**

If you have some we  
would appreciate them.

# Welcome!!!!!!

## Christian Care Healthcare welcomed...

- Carolyn Deam
- Dorothy Maxey
- Lucile Frauhiger
- Jone Oman
- Wayne Geiger
- Margaret Oswald
- Rita Knowles
- Randy Smith
- Joe Lamar
- Betty Yaney
- Sharon Lautzenheiser

## Medicare Open Enrollment

Medicare open enrollment is from October 15 to December 7, 2022. This is a great time to review your current plan options with your agent. Some questions to ask are:

- Where can I go that will be in network for rehab after a hospital stay?
- What would be the cost for outpatient therapy, and does it matter where I go for outpatient therapy?

Most seniors ask about what doctors they can see and what hospitals are in network, but forget to ask about therapy services. It is always good to know this information before you need these services. Please review your insurance choices with family members once you have selected your plan for next year. It is very helpful to everyone if the family understands the plan you choose before a medical emergency arises.

The Business Office at Christian Care is available to answer your questions on any Medicare claim for rehab or therapy services received on site.

– Donna Geisel  
Business Office Manager

## Christian Care Says Farewell

Larry Farling passed away July 10, 2022. Larry is survived by his wife Karolyna, three children, three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Larry spent most of his life in the grocery business for Farling's Finer Foods, a grocery and meat market started by his grandfather. Larry also worked for the Wells County Sheriff's Department and retired after 20 years of service. Larry was an Indy 500 follower and attended 48 races. We express our deepest sympathy to his family.

Marilyn Meade passed away August 4, 2022. She is survived by her husband Keith, two daughters, three grandsons and two great-grandsons. Marilyn worked at Caylor-Nickel Clinic as a nursing assistant and at Meadowvale Care Center in the Activities Department. She was a charter member of the Bluffton Wesleyan Chapel, where she served in various roles. Marilyn was musically gifted and enjoyed playing the piano, organ and accordion. She especially enjoyed her family and serving God through her church. We express our deepest sympathy to her family.

Ruth Arnold passed away on August 9, 2022. She is survived by two sons, two daughters, two brothers, eleven grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren. Ruth worked at General Electric in Fort Wayne, Corning Glass,

and as a cook for Rockcreek and Norwell Schools. Ruth enjoyed quilting, volunteering at Bargain Hut, and spending time with her grandchildren playing Uno and Rummikub. Ruth was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Bluffton. We express our deepest sympathy to her family.

Delores Fry passed away September 7, 2022. She is survived by five children, 15 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren, and 21 great-great-grandchildren. Delores and her husband, Ernie, lived in Florida for 25 years, where she worked part-time as an LPN. She loved sewing little dresses that were sent to children in Africa. We express our deepest sympathy to her family.

Lucile Frauhiger passed away September 15, 2022. She is survived by one son, one daughter, one sister, nine grandchildren, and 19 great-grandchildren. Lucile was a hostess at the Corner Depot and also a homemaker. She enjoyed being involved with her church, gardening, and cooking. She was a member of the Apostolic Christian Church. We express our deepest sympathy to her family.

Joseph Lamar passed away September 21, 2022. He is survived by six children, 18 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren and

four great-great-grandchildren. Joe enlisted in the Army and was active duty for two years, receiving multiple service medals, and retired from the Army Reserves after 20 years of service. He was a tool grinder at Hower Tool. Joe was a member of the First United Methodist Church, American Legion Post #111 and Bluffton Masonic Lodge. We express our deepest sympathy to his family.

Gwendolyn Fogwell passed away September 30, 2022. Gwen is survived by one son, nine grandchildren, and eleven great-grandchildren. Gwen worked at General Electric, Lincoln National Bank, and then became a life-long farmer's wife after the war. Gwen loved reading her Bible, gardening, spending time with her family, and was an exceptional cook. We express our deepest sympathy to her family.

Shirley Adams passed away on October 1, 2022. She is survived by her three sons, two daughters, ten grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren. Shirley was involved in the Monroe Happy Homemakers Club. Shirley enjoyed crocheting afghans, loved watching baseball, and her favorite flower was the Petunia. She attended the Decatur Church of God. We express our deepest sympathy to her family.

# Dining Services

Seeing the leaves changing colors causes many to get excited about the holiday season. Many look forward to enjoying time and meals together with family and friends. It is no different here at Christian Care. Our Dining Services staff enjoys seeing the residents' faces light up when we have special meals, and to see them enjoy the meals with their loved ones. This year's resident Thanksgiving meal has been set for noon on Tuesday, November 22nd. The traditional turkey with all the trimmings will be prepared to help our residents enjoy this annual event. A festive Christmas Dinner will be served on Tuesday, December 20th, also at noon.

Fall leaves changing colors also remind us of how God creates so many beautiful things. He has given us the opportunity to serve and bless others each and every day, which in turn blesses us as well. Let us not forget the sacrifices made for us, and the freedom we have to celebrate together.

The Dining Services team would like to take this opportunity to extend our wishes to our residents, their families, and our staff for a bountiful and blessed holiday season.

*"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."* - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

- Deb Dove  
Nutritional Services and Purchasing Director

# Welcome Michelle Gould, RN, Residential Services Coordinator

We are thrilled to announce that Michelle Gould is our new Residential Services Coordinator, overseeing Assisted Living and Independent Living apartments. Michelle has been a nurse for 17 years, with most of her experience in long term care and hospice settings. She has one daughter and two very energetic grandsons that are seven and three years old. She and her husband love spending time with grandkids, and enjoy off-roading!



*"I look forward to serving the residents here at Christian Care. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or for a tour of our assisted and independent living apartments."*

- Michelle Gould  
Residential Services Coordinator

## COVID Guidelines

In October, we find ourselves under new CDC COVID guidelines for long-term care facilities. When entering Christian Care you will see either:

Transmission Rate is **Low/Moderate/Substantial**  
Masks are **ENCOURAGED** while in the building  
Please proceed to the Accushield Kiosk to sign in

or

**Attention:**  
Transmission Rate is **High**  
Masks are **REQUIRED** to enter the building  
Please proceed to the Accushield Kiosk to sign in

If you have questions on COVID guidelines, please call (260) 565-3000.

## Accushield Kiosks

If you have visited Christian Care recently, you have used our Accushield Kiosks. For first time visitors and volunteers you will be asked to enter the following information:

- Phone Number
- Name
- COVID Screening Questions
- The resident/staff you're visiting or the event you're attending.



## Memorials have been received in memory of:

- Larry Farling
- Lucile Frauhiger
- Vernon Gerber
- Susan Kipfer
- Flossie Stoller

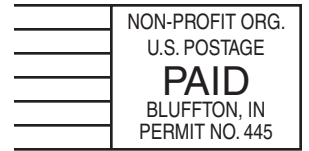
Thank you to all who remembered our loved ones. Your gifts are "enriching the lives of our residents."



*Good Samaritan*  
Charitable Program



720 Dustman Road • Bluffton, Indiana 46714-1214  
Phone (260) 565-3000



Return Service Requested

## Come Winter with us...



Come visit us Today!

- Meals
- Medication Services
- Personal Care

Short-term assisted living  
apartment leases available  
November through April.

Call 260-565-3000