

Ceremony Marks Beginning of Construction for Labuhn Center for Rehabilitation Services

Lutheran Homes Society (LHS) held a ceremony on April 20, 2011, to bless the construction of The Labuhn Center for Rehabilitation Services, which will be located on the Lutheran Home at Toledo campus.

The \$4 million expansion will add 27 private rooms for short-term skilled nursing and rehabilitation services. The Labuhn Center is designed to provide person-centered care for patients. The renovations will allow both nurses and therapists to increase the level and type of care provided in the new therapy space and will incorporate many comforts of home to enhance the overall rehabilitation experience.

The center is named after The Rev. Gerald H. Labuhn, LHS Executive Director Emeritus and Archivist, who

David Roberts, LHS President/CEO, shares his vision of "hope and healing" at the ceremony marking the start of construction for Lutheran Homes Society's Labuhn Center for Rehabilitation Services, located on the Toledo campus.

has served LHS in various capacities for 60 years. Pastor Labuhn served as Executive Director of Lutheran Homes Society from 1964 to 1994.

During the ceremony, David Roberts, LHS President/CEO, lauded Pastor Labuhn's long-standing work with the Society. "He personally stands for the hope and healing work that the Society has done over the years and continues to do today," Roberts said. "He has been an inspiration to



residents, board members, volunteers, donors and all who have worked for him in this ministry to youth and elderly.

"It is truly fitting that this new skilled nursing and rehabilitation center will bear his name and will continue to provide hope and healing

to the patients and residents who come here for therapy," Roberts added.

The Labuhn Center is scheduled to open in the spring of 2012. Renovation of the existing skilled nursing and rehabilitation unit will begin following the center's completion.

Lutheran Homes Society Mission Statement

As followers of Christ, we are called to do what lies within our power to share burdens that weigh upon the young and the old and to alleviate sorrow and misery in His Name.

Our Values

Faithfulness to Christ
Equality and Justice
Wholeness of Life
Integrity
Quality of Life
Stewardship of Resources

151st Annual Meeting Celebrates God's Goodness

Nearly 200 people attended Lutheran Homes Society's 151st Annual

Meeting of Member Congregations, held March 28, 2011, at Zoar Lutheran

Church in Perrysburg. The Rev. Dr. Marcus Lohrmann, Bishop of the Northwestern Ohio Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, was the featured speaker for the event.



Nearly 200 LHS supporters gathered at Zoar Lutheran Church in Perrysburg for the 151st Annual Meeting.

The theme for the annual meeting was "Celebrating God's Goodness," and 50 member congregations were represented at the meeting. Congregational delegates shared in celebrating the

(continued on page 6)

Serving on Holy Ground

The question is often posed: “How are we positioning LHS ministries for 2011, 2012 and beyond?” First, we lift up our Board of Directors and Ministry Boards, who are guiding the ministry through our 2020 Strategic Visioning Portfolio and our annual Strategic Deployment Plans. However, there is one more mission-critical need...and it just so happens that it is illustrated by one of my favorite scripture passages – Joshua 5:13-15 – which reads:

"¹³And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, 'Are You for us or for our adversaries?'"

¹⁴So He said, 'No, but as Commander of the army of the LORD I have now come.' And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and said to Him, 'What does my Lord say to His servant?' ¹⁵Then the Commander of the LORD's army said to Joshua, 'Take your sandal off your foot, for the place where you stand is holy,' And Joshua did so." (NKJV)



Bible commentator Warren Wiersbe writes: “In Christian ministry great victories are won in private as leaders submit to the Lord and receive their directions from Him. Every father, every mother, every teacher, every pastor, and every Christian leader...is second in command to the Lord Jesus Christ; and if we forget this fact, we can count on eventual defeat and failure. The Lord came to Joshua that day, not just to help...but to lead. Keep in mind John 15:5, where Jesus says: ‘Without Me you can do nothing.’” *

Clearly, Joshua was a mighty man of valor, a veteran of many battles, who had survived many hardships. He and Caleb were among the spies sent out 40 years earlier to survey the Promised Land. While Moses had trained him for his eventual leadership, it was no guarantee of success. He needed the presence of the Lord to enter the Promised Land. Likewise, the staff of LHS has been trained for proper caring of youth and elders, and you can bet that does not guarantee our success or our faithfulness! We are blessed with the presence of the Holy Spirit in this work that He has prepared for us [see Ephesians 2:10].

Notice that the Commander's first order to Joshua was that he should remove his shoes since he was standing on holy ground. Actually, he was in “heathen territory,” but because God was with him, he was standing on holy ground. Sometimes we may feel we're

in heathen territory. At LHS, this could mean overbearing and sometimes conflicting regulations, corporate compliance to the nth degree, frivolous lawsuits, and unsubstantiated complaint surveys. However, when we obey the will of God, we too are on holy ground; there is no distinction between “secular” and “sacred” or “common” and “consecrated,” when you are in the Lord's service. Everything we do at Lutheran Homes Society is by His command and direction, which is why Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care are absolutely essential to our calling; and absolutely foundational to the proper positioning of LHS ministries for 2011, 2012 and beyond. Many of the stories in this issue of the *The Friend* illustrate how integral Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care are to the mission and ministry of LHS.



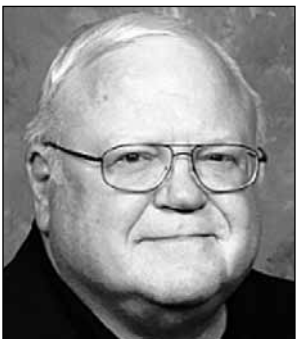
David Roberts,
President/CEO

We are the Lord's army and Christ is our Commander! All thanks and praise to God!

* Wiersbe, Warren W.: *Be Strong*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1996, c1993, S.

In Memory of Larry Lorenzen

Lutheran Homes Society lost a faithful servant when Larry T. Lorenzen, 68, of Northwood, Ohio, unexpectedly passed away on



Larry
Lorenzen

March 26, 2011. Larry had served on the LHS Housing & Community Services Ministry Board since 2008. He was a longtime member of First St. John Lutheran Church, where he served as treasurer, chairman, and elder.

For over 40 years, Larry operated his own accounting practice and was an accounting instructor at Owens Community College for over 20 years. Larry served as a member of Northwood City Council for 13 years, and he was charter president of the Northwood

Jaycees. In addition, Larry served as a drug and alcohol abuse counselor.

“Larry Lorenzen was a model director, who was engaging, attentive, and dedicated to advancing the mission of Lutheran Homes Society,” stated David Roberts, LHS President/CEO.

Larry is survived by his wife of 38 years, Darlene, his three children, and many family members. A memorial service was held on April 1 at First St. John, Toledo.

Faithful Pastor Serves Residents of Luther Haus

For the past 15 years, the Rev. Dr. Frank Paine, pastor of St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Temperance, Michigan, has faithfully come twice a month to Luther Haus senior community to lead Bible study classes for the residents. Pastor Paine, who has served as a LHS board member for the past 20 years, also provides a Communion service once a month.

The residents appreciate his compassionate presence and look forward to the information and inspiration he shares. Ethel said she likes the way that he opens the class by asking for the names of people who need prayers, and she enjoys how he explains the scriptures in a way that she can understand.

Dot has been a member of St. Luke's church for 55 years but is no longer able to attend church. She said that she finds the Bible study one way to stay connected with her church family. Gladys commented that she appreciates Pastor Paine because he is so easy to talk to, he really listens,

and, if she has problems, he shares his advice.

Throughout the years, some of Pastor Paine's Luther Haus "students" have become ill. At times, he will visit them at their apartments, the hospital, or the nursing home to give them comfort and encouragement. A few have expressed their wishes to

have Pastor Paine as the minister for their funerals.

"He is truly a friend and caring companion on their life's journey," said Anne Wisda, Luther Haus Service Coordinator. "We are grateful that he has extended his pastoral ministry to the Luther Haus community all these years."



Pastor Frank Paine leads Bible study classes as part of his ministry to residents of Luther Haus.

Chaplain Services at Sandusky Home Keep Residents Connected to Church

When Bible studies are held at the Sandusky campus, Curtis is there. He often contributes to the conversation about the passage being studied. When time comes to pray, he always has a request, not for himself, but for a friend, family member, another resident, a member of his home congregation, or the community.

Curtis is a life-long Lutheran. The Sandusky Home continues to connect him to the greater church. Each Sunday afternoon a pastor from one of the area Lutheran churches comes to lead worship. Many stay for the fellowship that follows with coffee and cookies. There are often 15-20 residents and family members who attend.

When worship is held, Curtis is there – often it is the second time in the day he has been to worship.

That there is worship at the Home is especially important for the Sundays when Curtis is not able to attend his home congregation, Trinity Lutheran in Sandusky.



Curtis Miller

The Home also offers daily devotions each morning. In addition, a volunteer leads a Bible study one morning each week, and Chaplain Kathleen Schuck leads one on Tuesday afternoons, with about 10 residents attending regularly. For residents who are Roman Catholic, a Communion service also is held each week.

Chaplain Schuck tries to make contact with each resident every week. When new residents arrive, if they desire, she will connect with their home congregation or pastor. "At Lutheran Memorial Home, we strive to meet the spiritual needs of our residents, as well as care for their physical needs," she said. "Curtis and other residents are able to remain connected to the church of Jesus Christ through worshipping together in our Home."

Chaplaincy at Wolf Creek Heals Spiritually

"It's our woundedness that allows us to trust each other, I can trust another person only if I can sense that they, too, have woundedness, have pain, have fear. Out of that trust we can begin to pay attention to our own wounds and to each other's wounds--and to heal and to be healed."

-- Rachel Naomi Remen



Chaplain Ron Atkins strives to heal the spirit of residents at the Wolf Creek campus.

There is a difference between being "cured" and being "healed." To be cured means to go to a doctor and have a medical diagnosis made, treatment prescribed, and the problem eliminated. One result of this model is the high cost of health insurance and medical treatment in our culture.

On the Wolf Creek campus, Chaplain Ron Atkins is involved with healing. His job is to attempt a qualitative change in one's life, as opposed to a quantitative change, that allows a person to better equip themselves for the present and the future through spirituality.

A lady, in her seventies, was admitted to Wolf Creek's nursing center with a diagnosis of renal failure. She was offered a regimen of dialysis, which if she did not follow, would mean her death.

After several treatments, the procedure created pain, nausea, and depression. Every other day she would

receive dialysis and then experience a day of extreme discomfort and lack of mobility. She valiantly carried on until one day she announced she no longer was going to have the treatment. Her family was devastated. Her doctor implored staff to talk her into the treatment. There would be no cure. She refused.

She began to talk with Chaplain Atkins about death and dying, about fears, about the many joys and sorrows of life, of woundedness. They talked about God's love that comes through Jesus, how Jesus healed the spiritual lives of people, and how He died on the cross for redemption.

After the fourth day, with family supporting her with tears, with love, with presence, the lady died. She was healed spiritually. She knew her Savior; she knew her family; she died in peace and received God's peace.

This is chaplaincy on the campus of Wolf Creek.

Designate LHS on Kroger Plus Card

Lutheran Homes Society is again participating in the Kroger Community Rewards fundraising program. Friends and supporters of LHS need only register (or re-register if they participated in last year's program) their Kroger Plus Card and designate LHS Foundation as their reward recipient. Simply go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com to create or update your account, and enter LHS Foundation code #84172 near the end of the process.

Once enrolled, earning funds for LHS ministries is as easy as grocery shopping with a Kroger Plus Card. A check for a percentage of qualifying purchases is sent quarterly to LHS Foundation. Proceeds will be distributed equally to ministries through the LHS Annual Fund. If you have questions, please call Marlene at 419-861-4965.

LHS Development Officer Receives National ALDE Award

LHS Development Officer Karen Pease recently won the 2011 Chapter Leadership Award from the Association of Lutheran Development Executives (ALDE). The award honors an ALDE member for exhibiting extraordinary effort in leading a chapter and providing a model of exemplary chapter leadership.

Karen is in the midst of serving her second two-year term as President of the Ohio Chapter of ALDE. When Karen received her award, the presenter commented: "She is always positive and passionate about her work, as well as her personal spiritual life. As the president of her chapter, she is respected by her colleagues and is known as a 'born leader.'"

An international organization of fundraising and communications



Karen Pease

professionals, ALDE is rooted in the Lutheran tradition of the Christian faith and is dedicated to serving God's people in the church and in the world. The primary mission of ALDE is to promote, teach, and model Christian stewardship.

Celebrating Faith and Long Life at the Toledo Home

Esther Hoffman and Irma Austin, residents of the Toledo campus, celebrated significant birthdays in April 2011. Esther turned 105 years on April 6 and Irma turned 100 years on April 10.

Both ladies feel that one of the reasons for their longevity is their strong faith, which is strengthened at Lutheran Home at Toledo. They both say that the ministry, activities, residents, and staff all play an important role in maintaining their positive attitude and faith.

Esther, a resident in the nursing care center, was born in Riga Township, Michigan, in 1906. Esther married Otto Hoffman in 1937, and they enjoyed 40 years of marriage. Esther and Otto enjoyed traveling to California, Florida, and Yellowstone National Park. She worked at NuWay Stretch as a billing clerk.



Esther Hoffman



Irma Austin

Esther continues to enjoy sewing, writing to friends, card clubs, bingo, and church functions. She is a long-time member of St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Toledo.

Irma, a resident in our assisted living facility, was born in Cleveland, Ohio. She went to Hungary at age 1 with her family and returned to the United States at age 10. Irma and her husband Walter had two sons, Joseph and Michael. She is retired from Acme Specialty after many years of employment. She has been a long-time member of St. Stephen's Catholic Church, Toledo. Irma's favorite time of year is spring, where she feels everything seems to wake up.

Esther and Irma both attend church services led by Chaplain Clyde Singh in the chapel of the Toledo Home, where their faith continues to be nourished.

Chaplain Genter's Flock Enjoys Spiritual Leadership and More

While providing spiritual care to the residents of the Napoleon campus is the main role of Chaplain Lee Genter, the residents receive that and so much more. Along with a minimum of five worship and chapel services and three Bible studies per week, Chaplain Genter provides individual counseling, sing-a-longs, hospital visits, social activities, and independent living outings.

"Pastor Lee," as he is known on campus, even cooks for the independent living residents at Bavarian Village, including baking homemade bread. His prayers and booming singing voice are a comfort to residents, families and staff. He is involved with the residents' families and is frequently asked to perform funeral services or to sing at funerals.

"The connection between Chaplain Genter and his flock is as close as any home church minister, no matter what the denomination," stated Linda

Miller, Admissions and Community Relations Coordinator at the Napoleon campus. "His acceptance of everyone is like that of Jesus, and he is an excellent example of what Lutheran Homes Society's mission statement means," she added.

Residents and families can count on him always to be willing to go the extra mile for them. He also

reaches out to the community by helping deliver Meals on Wheels and providing supportive programming to other senior communities in Henry County. Linda summed up his service by stating, "Chaplain Genter is a blessing to the Lutheran Homes Society Napoleon campus and the surrounding community."

Chaplain Lee Genter (standing) chats with Bavarian Village residents at the 150th Anniversary celebration at the Napoleon Home.



Annual Meeting - continued from front page

ongoing ministry of LHS. During the business meeting, they elected new members of the LHS Board of Directors and Nominating Committee [See page 7] and approved an amendment to the LHS Code of Regulations, which clarified the original intent of diversifying the board to include 20% Christians of other denominations.

“There was a wonderful turnout of people who realize the importance of the work God has entrusted to Lutheran Homes Society over the last 150 years,” stated LHS President/CEO David Roberts. “They embrace our mission and are committed to helping us move forward in our ministry.”

Annual Report

During his report, Mr. Roberts shared stories of how God’s abundant goodness has enabled LHS ministries to impact the lives of needy youth and elders. Mr. Roberts’ presentation of the 2010 Annual Report, which also celebrated 150 years of ministry to youth and elderly, focused on the many ways LHS has been blessed to serve others. In 2010, LHS was blessed to be able to serve 2,530 residents and clients through residential care and support services, housing, and community services.

Mr. Roberts quantified the number of youth and elderly served, emphasizing that many of them would have no where else to turn. He also

stressed that the quality of care they receive at LHS surpasses what many expect because of the support of donors through LHS Foundation. In 2011, LHS provided nearly \$3.7 million in charitable care and community benefit – money that covers the cost of care when government, insurance, and private funding fall short.

Worship Service

A brief worship service was held in the Zoar sanctuary. During the service, the newly elected directors were installed. For the closing hymn, attendees sang “Gratitude,” the special hymn commissioned by the LHS Board of Directors for the 150th Anniversary celebration.

Featured Speaker

Bishop Lohrmann’s presentation was a humorous look at what it means to be Lutheran, past and present, and praise for the work being done at Lutheran Homes Society. A few days prior to the annual meeting, the Bishop had toured many of the LHS ministries, getting to see first-hand the work being done there.

Bishop Lohrmann held up the Lutheran tradition of ministry and mission to others in need, and praised the Society for embracing the needs of youth and elderly.



Bishop Marcus Lohrmann chats with Pastor Gerald Labuhn at the annual meeting.

2010 Statistics Reflect God’s Goodness

People Served:
2,530 individuals
495,491 resident days or care days

People Serving:
901 full and part-time staff
970 volunteers giving
27,244 hours of service

People Donating:
1,683 individuals
100 congregations

Last year, generous people donated \$986,708 to Lutheran Homes Society and its ministries. God’s abundant goodness and their financial support enabled LHS staff and volunteers to reach out to troubled youth and the elderly.



The Rev. and Mrs. Gerald Labuhn view the ministry displays.



Over 100 delegates from 50 member congregations cast their votes at Lutheran Homes Society’s 151st Annual Meeting.

New Board Members Elected at Annual Meeting

Elections for the LHS Board of Directors and the Nominating Committee were held during the annual meeting. Lutheran Homes Society would like to welcome the faithful individuals who have volunteered their time and talents to serve the organization.

Five board members were elected to the parent board. The new members include: Scott Hoffman, Concordia, Toledo; Lori Johnston, Zion, Waterville; Kathy Martin, Zion, Petersburg, MI; Philip Meuser, Hope, Toledo; and Rose Thomson,

All Saints, Toledo. In addition, Robin Burkett, St. Luke's, Temperance, MI, has been appointed to the parent board.

Elections also were held for the Nominating Committee, which is responsible for screening candidates for the Board of Directors. The following individuals were elected: Jennifer Fehnrich, St. Mark, Bowling Green; Rev. Stephen Lutz, Trinity, Elmore; Phil Meuser (who also was elected to the parent board); Lynn Olman, St. Paul, Maumee; and Rev. Dr. Frank Paine, St. Luke's, Temperance, MI.



Robin Burkett



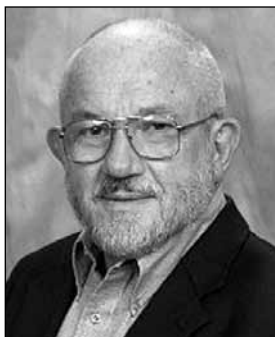
Scott Hoffman



Lori Johnston



Kathy Martin



Philip Meuser



Rose Thomson

LHS Board Elects Executive Committee

At its meeting on April 28, the LHS Board of Directors elected Lynn Olman as Chair. Mr. Olman is a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Maumee, Ohio. He is a State Farm insurance agent and completed nine years as a member of the Ohio House of Representatives. Mr. Olman has served 15 years as a Maumee city councilman. He serves as chair of the LHS Comprehensive Campaign of Caring and also chairs the Strategic Planning Committee.



*LHS Board Chair
Lynn Olman*

Also elected at the board meeting were the following, who will join Mr. Olman to serve on the Executive Committee: Dan Kunos, Vice Chair; Janet Dorr, Secretary; Dan Perry and Rev. Doug Meilander, At Large Representatives.

The Friend also is available on our website: www.lhsoh.org

Annual Meeting - continued from page 6



The Rev. Frank Paine is recognized for 20 years of service to LHS.

Mark and Shirley Frey pause to try some tasty desserts.



What Sets Lutheran Homes Society Apart?

What sets Lutheran Homes Society apart? Like others, we are a social service agency, providing housing and other services to older adults and youth. We are also a business, attentive to efficiency as we do our work. Unlike many others, though, we are a ministry of the Church, 166 member congregations and others responding to God's call, serving as God's instruments at work in the world.

Should we choose to use a biblical image, we could describe ourselves as part of the Body of Christ (see Romans 12:4-5 or 1 Corinthians 12:12-31) or, following the suggestion of David Roberts, our President and CEO, soldiers in God's army (see Joshua 5). We are an incarnation of God's redeeming, reconciling presence among us. As such, we certainly want to be faithful to what we have been called to be and what we have been called to do. To that end, we have defined the ministry to which we have been called in our Mission Statement:

Mission Statement

As followers of Christ, we are called to do what lies within our power to share burdens that weigh upon the young and the old and to alleviate sorrow and misery in His name.

In simple terms this is why we are here.



Chaplain Schuck chats with residents of the Sandusky Home.

Just as this Mission Statement is the foundation of all LHS operating ministries, it guides our office of Mission Integration in its work of Development, Church and Public Relations & Marketing, Spiritual Care, and Chaplaincy.

In addition, there are six Core Values:

Our Values

Faithfulness to Christ
Equality and Justice
Wholeness of Life
Integrity
Quality of Service
Stewardship of Resources

They are the principles that guide our care of residents, personnel practices, facility management, board operations, strategic planning, public relations, and advocacy. Faithfulness to our Mission and these Core Values is what our EAGLE accreditation addresses.

Our primary motivation for all we do is to glorify God. As Mr. Roberts reminds us in his reflections [see page 2] on the meaning of the divine warrior in Joshua 5, our goal as God's soldiers is to discern our master's will and then use our gifts to follow His battle plan. Ultimately our call, as God's faithful people, is to put ourselves totally in God's hands.

Perhaps the clearest expression of all of this is our strong commitment to Spiritual Care throughout the Society. We work hard to meet the spiritual needs of our residents. We see our Mission "As followers of Christ" and our Core Value, "Faithfulness to Christ," as God's mandate that all our various ministries reflect an abiding faith and reliance on the gospel of



Chaplain Clyde Singh serves the residents and employees at the Toledo campus.

Jesus Christ and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.

Surely the presence of chaplains serving in our long-term care facilities is one of the clearest expressions of the seriousness with which we take this mandate. Their primary task is to provide pastoral care and leadership for all our residents. This includes, but is certainly not limited to worship, Bible study, devotions, prayer, and the counsel of God in Christ. Our chaplains also work to foster relationships with neighboring congregations, informing them of the needs of their resident members and inviting them to get involved in the ministry that takes place in each of our facilities. In so doing, they are partners of local pastors and congregations, serving in their respective communities.

Of course, due to the unique character of Lutheran Homes Society's youth and housing ministries, other specially trained and equipped staff members usually fill the role of partner that our chaplains complete in our long-term care facilities. They bridge the gap that sometimes exists between the residents and their own faith communities. Within LHS Housing & Community Services, managers and service coordinators encourage pastors and members of neighboring congregations to come to any of our 12 housing sites for visitation, programs, Bible study, and worship. Due to other challenging circumstances, the

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A Spirit Blossoms

The caring staff at LHS Family & Youth Services is responsible for much more than the physical well-being of troubled youth. They also are concerned with the emotional, behavioral, educational, and even spiritual care needed by these youth, who often face overwhelming circumstances. Cheryl is an example of a youth in care who has come to rely on her faith to help make positive changes in her life.

Cheryl's birth parents had significant mental health issues and were unable to care for her, so Cheryl was placed in the foster care system where she was for many years before being adopted by her foster mother. The adoption did not work because the foster mother could not deal effectively with Cheryl's behavior. She arrived at LHS Family & Youth after several failed placements following her failed adoption.



Youth like Cheryl blossom spiritually under the care of Family & Youth Services.

Staff worked with Cheryl on dealing with her past trauma and helped her learn new skills. First, however, staff showed Cheryl that they cared about her. The adage that is utilized at LHS proved true again in this instance: "A child doesn't care

what you know, until she knows that you care."

Cheryl found out quickly that staff cares about her. She began to listen and to change her behavior for the better. In the words of one staff member, "Cheryl began to blossom." Today, Cheryl loves school and is flourishing in her present academic setting.

Over the past 18 months, Cheryl has remained stable and has not displayed aggressive behavior. She has shown an interest in attending a local church, and staff routinely takes her to services. Cheryl is rarely seen without her Bible these days. In fact, staff purchased her a new one, because she used her old one so much that it fell apart. Cheryl really enjoys attending church and listening to Christian music. Her faith plays a significant role in her positive life changes.

What Sets LHS Apart?

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skilled and caring staff members of LHS Family & Youth Services lead studies and discussions, and even see to it that youth residents can attend the church of their own choosing in the local community.

Lutheran Homes Society's Spiritual Care Policy Manual, developed by our Spiritual Care Committee, expresses clearly our commitment to "make every effort possible to meet the religious and spiritual needs of each resident," always guaranteeing their freedom of choice. We are dedicated to the principle that all residents should be treated with kindness, respect, and dignity, regardless of their religious persuasion, as we believe God desires them to be treated. Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care represent, in concrete ways, our commitment to be, as God's ambassadors, on God's side (as was Joshua), working hard to use the gifts and resources God has given us to accomplish God's mission of healing and reconciliation in our world (see 2 Corinthians 5:16-21).

St. Mark/LHS Sponsor Night at the Races

Special Event Opportunity for NHRA Drag Racing Fans

Watch Pastor Dale Schaefer and others race at the St. Mark/LHS Night at the Races

Date:	Saturday, July 9, 2011
Location:	Summit Motorsport Park Norwalk, Ohio
Time:	Gates open at 3 p.m.
Dinner:	6:00 p.m.
Cost:	\$30.00 – includes the following: Admission ticket with access to pits Dinner in The Media Center, an enclosed air-conditioned grandstand room located at the starting line

If you are interested, please contact: Janice at 419-861-4990 or email jbreitner@lshsoh.org.

Lutheran Homes Society is a co-sponsor with St. Mark Lutheran Church, Bowling Green, of the drag racing car *Pastor's Day Off*, driven by St. Mark's Pastor Dale Schaefer. This sponsorship is made possible by the LHS Mission Integration Fund, with donations expressly designated for this purpose.



150th Anniversary Celebrations Continue at Local LHS Facilities

The year-long celebration of 150 years of service to youth and elderly in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan continued this spring at several LHS ministries. Celebrations were held at Covenant Harbor senior apartment community in Oak Harbor on March 15, Luther Pines senior apartment community in Lima on March 30, and Lutheran Home at Napoleon on April 6, 2011.

The local celebrations provided an opportunity for hundreds of residents and employees to participate directly in the anniversary celebration. Attendees enjoyed a catered lunch and cake to celebrate the milestone.

In addition, each event featured a "Museum in a Suitcase" presentation by the Rev. Gerald Labuhn, LHS Executive Director Emeritus and Archivist. Pastor Labuhn spent nearly an hour sharing historical information, photographs, memorabilia, and anecdotes from Lutheran Homes Society's storied years of ministry, which began in 1860 before the Civil War.

"Our 150th Anniversary gives us the opportunity to celebrate a history rich in compassion and caring," said LHS President/CEO David Roberts. "We are blessed to be part of the many local communities we serve faithfully each day."

LHS kicked off its 150th Anniversary celebration in August 2010 with a weekend of festivities for



Residents at each site were served lunch and cake to celebrate the milestone.

the community, which attracted more than 3,000 people to the Society's original campus at the corner of Seaman and Wheeling streets on the border of east Toledo and Oregon, Ohio. Local site celebrations continue through August 2011.



Luther Pines residents (l - r) Mildred Longbrake and Jency Harris survey the archival items on display.



The Rev. Gerald Labuhn, LHS Executive Director Emeritus and Archivist, shared his "Museum in a Suitcase" presentation during the 150th Anniversary celebration on the Napoleon campus.



President/CEO David Roberts spoke to Covenant Harbor residents on the ministry and mission of Lutheran Homes Society.



After lunch, Luther Pines residents were entertained by Jim Bodecker's amusing songs.

Four Lutheran Agency Golf Outing



Date: Friday, July 15, 2011

Time: 1:00 p.m. (Shotgun Start)

Location: Stone Ridge Golf Club
1553 Muirfield Dr., Bowling Green, Ohio

Cost: \$85.00 per golfer (Scramble Format)

Includes green fees, 1/2 golf cart, use of Driving Range, and concludes with a delicious dinner prepared by the chef at Stone Ridge.

Your participation supports the ministries of Filling Home, Luther Home of Mercy, Lutheran Homes Society, and Lutheran Social Services of Northwestern Ohio, who are working together to host an afternoon of fun, fellowship and fabulous golf at the Fifteenth Annual Four Lutheran Agency Golf Outing.

Putting Contest - \$10 entry fee with cash prizes.

Prizes awarded to top two winning foursomes in each division:
Open, Mixed (2 women & 2 men), and Senior (minimum age of all team members is 60).
++ fabulous hole-in-one-prize ++ great door prizes

**** Thrivent Financial for Lutherans chapters are providing supplemental funds ****

If you have questions, contact Joyce Willier, Four Lutheran Agencies of NW Ohio,
2226 Vistamar Rd., Toledo, OH 43611, call her at 419-726-8653 or 419-350-4809, or email jwillier@lssnwo.org

REGISTRATION FORM

**** Deadline July 1, 2011 ****

Please circle Division for your team: Open Mixed Senior

PLEASE PRINT the name, address & phone number for each golfer:

Check box if you are a Thrivent Member

Golfer #1 _____

Golfer #2 _____

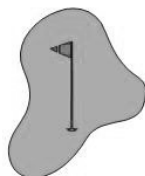
Golfer #3 _____

Golfer #4 _____

Mulligans available @ \$5.00 each (limit of two per golfer).

Total enclosed \$ _____ (Make your check payable to the Four Lutheran Agencies of NW Ohio)

_____ I am unable to play, but understand that my contribution will be matched by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Please accept my donation of _____ \$90 _____ \$60 _____ \$30 _____ Other



Return completed registration forms to:
JOYCE WILLIER, FOUR LUTHERAN AGENCIES OF NW OHIO,
2226 VISTAMAR RD, TOLEDO, OH 43611-1038.

Generous Donor Supports Good Days and God Days

LHS Foundation announces with pleasure and excitement that LHS Family & Youth Services recently received a very generous gift in the amount of \$1,366,477. The kind and thoughtful benefactor was Helen Hiss, who passed away at age 84 in December 2010.



Helen Hiss

A life-long resident of Denver, Colorado, Helen was the adopted daughter of Edward and Gertrude Bitter Hiss. She graduated from the University of Denver with a degree in

accounting and retired from Bank Western in 1992. Although she never married or had children, she enjoyed a full life with many friends and a wide variety of interests. In particular, she valued and appreciated her Christian family at St. John's Lutheran Church and was very active throughout her life as a volunteer participating in forwarding God's mission within their community of believers. She also bequeathed a very large endowment to St. John's.

Helen's parents instilled within her a respect for and interest in Lutheran Homes Society, particularly its work with children. Quoting from a letter on December 4, 1997, addressed to Harry Blackmon, Executive Director of LHS Family & Youth Services, Helen stated, "...my two great-grandfathers, H.H. Samson and J.F.W. Bitter, were two of the founders of the Orphans Home. You can understand why the Lutheran Orphans and Old Folks Homes have a special place in my heart and my life."

Because of Helen's generosity, we are now able to address critical remodeling issues at our group homes in the Toledo area, as well

as the LHS Maumee Youth Center in Liberty Center, Ohio. Updating frayed carpeting, freshly painting the rooms, and repairing worn kitchens creates a more welcoming family environment for the kids. Addressing health and safety issues like replacing fire alarms and sprinkling systems, sunken concrete walks, and reinforcing ramps for wheel chairs enables us to keep everyone safe and secure. In the near future, LHS also will be replacing the roof on the 45,000-square-foot youth center.

In addition, LHS has earmarked adequate funds for the 13 vehicles used to transport the children to classes, appointments, and field trips that complement their education. LHS was really struggling to handle these challenges and had no idea that God had a plan in mind...His grace abounds! To ensure that LHS is the best steward of this blessing, a portion of Helen's gift has been established as an endowment so that it will continue to have long-term, positive impact.

Our hearts rejoice as we marvel at the wonderful way the Lord has enabled us to continue to minister to the children in our care. When Helen signed her letter to Mr. Blackmon she said, "...may every day of every year be for you a Good Day and a God Day." Her gift will continue the legacy her ancestors began and will improve the lives of children in desperate need. Because of her love and the blessings she has shared, these precious children will experience Good Days and God Days.

LHS Foundation Mission Statement

LHS Foundation is organized to gather, receive, invest, and disburse monies solely to benefit the ministries of Lutheran Homes Society.

Contributions January 1 - March 31 2011

St. Martin, Archbold
Good Hope, Arlington
St. Paul, Blissfield, MI
St. Mark, Bowling Green
St. Paul (Haskins), Bowling Green
Bethlehem, Defiance
St. Paul, Defiance
Zion, Defiance
St. John, Deshler
Hope, Fostoria
Grace, Fremont
St. Mark, Fremont
Trinity, Fremont
Zion, Gibsonburg
St. John, Holgate
Zion, Huron
Zion, Lafayette
Zion, Luckey
St. John, Marblehead
St. Paul, Marion
St. Peter, Martin
St. Paul, Maumee
Zion (West Jefferson), Montpelier
St. John, Napoleon
St. Paul, Napoleon
St. Peter, Norwalk
St. John, Oak Harbor
St. Michael, Ottawa Lake, MI
Salem, Pemberville
Church of the Master, Perrysburg
Zoar, Perrysburg
Zion, Petersburg, MI
Peace, Port Clinton
Resurrection, Port Clinton
St. Peter, Ridgeville Corners
St. Paul, Sandusky
Trinity, Sandusky
Zion, Sandusky
St. John, Stony Ridge
St. John, Stryker
St. Paul, Sulphur Springs
Olivet, Sylvania
St. Paul, Temperance, MI
All Saints, Toledo
Augsburg, Toledo
Bethlehem, Toledo
Concordia, Toledo
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Glenwood, Toledo
Holy Trinity, Toledo
Redeemer, Toledo
St. John, Toledo
St. Mark, Toledo
St. Paul, Toledo
St. Petri, Toledo
Zion, Valley City
Solomon, Woodville

**Donations
January 1 - March 31 2011**

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Elwood Anderson
Anonymous
Beverly Apel
Christopher Babcock
M. Jane Baker
Rev. & Mrs. Stephen
Bauerle
James Beardsley
Joyce Behner
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Mr. & Mrs. Lee Wunschel

Nominating Committee Seeks Board Candidates

The Nominating Committee continues to search for candidates for the Lutheran Homes Society Board of Directors. We also are searching for candidates to serve on our new Ministry Boards. These boards assist the executive directors in areas of visioning, annual strategic planning, and donation distributions.

If you are interested or know of a good candidate for any LHS board, please contact Nancy Wellman at nwellman@lhsoh.org or mail to Nancy Wellman, Lutheran Homes Society, 2021 North McCord Road, Toledo, OH 43615-3030.

In Memory of...

January 1 - March 31 2011

- Roy Aldridge** by Patricia Jacksich
- Arthur Andrews** by Dennis & Janet Andrews
- Judy Wells** by Anonymous
- Arnold Avers** by Lyla Avers
- Norm Avers** by Doris Avers
- Emmagene Belknap** by Lois Svehla
- Dorothy Bentley** by Jeff & Nancy Wellman
- Max Bessert** by St. John's WELCA, Fowlerville, MI
- Glenn Boos** by Jeff & Nancy Wellman
- Helen Bostelman** by Lee Hetrick
- Evelyn Bretts** by Judith Brennan
- Louise Bretz** by Robert Bretz
- Peter & Sylvia Buenting** by Rev. Harold & Patricia Buenting
- Anna Bulone** by Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Bugaj
- Gladys Campbell** by Kathleen Carson, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Gardner, Tom Roe, Harry Wagner
- Cynthia Chapman** by Mary Bell
- Fred & Marge Dais** by William Dais
- William Diehl** by Thomas Diehl
- Stacey Dobiecz** by Jeff & Nancy Wellman
- Parents, Ray & Mayola Dorr**, by Robert & Janet Dorr
- Claire & Adelaide Dunn** by William Dais
- Betty Eis** by Anonymous, Mr. & Mrs. Gary Daman, Mr. & Mrs. David Duerk, Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Hill, Mary Knipp, Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Schwefer
- Alma Elder** by St. Martin, Archbold
- Donald Emmel** by Elaine Emmel
- Audrey Escott** by Anonymous, Mr. & Mrs. Donald Biggs, Dorothy
- Otis, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Powers, Mr. & Mrs. Neil Stierle, Mr. & Mrs. Ted Wohlfarth
- Laura Falk** by John & Kay Falk
- Ruth Fischer** by Lois Brinning
- Pat Florio** by Bernadine Florio
- Wayne Fox** by Patricia Fox
- Theodore Fritz** by Norbert & Sharelle Fritz
- Delmar Fry singer** by Anonymous
- Nate Gartee** by Daryl Ann Gibson
- Don Geiger** by Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Geiger
- Richard Geiger** by Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Geiger
- Victor Gerken** by Emilie Gerken
- Robert Grolle** by Betty Grolle
- Lynn Haase** by James & Barbara McConville
- Mother, Mrs. Eda Haase's Birthday** by Gertrude Eggert
- Marie Haberkamp** by Janet Bain, Constance Fall, Gladys Greunke, Mr. & Mrs. Meryl Greunke, Mr. & Mrs. Joe Haberkamp, Mr. & Mrs. David Harmon, Mr. & Mrs. John Jaeger, Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Johns, Mr. & Mrs. David Menichetti, Mr. & Mrs. James Piscitelli, Larry & Karen Schanke, Linda Williams, Michael Wright
- E.J. Tony Hall** by Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Hall
- Dale Harger** by Bea Heebsh
- Helen Heacock** by Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Hagey
- Kenny Heebsh, Jr.** by Bea Heebsh
- Kenny Heebsh, Sr.** by Bea Heebsh
- Janice Hoeffel** by St. Martin, Archbold
- Husband, Dr. Raymond Hollensen**, by Janice Hollensen
- Parents, Rev. & Mrs. C.M. Hollensen**, by Janice Hollensen
- Dorothy Honemann** by Anonymous, BGSU Bowen-Thompson Student Union, Mr. & Mrs. Gary Gilliland, Rosella Helberg, Esther Sonnenberg, Joanne Sonnenberg, Mr. & Mrs. Gary Wernecke
- Parents, Mr. & Mrs. "Chip" Houser**, by Charles T. Kopp
- Louis, Matilda, Esther, & Mabel Hurrelbrink** by Tom & Donna Alexander
- Jack** by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hurst
- Son, Jim Hustwick**, by Julie Delventhal
- Loretta Imbrock** by Mr. & Mrs. Martin Dickmander
- Eleanor Kinsel** by Anonymous, Dorothy Kinsel, Rev. & Mrs. Gerald Labuhn
- Karen Lucille Klein** by Jack & Gretchen Grigsby
- Lucille Helen Klein** by Jack & Gretchen Grigsby
- Clarissa & Al Knape** by Doris Avers
- Parents, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Kopp**, by Charles T. Kopp
- Joe Kovacs** by Mr. & Mrs. Garry DeLauter, Jean DeWitt, Janice Hogan, Maurice Hogan, Jean Oberkiser, Harry & Jean Roberts, Steve & Kathy Warrington, Kimberly Wood
- Richard & Carolyn Kramp** by John & Mary Kramp
- Marie Kruse** by Anonymous
- Evelyn & Ralph Laurence** by Mr. & Mrs. Laurence St. John
- Camil LeRuth** by Eileen LeRuth
- Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Lipke** by Violet Osterland
- Wilma Lorensen** by St. Paul, Oak Harbor
- Loved ones** by Richard & Margaret Manteuffel, Jean Oberkiser, Mr. & Mrs. David Warnke, Gene & Joyce Zimmerman
- Joyce** by Herbert Lueke
- Marge** by Herbert Lueke
- Wilma & Phillip Luetkes** by Joseph & Katherine Myers
- Norma Maassel** by Gary Bernath, Mr. & Mrs. Martin Dickmander
- Pete Macko** by Darlene Macko
- Les & Irene Maiers** by Pat Snyder
- The McKerahan's** by John McKerahan
- Ruby Menzel** by Mr. & Mrs. Rich Menzel
- Donald & Ruth Mercer** by Mr. & Mrs. Francis Grosjean
- Kendall Michaelis** by Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Michaelis
- Lee Miller** by Mr. & Mrs. Howard Stamm
- Robert Morgan** by Ruth Morgan
- Mary Mueller** by Weldon & Mary Mueller
- Marilyn "Dottie" Mundwiler** by Monty & Cece Mees
- Mr. & Mrs. Otto Osterland** by Violet Osterland
- Virgil Osterland** by Violet Osterland
- Our Parents** by Bill & Norma Heermeier
- Our foster sons, Joseph Blaze & Michael Wetzel**, by Rev. & Mrs. Fred Hagen
- Mamie Matthew Padot** by Mr. & Mrs. Wilbert Matthes
- Harold & Thelma Palm** by Ed & Cheryl Oxley

In Memory of...

January 1 - March 31 2011

Parents by Marvin & Shirley Gebers
William Piel by Annaline Piel
Beloved husband, John, by Kathryn Plock
Warden & Freda Pope by Rev. Harold & Patricia Buenting
Bob Puls by Mr. & Mrs. Donald Biggs
Emily Rausch by Jane Hoeffel, Diane Huffman, Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Titgemeyer
Richard Rideout by Esther Speck
Jack Riley by Mr. & Mrs. Erven Brieschke, Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Davis, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Albert Nieman, Mr. & Mrs. William Strouse
Todd Ritterbach by Jeff & Nancy Wellman
Ellis Harris Roberts by Dave & Pam Roberts
Betty Roecker by Robert Roecker
Arthur Rohrs by Rev. Lee & Jane Genter, Ervin & Louise Meyer, Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Titgemeyer
Richard Rust by Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Rust, Rev. & Mrs. Harold Rust
Fred Saelzler by Ernest & Gertrud Fink, Perry & Sandy Gardner, Rev. & Mrs. Gerald Labuhn, Constance McGovern, Richard & Marilyn Pratt, Joanne Sonnenberg, Lois Staber, George & Elaine Wells
Paula Saxton by Anonymous
Edward Schmoldt by Jeff Schmoldt
Matilda Schultz by Mr. & Mrs. Walter Houghland
Ernest Sehmeyer by Anonymous, Dorothy Arney, Ken Crawford, Irene Glore, Mr. &

Mrs. Timothy Glore, Brenda Rathge, Janien Rathge, Michael & Vicki Saneholtz, Mr. & Mrs. Keith Sonnenberg, Roger & Lynette Tietje
Ross Seiffers by The Andersons, Inc., Mr. & Mrs. Donald Biggs
Lorna Schumaker by Gil & Barbara Moorman
John Sherer by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Carsten
Minnie Shick by Jeannette Kubitz
Bob Snyder by Pat Snyder
George & Leola Snyder by Pat Snyder
Evelyn Sobditch by Rev. & Mrs. Keith Koppenhofer
Cousin, Esther Hagen Sonnenberg, by Rev. & Mrs. Fred Hagen
Esther Sonnenberg by Anonymous, Ann Desposito, Mr. & Mrs. Gary Gilliland, The Rev. Dale Kern, Mr. & Mrs. James Maxcy, Mr. & Mrs. Wilbur Miller, Gilbert & Dona Sonnenberg, Dr. & Mrs. David Spooner, Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Titgemeyer
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Charles Tippey by Alice Tippey
Gwendoline Tober by Lila James, Doris Tirado, Mr. & Mrs. John Zamzow
Ellen Jane VanVorhis by Betty Pautz

Roger VonEwegen & Family by Grace Von Ewegen
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Judy Wells by Julia Foulk, Deborah Lofquist, Mr. & Mrs. William Morstadt, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Sabo, Marietta Thomas
Rev. Charles Willmann by Evelyn Willmann

Wife, Rosalie Wolf, by Richard Wolf
Elanor Young by Mr. & Mrs. Gary DeWitt, Jean DeWitt, Mr. & Mrs. Tom DeWitt, Cliff Roper, Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Sprague
Ray Zimmerman by Herman Kahler, Ronald & Joanne Koch, Mr. & Mrs. Karl Offerman, Nancy Roloff, Mr. & Mrs. Victor Schuerman

In Honor of...

January 1 - March 31 2011

151 wonderful years for LHS by Dan & Julie Kunos
Charlotte Blair's Birthday by Dave & Pam Roberts
Delores Buhrow's 80th Birthday by St. Paul, Oak Harbor
Kathy Harrison's Birthday by Jeff & Nancy Wellman
Pastor Gerald Hartke & his ministry by Rev. Donald & Carolyn Weiss
Floyd Koester by James Koester, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Koester, Stephanie Koester
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Krieger's 55th Wedding Anniversary by St. John, Oak Harbor
Donald & Anna Lammers by Rev. Lee & Jane Genter

Rev. Dr. Peter Martyn's Dedication by Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Fox
Our 65th Anniversary on May 9 by Andrew & Helen Nowak
Parents by Carl Obst
Richard Paat, M.D. by Joan Hutton
Cathy Roberts' Birthday by Dave & Pam Roberts
Dave & Pam Roberts' Wedding Anniversary by Jeff & Nancy Wellman
Nelson Roberts' Birthday by Dave & Pam Roberts
Maddie Scheff by Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Scheff
Nancy Wellman's Birthday by Dave & Pam Roberts
Rev. & Mrs. Robert Young by Estella Roberts

Non-Cash Donations

January 1 - March 31 2011

Janet Barber
Margarita Barrett
Tanya Brough
Bruce Flory
Melanie Long

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Musshel
Judy Robaszkiwicz
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Women, Toledo

If we have failed to list your name or have listed it incorrectly, please accept our apologies and contact Marlene at 419-861-4965 so we may correct our records.

The FRIEND
(USPS 574-040)

Published quarterly by
Lutheran Homes Society, Inc.

A Lutheran Services
in America Agency

Affiliated with
Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
and Recognized by
The Lutheran Church-
Missouri Synod

Design, Layout
and Editing
by Church and Public
Relations Department

Please send address changes to:

The FRIEND
2021 North McCord Rd.
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Phone: 419-861-4990

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Serving Christ through Community
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Treasures of Caring: Planned Giving Seminars

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:21 (NIV)

When Paul and Mildred told their children that they were intending to give the bulk of their estate to the church and other ministries, the children registered their concern with this plan. The parents struggled with this because they loved their children and remembered what they were taught in Matthew 7:9, "Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for bread, would give him a stone?" What to do? They were in a quandary regarding honoring their Lord and their children.

It was Mildred's life insurance agent who came up with a solution. Because Mildred was in good health, she could buy a life insurance policy that would benefit the children and replace the assets that she and Paul were planning to give to the church and other ministries.

They established a Charitable Remainder Trust and received tax deductions when they transferred assets into the trust. The tax savings from that transfer along with a portion of the assets which they withheld from the trust paid for the life insurance policy. Income from the trust facilitated the family's ongoing standard of living.



This is one way in which you can give to the church and other ministries, and still maintain dollars to pass to the next generation. If you are interested in other ways of planning your legacy while acquiring some tax benefits, please plan on

attending one of the upcoming planned giving seminars.

- **June 28, 2011**
10:30 a.m. until noon
Trinity Lutheran Church
412 Fremont St.
Elmore, OH
- **August 23, 2011**
10:30 a.m. until noon
Lutheran Home at Toledo
131 N. Wheeling St.
Toledo, OH
- **September 20, 2011**
6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.
Lutheran Home at Napoleon
1036 S. Perry St.
Napoleon, OH
- **October 19, 2011**
10:30 a.m. until noon
Zion Lutheran Church
930 South Main St.
Huron, OH

Light refreshments will be served at each session.

To register, please call Marlene at 419-861-4965 or email mlachine@lhsoh.org within one week of the seminar you are planning to attend.