

April 2022

# Bishop Hills Newsletter

Bishop Hills Assisted Living | 4951 11 Mile Rd NE, Rockford | 866-8227 | [www.bishophills.org](http://www.bishophills.org)



We send this mailing to the first contact. Please share the information with other family members. If you would like additional family members to receive this by e-mail please contact Rachel at [bishopactivities@baruchsls.org](mailto:bishopactivities@baruchsls.org)

Deb Smith- Administrator

Julie Rick- Associate Administrator

Rachel Kooiman- Director of Life Enrichment

Paula Obiden- Resident Care Manager

Leigh Vest- Resident Care Manager

Chris Rolfe- Housekeeping

Tom Ruud- Maintenance

TJ Brodeur- Dietary Director

## *April Events*

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Violin and Cello music program at 2:30
- 4<sup>th</sup> Acrylic Painting Class- let Rachel know to sign up
- 5<sup>th</sup> Rockford Library Book Delivery at 1:30 we will be going room to room
- 6<sup>th</sup> Chaplain Val visiting and communion service
- 10<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday
- 14<sup>th</sup> Easter Egg Hunt at 11:00 (residents only)
- 15<sup>th</sup> Good Friday Service at 10:30
- 17<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday (no church service today)
- 19<sup>th</sup> Veteran's Art Show Reception Virtual at 1:30
- 20<sup>th</sup> Chaplain Val Visiting Today
- 27<sup>th</sup> Mass at 9:00
- 27<sup>th</sup> Music Man Program at 5:30

### Samaritan's Carriage Bus Outings Volunteers Needed

We use an organization called Samaritan's Carriage for our outings once a month. They usually provide the volunteers, but they are running short. Would you be willing to help us once a month? It is on the second Tuesday of the month from 10:00-2:00. You would be pushing a wheelchair around on the outing. Admission costs for you would be covered by Samaritan's. A staff person from Bishop Hills always goes on the outing as well. Interested? Ask Rachel [bishopactivities@baruchsls.org](mailto:bishopactivities@baruchsls.org)

### New Administrator

We are excited to announce that we have a new administrator Deb Smith.

Dear Residents/Family/Guardians:

I wanted to send out a quick note to say hi and to thank everyone for making me feel so welcome here at Bishop Hills.

I have been in the healthcare field for 30 years in a variety of roles. I was a Nursing Home Administrator for 19 years. In 2018 I decided to move over to Assisted Living and have never looked back. Continued on back....

Psalms 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

This morning the winds howled outside, snow and rain crashed against the windows, and I woke up thinking of a story told to me years ago.

The story took place on a farm in early April. The farm animals were scattered through acres of fields when an end of season snowstorm came in fast. Skies darkened, snow fell. Four inches, 8 inches, and it kept coming. The kids and their parents had gone into the fields to bring in as many of the livestock to the barn as possible. By the time most were safely in, the snow was falling so hard that the barn and house couldn't be seen. Mom and two daughters were in the barn getting the animals settled. Two sons were still somewhere in the field, and the dad had gone looking for them. The boys later told of how they found a fence and followed it until they felt the familiar gate, which is where Dad found them. Dad had tied a rope around himself and each of the boys so they wouldn't get separated, and they slowly made their way in the direction of the barn. They were guided by occasional sounds from the barn that weren't blown away by the wind. When safely together, the family each held onto a rope with Mom in the lead and Dad at the back making sure no one got lost. Offering encouraging words and their presence, the parents eventually got the family safely back to the house where they waited for the storm to end.

When going through hard times, or simply just going through life, none of us can do it alone. The good news is that we don't have to. We have God.... who promises always to be present with us. Like the parents in the snowstorm, God stays with us in all situations. We are God's beloved sons and daughters, part of God's family. God promises to be our refuge, shelter, and encourager. We can thrive in life because God is WITH us and God is FOR us.

As you go through each day this month, spend some time simply focusing on God's presence. And remember that "the One who goes ahead of you, opening up the way, is the same One who stays close and never lets go of your hand."

Chaplain Karen

I have two grown boys, Rick and Blake. Rick is living in Colorado and has blessed me with 2 granddaughters who are 2 years old. They are identical twins and I honestly have a hard time telling them apart.

In my spare time I crochet and read. My mom moved to Rockford a couple of years ago from North Carolina which has been great allowing me to spend time with her.

I hope to get to know you all soon.

If you have any questions or there is something I can assist you with please let me know.

I look forward to meeting you all.

Sincerely,  
Deb Smith  
Administrator

#### Pop cans, bottles and glass bottles Fundraiser

Look for the big blue barrel in Bishop Hills front entry. We still have a volunteer that is taking the donations in, so let's fill it up! We are now raising money for landscaping around the new deck since the deck building is funded!



#### BIG News!

We have now raised enough money to rebuild our deck off the dining room. We are working with a local builder to get a date on the calendar. To save money, we would like to have volunteers help with pulling out the landscaping that is close to the deck and maybe some other overgrown brushes too if we have enough workers. We will try and save as many plantings as we can to replant later. If you would like to volunteer to help out with that please contact Rachel and we will be in touch with more details. This would also be a great project for high school students who need volunteer hours!