

SummerWood News

March 2024

From the campus administrator

When you walk through the doors at SummerWood these days, you may notice something new. But perhaps, new isn't the right word.

When you enter the Commons, you will now see that the door to the Deli is open. We have recognized that this lovely space at SWC has been underutilized and we want to change that.

You will start to see various activities that will be held in this space. We had a wonderful Valentine's Day Gathering in the space in February and it made for a beautiful celebration of love and friendship.

We invite you to use this space to gather in groups, large and small, to connect in fellowship. There is a coffee machine behind the counter that you are invited to help yourself to—the coffee is complimentary!

Katelyn Roiland, Campus Administrator



Resident spotlight

Les and Carol were parish members at St. Hubert before SummerWood of Chanhassen was here. SummerWood was a field at that time!

The Boatman's heard about SummerWood from St. Hubert and saw it being constructed. They were living in Eden Prairie at the time, near Highway 5 and County Road 4. After deciding they wanted to move, they jumped on the waiting list, but had to wait for over a year! They would not give up; the wait would be worth it.



Les grew up in Marinette, Wisconsin, which is 50 miles north of Green Bay. He attended Michigan Tech in Houghton, Michigan. After graduating, Les moved to Minneapolis for work. Carol lived in northeast Minneapolis at the time. Les and Carol met at a church in that area, as Les happened to be living in the same area. After marriage, they moved to Richfield to be closer to work. Les worked at Control Data Corp. Carol was a homemaker until their youngest son graduated from high school.

Les and Carol have four sons who all live in the Twin Cities area. The Boatman's went on annual family vacations, and they liked to go camping.

Les and Carol appreciate the continued connection with St. Hubert community within SummerWood.

Al Gustafson, Environmental Services Director

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Pastor's message

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.... (1 Peter 1:3 NIV)

Why do babies capture all the attention in a room? I remember when my children were born; I was full of anticipation and joy—and a little fear. We received baby showers and parenting advice from family and friends. One strong memory was the number a diaper packages we were gifted. Yikes! For us a newborn baby was the start of something altogether new, different, and wonderful. And by looking at all the pictures and videos we have of our children, you would have to conclude that our attention, too, was captured by new life.

Can you think of a time when you were enthralled by new life? Perhaps you've recently welcomed into the family a grandchild or great grandchild. New life gives hope. It shows us what is possible. What brings you hope? The Bible passage above announces new life in Christ that offers a *living* hope.

Easter hope is hope with a heartbeat. Its rhythm is set by the promise of resurrection. We now know what is possible when we see Jesus raised from the dead. We see in resurrection the pain, hurt, sadness, darkness, sin and death of this life being undone. A total reversal is taking place through the victory of Jesus' resurrection. An appropriate response to such vibrant hope is to praise God. His faithfulness and great mercy have appeared in Christ. Through the resurrection we find, as the well-known hymn sings, "Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow."

Christians have traditionally greeted one another on Easter morning with the call and response:

"He is risen."

"He is risen indeed!"

May Easter celebration strengthen you for today and brighten your hope for tomorrow.

Pastor Matt Anderson, Campus Pastor

Staff spotlight

Duke Omweri has been a resident assistant at SummerWood for just over five years now. He learned about the opportunity through a friend that enjoyed working at SWC.

Duke shared that the residents are what make SummerWood a great place to work; that, and what a good environment SWC is.

Outside of work, Duke enjoys going out with friends, visiting new places to eat and being in nature. He especially likes seeing the flowers and plants at the Como Conservatory and the Arboretum.

Something you may not know about Duke is that he is the only member of his family that lives in the US. The rest of his family resides in Kenya.

Duke also recently finished his nurse education to become a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN). He plans to take his Boards soon. We're rooting for you, Duke!

SummerWood is blessed to have Duke on the team; his smile and dedication are always a happy sight!

LeeAnn Eiden, Resident Services Director



Letter from the Foundation

The difference of a 501(c)3

Since its beginning, Presbyterian Homes & Services (PHS) was established as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Today, each PHS community also maintains its own 501(c)3 status, as does the Presbyterian Homes Foundation and Optage®.

Governance by a mission-driven board of directors, instead of profit-driven stakeholders, fuels the purpose of our organization. We believe that reinvestment of revenue back into PHS, rather than into the bottom line, creates a better place for residents to live. That's one reason being a 501(c)3 non-profit organization makes all the difference.

Another difference is due to the generosity of our residents, family members, employees and friends. Every charitable gift received by the Foundation for PHS, your community and Optage is tax-deductible and impacts the lives of residents and employees in important ways. Even memorial gifts that honor a loved one, or Shining Star gifts that recognize an exemplary employee, are allowed by the IRS (Internal Revenue Service) as tax deductions.

Gifts received throughout the year as cash, credit cards or stocks are acknowledged by letter after each gift is received. Some people choose to give charitably through their IRA distribution. Because this type of gift is not treated as income, income taxes are not paid on the distribution.

We are honored, as a non-profit organization, to serve residents, family members and employees, and we appreciate every gift that furthers this important mission. If you would like more information about memorial gifts, Shining Star gifts, IRS charitable deductions or to simply learn more about how you can make a difference, please call the Foundation at 651-631-6408. To visit us online, please go to preshomes.org and click on Make a Gift. It really does make a difference!

SummerWood birthdays



Georgia S.	3/1
Marlene L.	3/6
Curt R.	3/10
Jeanette J.	3/10
Mary Lu M.	3/12
Joan B.	3/12
Debbie K.	3/15
Jim P.	3/20
Shirley K.	3/20
Martha J.	3/20
Lynn S.	3/22
Gladys J.	3/24
Polly B.	3/25
Margie B.	3/25
Lowell T.	3/25
Don T.	3/26
Greg A.	3/26
Fran M.	3/28
Dar K.	3/28



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Presbyterian Homes & Services is a nonprofit organization and an equal opportunity employer serving older adults through community services, housing, and health care.

PHS president & CEO announces retirement, board transition plan

Dear Presbyterian Homes & Services family,

It has been a blessing and joy to be part of this ministry for more than 47 years. I am in awe of how God has blessed us and has been faithful through every challenge. The Lord has been in it all, shepherding, guiding and prospering this organization.

My wife, Jeannie, and I have prayerfully considered the best time to step away from my role at PHS and retire. We have determined that now is the right time. As such, I have notified the PHS Board of my intent to retire in spring 2025.

I am humbled, thankful and privileged to have been part of this ministry for my entire career. I have been honored to work side-by-side with an outstanding board, a great leadership team, as well as capable and extraordinarily gifted staff.

You have been an inspiration to me as I have tried to serve with commitment and compassion. Because of

you, our ministry truly embodies and extends our mission to honor God by enriching the lives and touching the hearts of older adults.

A search committee, appointed by the PHS board, has convened. They will meet frequently over the next 12 months to identify, recruit and recommend to the PHS Board the next President/CEO of Presbyterian Homes & Services.

Thank you for your friendship and for your support in this important mission. Together, and with God's hand of blessing, we have a strong foundation. As we look ahead in anticipation, we have adopted Jeremiah 29:11 as a scriptural framework:

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

With deepest gratitude,
Dan Lindh, President & CEO