



NEWS LETTER

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

February 2024–April 2024

Christian Care Retirement Community Awarded on America's Best Continuing Care Retirement Communities 2024 List

Christian Care Retirement Community has been awarded on Newsweek's list of America's Best Continuing Care Retirement Communities 2024. This prestigious award is presented by Newsweek and Statista Inc., the world-leading statistics portal and industry ranking provider. Christian Care Retirement Community is ranked the 3rd best Continuing Care Retirement Community in Indiana, standing as the sole Northeast Indiana community on the list. The awards list was announced on November 29th, 2023, and can currently be viewed on Newsweek's website at <https://www.newsweek.com/rankings/americas-best-continuing-care-retirement-communities-2024/indiana>.

Continuing Care Retirement Communities (CCRCs) are facilities that offer long-term care options, allowing residents to access higher-level care when medical needs progress. The communities include Independent Living, Assisted Living, Skilled Nursing Care, and Memory Care. To provide people looking for guidance on CCRCs with a comprehensive resource for informed decision making, Statista and Newsweek have partnered for the first time to award America's Best Continuing Care Retirement Communities 2024.

The list is based on three data sources:

1. **National Online Surveys:** Surveys from medical professionals (e.g., registered nurses, therapists, and physicians) and staff working in the management/administration, acquaintances of residents and residents living in CCRCs, etc.
2. **Quality Dimension Score:** For each recommended CCRC, participants were asked to rate the eight quality dimensions on a scale from 1 to 10.
3. **Accreditations:** Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), accreditations relevant for Continuing Care Retirement Communities were considered.

Christian Care Retirement Community is ecstatic to be recognized on Newsweek's list of America's Best Continuing Care Retirement Communities 2024.

INSIDE:

Activities Department	2
Birthdays	3
Welcome New Staff	3
Admissions	4
Farewells	5
Nutritional Services	5

"It is an absolute honor to care for the Seniors in Bluffton and the surrounding communities, as we truly do strive to enrich senior living with Christian values and quality, compassionate care. We express great gratitude to God for His provisions, particularly for guiding team members and volunteers to join and support our mission. Without their and the community's support this award wouldn't be possible." - Austin Smith, Executive Director.

About Statista: Statista publishes hundreds of worldwide industry rankings and company listings with high profile media partners. This research and analysis service is based on the success of statista.com, the leading data and business intelligence portal that provides statistics, business relevant data, and various market and consumer studies and surveys.

Activities Department

A heartfelt thank you extends to everyone who contributed to making Christmas special for our Orchard and Golden Apple residents. Their excitement and gratitude for the gifts were heartwarming. Special appreciation is reserved for Arlene Stoller, who played the piano during our Christmas party. We consider ourselves truly blessed to be a part of such an amazing church and community. The Christmas light tour brought joy to Orchard and Golden Apple residents, and we are grateful to the carolers who serenaded us – there's something about music that soothes the soul.

Courtney Brandt continues to keep our Assisted Living residents engaged with a variety of creative games, van rides, shopping trips, and numerous other activities. Assisted Living residents enjoyed the Christmas light tour around Bluffton in December.

Looking ahead, we are excited to announce another Easter egg hunt in March. Stay tuned for details to come at a later date. The positive feedback from

our residents and families indicates that the hunt was thoroughly enjoyed last year.

Please note that the Good Friday church service will take place on March 29th, and there will be no church service on Thursday, March 28th.

Volunteer Corner:

I remain hopeful for the continued growth of the volunteer program, recognizing that you all play a vital role in the success of Christian Care. Several volunteer opportunities, including wheelchair rides, snack and chat sessions, van rides, ice water service, Sunday church escorts, and assistance in the beauty shop, are available. If you are interested or know someone who might be, please contact Betty Lough, Activity Director, at 260-565-3006 ext. 2172 or blough@christiancarerc.org.

– Betty Lough
Activities Director

*"Seek the LORD and His strength;
seek His presence continually!"*

– 1 Chronicles 16:11



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

E-mail:
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
- South Woods

ADMINISTRATION

Exec. Director/Admin.....Austin Smith
Interim Executive DirectorLeon Gerber
Director of Nursing.....Melissa Clark
Business Office Manager.....Donna Geisel
Social Services DirectorJen Kinyo
Nutritional Svcs. & Purch. Dir.Deb Dove
Maintenance SupervisorDion Dubbeld
Human Resources DirectorKatie Uppfalt
Activity Director.....Betty Lough
Residential Services CoordinatorMichelle 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

Dave Reinhard	February 2
Barbara Pfister.....	February 4
Joyce Neuenschwander.....	February 6
Carl Fiechter.....	February 7
Nilah Aschliman.....	February 9
Phillip Johnson.....	February 10
Edith "Romaine" Shipley.....	February 10
Jerry Hook.....	February 11
Alice Curry.....	February 13
Dorothy Maxey.....	February 14
Lorena Steffen.....	February 14
Richard Lee Deam.....	February 15
Dorothy "Dottie" Jones.....	February 18
Mary Baumgartner.....	February 19
Esther "Marty" Davis.....	February 20
Betty Gerber.....	February 21
Sharon Gentis.....	February 22
Wanda Steffen.....	February 26
Donna Shatto.....	March 1
Aleyce Lowe.....	March 3
Evelyn Gerber.....	March 8
Mabel Geisel.....	March 10
Susie Harnish.....	March 10
Joan Schauss.....	March 12
William "Bill" Gerber.....	March 14
Les Meyer.....	March 14
Barbara Haffner.....	March 16
Arlene Habegger.....	March 17
Judith Cupp.....	March 20
Robert Koch.....	March 22
Marjorie Arnold.....	March 23
Walter Erxleben.....	March 26
Betty Longenberger.....	March 29
Joan Koch.....	March 30
Elizabeth Schwartz.....	March 30
Thomas Hiester.....	April 2
Marilyn Gerber.....	April 3
Jauneanne Monroe.....	April 9
Jerry Flack.....	April 10
Carolyn "Sue" Deam.....	April 11
Connie Frauhiger.....	April 12
Kerry Miller.....	April 12
Dwight Troxel.....	April 14
Robert Stuck.....	April 15
Joyce Ebbinghouse.....	April 20
Elizabeth Diehl.....	April 21
Neil Gerber.....	April 26
Thelma Hill.....	April 28
Rosemary Gerber.....	April 29
Carolyn Osborn.....	April 30

Employees

Katy A. Harris.....	February 2
Alex Lyons.....	February 2
Eliza Elzroth.....	February 3
Justice Tappy.....	February 3
Stephanie Beckman.....	February 4
Alydia G. Bertsch.....	February 5
Sarah King.....	February 6
Merry Bell.....	February 10
Ambrosia Hughett.....	February 14
Brooke Hummer.....	February 15
Eric Craighead.....	February 21
Riley Dettmer.....	February 23
Cindy Petty.....	February 23
Sophia Campbell.....	February 28
Tammy Miller.....	February 28
Bailey Engle.....	March 1
Melodee Gerber.....	March 2
Deborah Schultz.....	March 9
Perla L. Leman.....	March 10
Milanna Pepper.....	March 10
Marie Winkler.....	March 10
Kathy Geisel.....	March 14
Alyshah Dunlap.....	March 18
Austin Smith.....	March 20
Deanna Stuckey.....	March 20
Emily Vanover.....	March 20
Dakotah Jennings.....	March 21
Melanie Bertsch.....	March 22
Kayla Meyer.....	March 22
Jeff Neuenschwander.....	March 22
Emma Bredemeyer.....	March 24
Amber Pfister.....	March 24
Donita C. Harris.....	March 27
Kiara Sammons.....	March 28
Rachel Baumgartner.....	March 30
Sarah Speheger.....	March 30
Diane Johnson.....	April 5
Shannon McEvoy.....	April 5
Mickayla Culbertson.....	April 8
Emma Rhoderick.....	April 8
Madison Brown-Schooley.....	April 10
Cassie Bowers.....	April 12
Katelin A. Wilson.....	April 12
Jonathan Prater.....	April 13
Cyka F. Stout.....	April 14
Jonilda Blair.....	April 20
Madison G. Fox.....	April 23
Jeff Dynes.....	April 25
Aubrey Dunsmore.....	April 26
Gissel M. Martinez.....	April 27
Saela Gerber.....	April 30

Welcome!

Christian Care Retirement Community welcomes Rebecca (Becky) Fishbaugh as our South Woods Coordinator.

Becky is married, and has two daughters and three granddaughters. She lives on a farm south of Markle, and has been a nurse for 30 years. When Becky isn't working, you can find her with her granddaughters, gardening or reading.

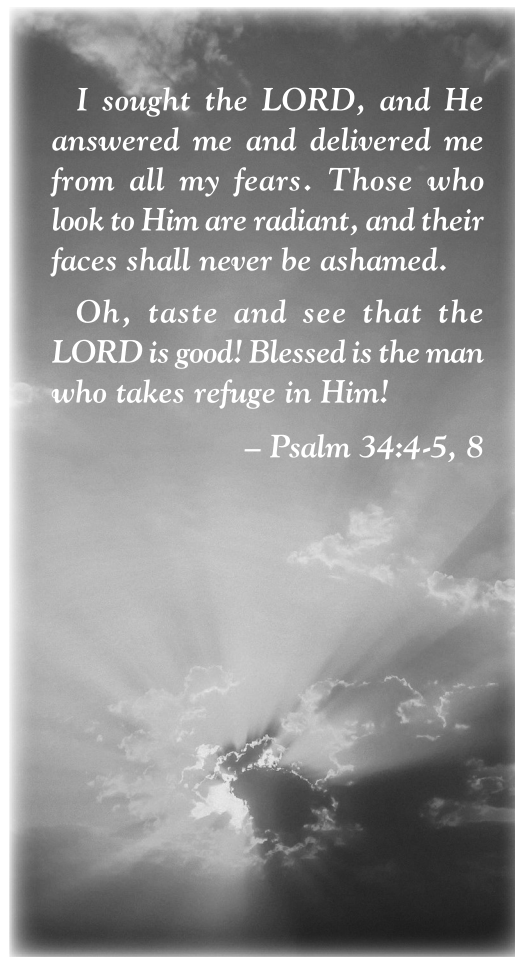
She had heard good things about Christian Care and wanted to find a job that fit her changing lifestyle. Becky has found that long-term nursing is vastly different than acute nursing. She says everyone from housekeeping, nursing, administration, and the whole facility is helpful and works together.

We are excited to have Becky on our team!

I sought the LORD, and He answered me and delivered me from all my fears. Those who look to Him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed.

Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!

– Psalm 34:4-5, 8



Welcome!!!!!!

Admissions & Discharges

Christian Care welcomed...

- Lorine Baumgartner
- Elizabeth “Betty” Becker
- Linda Brinson
- Phyllis Cassiday
- Lois Dubach
- Arlene Elliott
- Addie Fritz
- Donald Gardner
- Patricia Gerber
- Rosemary Gerber
- John Robert Heister
- Janet Hockin
- Jack Kaufman
- Marsha Magnin
- Roberta Mankey
- William Mann
- Martha Joan Noonan
- James Oman
- Pamela Pfeifer
- Betty Powell
- Joan Pursifull
- Madelyn Reineck
- Emma Schwartz
- Donna Shatto
- Anna Shepherd
- Robert Stuck
- Constance Vidrine

Christian Care discharged...

- Elizabeth “Betty” Becker
- Mary Anne Ellenberger
- Addie Fritz
- Donald Gardner
- Patricia Gerber
- Rosemary Gerber
- Janet Hockin
- Sandra Johnson
- Marsha Magnin
- Roberta Mankey
- Martha Joan Noonan
- Joan Pursifull
- Emma Schwartz
- Anna Shepherd

Independent and Assisted Living welcomed...

- Patricia Gerber
- Rosemary Gerber
- Eunice Steffen

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” And He who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.”

Revelation 21:4

Christian Care Says Farewell

Patricia Pfeifer passed away October 12, 2023. She is survived by her spouse, two sons, one daughter, nine grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Patricia graduated from Mazon Verona Kinsman High School in IL, and worked for Illinois Bell. She also worked for the Iowa State University History, Government, and Philosophy Department as the department secretary. We express our deepest sympathy to her family.

Margaret Slentz passed away October 13, 2023. She is survived by three daughters, three sons, 16 grandchildren, and 26 great-grandchildren. Margaret attended Chester Center School and Montpelier High School. She worked for Sheller Globe for 30 years and was a homemaker, known for her pies and fudge gifts at Christmas. Margaret faithfully attended Blackford Baptist Temple in Hartford City. We express our deepest sympathy to her family.

Thomas Smith passed away October 16, 2023. He is survived by one sister and one brother. Thomas served his country in the United States Marine Corps during Vietnam, where he was honorably discharged. He then worked in the auto repair business in Phoenix, AZ. Thomas was very mechanically oriented and handy in all aspects of life. We express our deepest sympathy to his family.

Carol Meeks passed away October 31, 2023. She is survived by one daughter, one son, one daughter-in-law, two grandsons, and five great-grandchildren. Carol was a life-long resident of Wells County, a wonderful gardener, cook, and baker, who blessed

her family with delicious dishes. She was a member of the Loyal Neighbors Club and recognized as the Wells County Extension Homemaker of the Year. She enjoyed traveling with the Light Rider bus trips. We express our deepest sympathy to her family.

Jack Kaufman passed away November 2, 2023. He is survived by his spouse, one daughter, two grandsons, and one great-grandson. Jack retired in 2015 from Hiday Motors in Bluffton, and was previously employed with Moore Chevrolet and Oldsmobile in Bluffton. He enjoyed the outdoors, fishing, traveling, working on cars, and most of all spending time with his family. We express our deepest sympathy to his family.

Eunice Steffen, 94, passed away on November 28, 2023. She is survived by her son Daniel, five grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. She graduated from Bluffton High School in 1947. She worked for John W. Carnall & Sons and Markley & Carnall for 40 years. Eunice enjoyed spending time with her family, traveling, and spending time at the Foundations of Truth Ministry. She was a member of the Apostolic Christian Church. She was a very talented seamstress, a very social and generous person who never met a stranger. We express our deepest sympathy to her family.

Madelyn Reineck passed away December 6, 2023. She is survived by one daughter, two sons, 13 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-

grandchildren. Madelyn graduated from Bluffton High School and worked in the Wells County Courthouse as a Superior Court bailiff for over 10 years. Madelyn was a life-long Methodist. We express our deepest sympathy to her family.

Frances "Jean" Gilliam, 89, passed away December 19, 2023. She is survived by two sons, one daughter-in-law, two sisters, ten grandchildren, and 22 great-grandchildren. Jean was a past member of the Primitive Baptist Church in Virginia, and currently had been attending Sonlight Wesleyan Church in Bluffton. She worked as a treasurer for the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District for 27 years. She enjoyed traveling, camping, gardening, and boating at their lake home in Columbia City. She was also a member of a Bridge club and loved playing Bingo as well. We express our deepest sympathy to her family.

Oscar Heyne passed away December 24, 2023. He is survived by four sons, one daughter, one daughter-in-law, 19 grandchildren, and many great-grandchildren. Oscar graduated from St. John's High School in Maria Stein, OH. Following graduation, Oscar served in the United States Navy during the Korean War. He worked for the Bluffton Branch of the United States Post Office for 34 years. He was a member of the St. Joseph Catholic Church. He was also a member of the American Legion Post 111 and the VFW Post 2809. We express our deepest sympathy to his family.

Nutritional Services

Dining Services had a busy year in 2023. We have been able to open dining areas that were previously closed, increase the number of guests coming to enjoy meals with their loved ones, and host holiday meals for our residents and our team. Our Nutrition Mission program has continued to grow, and we are blessed to be able to serve others. A huge THANK YOU to our staff for their amazing job for our residents, visitors, and community.

February is national chocolate month; chocolate is a symbol of love and dedication to one another. We will make sure chocolate is shared to demonstrate this.

We are looking forward to Spring and how the trees will grow, flowers will bloom, and the sun will shine upon us. Not only can we be thankful for the sun physically, but Easter is on March 31st, when we are able to celebrate the Resurrection of the Son.

I encourage you to take a moment and focus on the new beginnings in front of us and enjoy the blessings we have today and the promise and hope for the future.

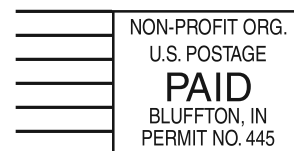
This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!

– Psalm 118:24

-- Deb Dove
Nutritional Services



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



Return Service Requested

2023 Reflection

As we usher in 2024, we take a moment to reflect on the events that defined our community over the past year. This article provides a snapshot of key achievements and recognizes those who have shaped our journey.

In 2023, our healthcare services admitted 92 individuals, bid farewell to 33 members, celebrated 48 successful transitions to homes, and facilitated the transfer of 2 residents to other facilities.

Our community welcomed 22 members to Assisted Living and 14 to Independent Living, a testament to the trust placed in our commitment to a supportive environment.

We pay tribute to the following individuals who left a lasting impact on our community in 2023:

Galen Baumgartner	Tom Frauhiger	Karen Kaehr	Charles Shively
Lee Braselton	Earl Gerber	Pauline “Pat” Kaehr	Norma Smith
Marcia Brewster	Fred & Margaret Gerber	Jay Kipfer	Eunice Steffen
Mary Coffield	Louise Gerber	Richard “Dick” Longenberger	Tom Stogdill
Phylliss Doescher	Tillman Gerber	Carol Meeks	Rich Stoller
Jill Ellenberger	Simon “Pete” Heyerly	Delenia Peeper	Marcia Terhune
Geoff Frank	Robert “Bob” Isch	James Phillabaum	

Their contributions are remembered, and our condolences go out to their families.

We express our gratitude to all who contributed to the memorials in honor of these loved ones. Your generous support, both tangible and intangible, has enriched the lives of our residents.

As we honor the past, we eagerly anticipate a future filled with shared moments, new friendships, and the enduring spirit of community that defines Christian Care.

Sincerely, Austin Smith & Leon Gerber