

December 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

Tom Ruud- Maintenance

Dan DeBlaay – Dietary Director

Carolyn Parcher - Housekeeping

## December Events

- 1<sup>st</sup> Residents Trim the Tree Party at 6:15, refreshments and music by Chris Sloan
- 6<sup>th</sup> Rockford Library Book Delivery at 1:30 room to room
- 7<sup>th</sup> Chaplain Val Visiting
- 16<sup>th</sup> Christmas music program by Sarah & Darlene at 2:15
- 17<sup>th</sup> Hymn Sing at 2:30 with Three Angels Church
- 19<sup>st</sup> Acrylic Painting Class with Peg at 1:00
- 20<sup>th</sup> Resident Council Meeting at 1:15
- 21<sup>st</sup> Chaplain Val Visiting
- 21<sup>st</sup> Nativity Pageant at 2:15
- 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve- please see note about taking residents out
- 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day- please see note about taking residents out
- 28<sup>th</sup> Mass at 9:00
- 28<sup>th</sup> Music Man Program at 5:30
- 30<sup>th</sup> New Year's Eve Celebration *An Afternoon in Paris* special lunch at 12:00 and music and party at 2:15 Accordion music by Michael

### Holiday Meals

If you would like to dine with a resident especially on a Holiday our kitchen staff need to know ahead of time. Please note we will only be serving guest in resident's rooms, not in the dining room with cold and flu season. Limit of two guests per resident. We do ask for a \$5.00 donation which can be dropped off at the office. To take care of our residents needs we will be serving the residents first.

## Life Is Full of Surprises

The Christmas story is full of surprises. A virgin realizing, she was pregnant. Her skeptical fiancé surprises her by deciding to faithfully walk with her on the journey.

The couple are unprepared for the birth of their child. They don't even have a place prepared for the birth. They are surprised when a simple shelter is provided for their son to be born. It is big enough to host surprise guests from the working-class and the wealthy.

The shepherds were performing their working-class job when they were surprised by an angelic choir singing "Glory to God in the highest and on earth, Peace."

Mary and Joseph were probably worried about finances. God surprised them when the wise men gave valuable gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The value of these gifts supported them for two years. Including their unexpected journey to Egypt.

Just as Mary and Joseph discovered life is full of surprises, even so, I've heard many stories of residents at a senior living home tell me of the surprises in their lives. The one constant is that God is faithful to provide care in each of those surprises. It would be interesting to share with others some of the surprises we have experienced in life and how God provided care.

Christmas reminds us that life is full of surprises. Christmas also reminds us that God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son and whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life.

Chaplain Jeff Meyers

## Face Masks

We are no longer required to have anyone wear face masks in our building. With that said, please be considerate of the residents and others health and wear a face mask if you have any symptoms but are not limited to: cough, sore throat, runny nose GI issues etc. or if you have been exposed to someone that is sick. We will post on the main entrance door if we do need to have visitors wear a mask because of high numbers of covid or sickness in the building.

## Employee Christmas Fund

During the Christmas season many of the residents would like to give back to the staff. We have set up a "Christmas Fund" for residents and their families to give to all of the staff. If you would like to contribute to this fund please make checks payable to **Bishop Hills** and **please note in the memo section on the check for "Employee Christmas Fund" before Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>**. The money will be presented to all of the staff at the staff Christmas party. Please remember that our policy does not allow staff to accept personal gifts or money from residents or their families.

## Holidays are coming please let us know of your plans

If you are planning on taking your family member out for Thanksgiving Day please give Bishop Hills a call when you have made plans. Thanksgiving can be a very busy day for our staff and it is very helpful if we know what time residents will be leaving the building. Please also check with the medication passers before leaving to make sure residents have their medications before leaving the build.