

Experiences

A PUBLICATION OF  **LutherCare**
Together in Community

Celebrating Stories of Ageless Potential | FALL 2019

A MESSAGE FROM OUR President & CEO

This year, LutherCare marked 70 years of service to Lancaster and Lebanon counties. Our organization was founded when a group of devoted Lutheran congregations acknowledged a need for quality care and support for seniors. Over the years, we've added new senior living campuses and new service offerings, and opened up a world of potential for our residents to live active, engaged and fulfilling lifestyles.

We've also continued to expand on our commitment to children and their families – opening child care and early learning centers and offering scholarships to those in need, establishing mentorship programs for in-home child care providers, and forming partnerships with other entities to prepare children for kindergarten.

The only constant through these years has been change! We have adapted and grown and, at times, connected with other organizations along the way as we strive to live out our mission to *reflect Christ's love through service to others*.

The only way we can be prepared for the future is to find innovative ways for us to build upon our rich history.

We partnered with Moravian Manor, another Continuing Care Retirement Community in our market, to jointly own Your Neighborhood Connection (YNC). YNC is an in-home care agency serving our senior living communities and the greater community as well. The partnership enables us to find efficiencies and revenues while taking better care of our residents.

We've also explored how to grow our campuses in new and unusual ways. We developed Luther Acres on Pin Oak Drive, an independent living project in a neighborhood setting near Luther Acres in Lititz. The new twist on campus living enabled us to offer 10 brand-new townhomes in Lititz Reserve, an

EGStoltzfus community. Residents who live there enjoy the benefits of being part of Lititz Reserve with the full continuum of care at Luther Acres. At St. John's Herr Estate in Columbia, we are in the planning stages for a 14-cottage neighborhood that will be constructed on nearby property that was once a community pool. We're also transforming our Personal Care community at St. John's to include memory support and a new dining experience for all residents. At the same time, our Healthcare Centers at Luther Acres and Spang Crest are undergoing renovations, including remodeled resident rooms, gathering spaces and nursing stations, with a goal of providing a wonderful experience for our residents and team members alike.

This year, we launched Greenstone Living. Greenstone Living is the vehicle that was formed to enable LutherCare to realize its vision of growth through collaboration, affiliation, acquisition and management opportunities. As part of our strategic vision, Greenstone Living will enable like-minded partners to join together to meet the challenges and opportunities that the Senior Service industry faces. We will be able to diversify our revenue streams and reduce our dependence on healthcare reimbursement. Through Greenstone Living, partner organizations will be able to maintain, as desired, their own identity and tradition while enjoying an expanded network of talent, geography and financial resources. In this newsletter, you will learn about Greenstone Mosaic, a subsidiary of Greenstone Living.

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As the healthcare landscape changes so do we. Our Healthcare Centers are evolving to effectively manage the needs of the hospital and healthcare systems in the communities we serve while continuing to provide the high-quality care our residents have become accustomed to experiencing at LutherCare.

Payment models across the healthcare continuum are changing. We are more closely integrating with hospital systems and insurers to address outcomes and cost. As we move forward and innovate our services, we will partner with healthcare systems in Lancaster and Lebanon markets – WellSpan Health, Penn State Hershey Medical Center, Penn Medicine/ LGH and UPMC – on how to better improve our care and services.

I look forward to what awaits us in 2020!



In service,

Carl R. McAloose
President & CEO, LutherCare



Luther Acres residents paint rocks as part of a Kindness Rocks project this year.

A LIFE WELL LIVED AT OUR *Healthcare Centers*

At Luthercare, we are committed to creating a dynamic culture and a vibrant atmosphere in our senior living communities. We value both community and independence and understand each individual resident's unique needs, principles and preferences, and that extends to our Healthcare Centers and our efforts to provide an outstanding resident experience.

Today's skilled care centers – with home-like accommodations, an emphasis on choice, and a variety of social and recreational opportunities – are a far cry from the “nursing homes” of years past.

Whether it's short-term rehabilitation or long-term care that is needed, the services at our Healthcare Centers include short-term and postoperative rehabilitation; physical, occupational and speech therapies; skilled nursing care; and memory support. And our therapeutic recreation teams ensure that residents can enjoy enriching, fulfilling and fun activities and events.

At Luther Acres in Lititz and Spang Crest in Lebanon, we are undertaking significant renovations to our skilled

care centers that, when completed, will provide beautifully updated spaces for our residents and team members to enjoy.

The Luther Acres Healthcare Center is in the middle of a full renovation, including remodeled resident rooms and redesigned gathering spaces and nursing stations. The project is expected to be completed by May 2020. Meanwhile, Spang Crest – which has seen renovations to its recreational areas, rehabilitation resident rooms, and nursing stations – will see renovations to its first floor as well in 2020.

Throughout the renovation process, our therapeutic recreation teams work to provide our residents with programming that touches their mind, body and spirit.

“We have begun working with smaller groups who have specific shared interests, from painting to trivia to bingo. We can offer a variety of programming and really support individuals in their pursuit of leisure interests,” says Mary Schreiber, Therapeutic Recreation Manager at the Luther Acres Healthcare Center.

Karen Kreiser, Activities Manager at Spang Crest, says a new favorite program

is Sports Bar & Drill, where residents can have a glass of wine or beer and answer trivia, much like many of the bars and pubs in the surrounding communities offer.

“For our rehab residents, we recently started a hospitality cart to bring snacks and treats door-to-door as well as traveling trivia visits, just in case they don't have the time to come to the organized programs,” Karen says.

Both campuses happily welcome pets and visits from pets, and we strongly believe they positively impact our residents' health and well-being. Studies have shown us that there are many health benefits to interacting with pets. Pets can decrease blood pressure, cholesterol levels, triglyceride levels and feelings of loneliness, and they can increase opportunities for socialization, outdoor activities and exercise. Luther Acres has a resident campus dog, Rosie, a miniature goldendoodle, and she spends many hours visiting with Healthcare Center residents.

Residents also appreciate the intergenerational programs available at both campuses, whether they are programs with children from our Luthercare for Kids Early Learning Centers or the local schools.

“Our residents also really enjoy giving back to the community, and we have service projects every month with opportunities to help others and share our skills and talents,” Karen says.



PHILANTHROPY UPDATE:

Lights of Luthercare

During this holiday season, we thank you for your continued support, and we celebrate the many ways your generous gifts have enabled Luthercare to bring its mission to life throughout the year. This season, we planned our sixth annual Lights of Luthercare luminaria celebrations at Luther Acres in Lititz and St. John's Herr Estate in Columbia. The celebrations, held jointly with campus tree-lighting festivities, are a beautiful way to honor and remember loved ones, and we look forward to these special evenings every year. Together, we light the lights for Advent and Christmas and come together in fellowship, song and celebration. Each luminaria recognizes a tribute gift of \$25.00 or more that was received by November 15, 2019.



INTRODUCING RYAN FISHER

Dear Friends,

I am happy to introduce Ryan Fisher, who has joined Luthercare as Director of Philanthropy. Ryan began his work at Luthercare in July. Ryan brings a wealth of professional experience in the areas of fundraising and donor relations. He began his career in philanthropy by working for the faith-based organization The Navigators before serving as a Regional Philanthropy Manager for Operation Blessing International, the charitable arm of the Christian Broadcasting Network. Ryan and his wife, Monica, live nearby in Rothsville with their 23-month-old son, Carson.

I have been working closely with Ryan as he takes on responsibility for all aspects of Philanthropy for Luthercare. I look forward to your meeting him as opportunities present themselves. Please feel free to call him or me in this time of transition. And blessings to you for your continued faithfulness in giving for others.



In service,

William C. Snyder

Vice President - Philanthropy & Community Engagement



LUTHERCARE FOR KIDS – MARIETTA

Celebrates 1st Year and Expansion

During its first year of operation, Luthercare for Kids – Marietta experienced an exciting time of development and growth!

The Early Learning Center – a partnership between Luthercare for Kids and Community Bible Church in Marietta, Lancaster County – celebrated its one-year anniversary on June 4. The center, located within state-of-the-art space at Community Bible Church, replaced the Columbia center, which was housed in a Columbia School District Administrative Building. The Luthercare for Kids team had dreams of growing and expanding the program, but the Columbia site simply had no more available space.

“The new partnership enabled Luthercare for Kids to move into unused space that Community Bible Church had purposely designed for child care,” said Lorita Valente, Executive Director of Community Programs at Luthercare.

When it opened, the new center was able to serve up to 117 children, which was up from 62 in Columbia. And earlier this year, Luthercare for Kids – Marietta grew even more, becoming licensed to enroll up to 230 children at the site. The space currently accommodates three toddler rooms, two infant rooms, three preschool rooms and space for a before- and after-school program that serves the Donegal and Columbia school districts. They also held a school-age summer camp at the center this year, which enrolled 26 students. And a wonderful new outdoor playground began construction there over the summer and is expected to be ready soon.

“This partnership has been a wonderful opportunity for Luthercare for Kids to grow and expand and serve more families,” said Lorita.

To mark the one-year anniversary, the church and Luthercare for Kids invited families, friends and church members to attend a drop-in celebration at the center on May 29. Those who attended met team members, toured classrooms and enjoyed delicious hors d'oeuvres.

“We are so thankful for this partnership and for all who are a part of our Luthercare for Kids – Marietta family. We look forward to a bright future,” Lorita said.



Luthercare
for Kids
Early Learning Programs



upon entering kindergarten that play an important role in a child's success in school. These skills include: recognizing and naming 8-12 uppercase letters and 8-12 lowercase letters; writing their own name with most letters correct; counting to 20; and naming squares, circles, triangles and rectangles. These skills are aligned with Pennsylvania's Early Learning Standards – Pre-Kindergarten, the PA Core Standards – Pre-Kindergarten, and the Success by Six Kindergarten Readiness Checklist.

The percentage of Cocalico School District's incoming kindergarten students who were able to meet all eight of the benchmarks in 2018 was 19% and in 2019 was 10%. Most students who fail to reach the "kindergarten readiness" criteria are experiencing risk factors, such as limited financial resources, delays in

LUTHERCARE FOR KIDS – REAMSTOWN

Collaborates with Cocalico School District

Luthercare for Kids continues to find new ways to grow, evolve and partner with community organizations.

This fall, Luthercare for Kids – Reamstown announced a collaboration with Cocalico School District to operate a new classroom within Reamstown Elementary School. The agreement with the district enables Luthercare for Kids to operate a state-funded preschool class to financially eligible 3- and 4-year-old children. The class of 20 students includes 15 spots funded by a Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts grant, which enables children from low-income families to begin their education a year or two before kindergarten begins. Doing so, studies show, increases the children's success as they enter kindergarten. Full-day instruction will be provided, and the program is expected to open as soon as the site is inspected by the state Department of Human Services.

Before- and after-school care for the Pre-K Counts class will be available at the elementary school. The Luthercare for Kids – Reamstown Early Learning Center, which is located across the street from Reamstown Elementary School, continues

to offer early learning child care services for infants, toddlers and preschoolers, as well as before- and after-school care for school-age children at the center.

"We are pleased to be able to partner with Cocalico School District to bring these important services to Reamstown Elementary, and we look forward to the positive impact this wonderful collaboration will have for the children and families of the community," said Lorita Valente, Luthercare's Executive Director of Community Programs.

Cocalico School District takes providing support for every child very seriously, and that begins before they even enter kindergarten.

"Free preschool at every one of our schools would be a dream come true," said Cocalico School District Superintendent Dr. Ella Musser, noting that the district is working with another preschool agency to bring similar programs to its other elementary schools.

Cocalico, like all school districts in Lancaster and Lebanon counties, identified eight early literacy and numeracy skills that children should know

physical or mental development, and/or a primary language other than English. Providing free preschool for at-risk children promotes language, literacy and numeracy skill development, and lessens the likelihood that a child would need intensive remediation and support in kindergarten.

Previously, the school district itself had provided a Pre-K Counts program, but it was able to provide only half-day services for 30 children.

"We are so pleased that we are able to offer more support to children in our district. We're very excited because this provided, in the end, not just a replacement for a class that was going to close, but a way to actually expand it," Musser said.



*Thank you for
supporting our 25th
Annual Golf Tournament*

Tee It Up for Kids!

We are grateful to all who supported the Luthercare for Kids Scholarship Fund through this year's 25th Annual *Tee It Up for Kids!* Golf Tournament. The tournament, held on September 16 at the Lebanon Country Club, was a perfect day for 107 golfers to take to the course. This year, the tournament raised more than \$85,000 through generous sponsorships and contributions, netting more than \$62,500 in support of scholarships through Luthercare for Kids Early Learning Programs.

Luthercare provides many children in Lancaster and Lebanon counties with access to quality care at our four Early Learning Centers. Through the Luthercare for Kids Scholarship Fund, families who find themselves in need of temporary or longer-term assistance to afford the cost of child care will be blessed with financial support. The quality care provided means so much for working parents and leads to a brighter future for their children and their communities. With the help of Luthercare for Kids, children enter kindergarten prepared and ready to thrive.

Special thanks to our tournament sponsor Benchmark Construction Company, Inc. and to the corporations, foundations and individuals who generously donated to support this important work. Thank you for supporting our wonderful kids!

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*The tournament raised over
\$85,000 in scholarship
support for families of
LutherCare for Kids Early
Learning Centers.*



INTRODUCING Greenstone Mosaic Consultancy



LutherCare's strong vision of growth gave rise to Greenstone. Part of that organization is an exciting new consultancy, launched regionally this summer and nationally in October: Greenstone MosaicSM.

Greenstone Mosaic offers a menu of integrated services to support the overall wellness of organizations and systems and the people in them. The work is centered on five key categories: culture, leadership, strategy, governance and organizational alignment.



Led by **William Snyder** and **Kim Daly Nobbs**, Greenstone Mosaic designs services and solutions specific to the needs of each client. Typical engagements include cultural values assessment and alignment processes, board and leadership retreats, development programs, focus group facilitation, executive coaching and more.

"The primary seed of Greenstone Mosaic was sown many years ago, with a casual conversation at a conference. We found that we were kindreds, committed to grounding our work, whatever the work, in well-identified and articulated values," said Bill. Throughout their careers, values have remained the foundation of their work, and Kim and Bill have both brought that lens to their varied experiences.

Bill brings diverse talents to Greenstone Mosaic, with deep expertise in mission advancement, resource development and community partnerships, which enrich his work with organizations, leaders and boards. He is transitioning out of the role of LutherCare's Vice President - Philanthropy & Community Engagement. Kim has partnered with organizations, both as part of the executive team and through her consulting, to build strong leaders, boards and teams. She has helped assess cultures, articulate values, and create practices that ensure those values are reflected in day-to-day actions, long-term strategy and brand articulation. Prior to the birth of Greenstone Mosaic, Kim has had a long relationship with LutherCare as a consultant.

"Our goal is to create deep and meaningful engagements that not only result in positive change for our clients but also contribute to a more intentional focus on values in our world," Kim said.

To learn more about Greenstone Mosaic, visit www.GreenstoneMosaic.com.

EXPLORE OUR New Website

We are excited to announce the launch of LutherCare's newly designed website, www.LutherCare.org. Our goal is to offer a user-friendly browsing experience with easy access to all the information you need. It features new photos of our three senior living campuses with details about our services and amenities, the latest news and events, plus secure sections for job searching and applications, as well as donating electronically to LutherCare. We hope you enjoy exploring our new site!



*"Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."*

Isaiah 43:19

GIVING THANKS FOR SEASONS OF *Change and Growth*

I am a creature of habit. At times, I tend to be a little set in my ways and singularly focused. My wife will tell you that I love going out to eat and frequently suggest going to the same places and, when we go, often order the same thing to eat. Could it be that I don't like change? I am a fairly typical Pennsylvania Dutchman and appreciate those times when I can expect things to be the way they've always been, but I also appreciate a change from time to time – as long as it is change that I can manage or control.

In my work as the synod's Disaster Response Network Coordinator, I am seeing change that I do not embrace and which I cannot control. Repeated flash flooding, especially in areas where flooding ordinarily does not happen, is our new reality due to the fact that our climate has changed and will continue to change. Change is inevitable in this life; we all recognize that reality. All we can do is work to slow that change down. I trust that God continually works among us in doing new things and will inspire all of us to change the way we live so that we might be better caretakers of our earthly home.

Former legislator and teacher Pauline Kezer once said, "Continuity gives us roots; change gives us branches, letting us stretch and grow and reach new heights." As you read the pages of this newsletter, you will hear stories that have a common thread – change and growth. As Luthercare works to upgrade our Healthcare Centers, expands our personal care ministry at St. John's Herr Estate with a memory support ministry there, and as Luthercare for Kids in Marietta continues to grow and expand, I give thanks for the opportunity to change and grow that all of these realities will bring.

I celebrate the creativity, ingenuity and opportunity the creation of Greenstone Living brings to Luthercare as we continue to live into our mission of sharing the love of Christ through service to others. Matt Tenney, author of *Serve to Be Great*, writes, "Although change is always occurring, when our awareness is scattered, we fail to see the exact moment when one thing ends and another begins." Andy Rooney once said, "Everyone wants to live on the top of the mountain, but all the happiness and growth occurs while you're climbing it."

I am thankful for the wisdom behind Greenstone Living and the opportunities it will provide for all of us! As always, I am most thankful for your partnership in this ministry, and I pray that God will bless us all as, indeed, God does a new thing among us!

Peace be with you!



Rev. Glenn A. Beard, Jr.
Director of Church Relations & Pastoral Care





TEAM LUTHERCARE SUPPORTS

Lancaster Walk to End Alzheimer's®!

On a beautiful fall morning, Team Luthercare joined hundreds of other local groups and individuals to support the 2019 Lancaster Walk to End Alzheimer's®! More than 80 Luthercare residents, staff members, friends and family members took part in the walk,

caregivers. Attendees could personalize the flowers and write messages on them, and they were encouraged to walk with the flowers and then take them home as a remembrance of their Walk experience and the promise made.

The walk, organized by the Greater PA



held Saturday, September 28, in Overlook Park in Lancaster. With your help, Team Luthercare raised more than \$5,700 for Alzheimer's care, support and research.

This year, Luthercare was the exclusive Promise Garden sponsor, which enabled us to help participants select a colorful flower to represent their promise to remember, honor, care and fight for those living with Alzheimer's disease and their



Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association®, is one of hundreds held annually. The morning's activities included a ceremony with guest speakers before the start of the two-mile loop.

Thank you to all who walked and who supported Team Luthercare! Special thanks to our community partner, Blue Ridge Communications, for its advertising and promotional support.



YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTION UPDATE:

Here Come the Boomers!



Each day, some 10,000 seniors turn 65 in the United States, and the majority of those seniors are hoping to age in their own home. Your Neighborhood Connection, the in-home care agency jointly owned and operated by Luthercare and Moravian Manor, continues to grow as it meets the needs of these individuals.

Your Neighborhood Connection (YNC) started receiving clients in March of 2016 and has been helping clients and family members over the past three-plus years. In the beginning, YNC employed 15 caregivers along with two office team members. We now have more than 47 caregivers in addition to four office staff members ready to serve. We have successfully completed 42,000 hours of service, which is equivalent to 16,120 client visits.

We certainly are delivering on our mission statement: "When home is where you want to be, Your Neighborhood Connection provides reliable, personalized in-home care solutions that promote wellness and freedom of choice." Currently, 53 percent of our clients are served on campus in residential areas, with the other 47 percent of clients served in the surrounding Lancaster County area.

With this growing trend of more and more clients choosing to receive services in their home, Your Neighborhood Connection continues to seek qualified caregivers and team members to best serve those in need. YNC is also committed to connecting and working alongside community-based companies, ranging from home health agencies, adult day service centers, hospice and other long-term care centers.

Continuously growing our connections and education opportunities, YNC collaborated with a few of our community-based friends to present a fall program. This year's topic was "Navigating the Aging Process." We explored various service opportunities for those residing in their own home, and the program was presented in the local community and on the senior living campuses we serve.

Leanne Kiralfy
Executive Director - Your Neighborhood Connection

BY THE NUMBERS

4 OFFICE WORKERS

47+ CAREGIVERS

16,120 CLIENT VISITS

42,000 SERVICE HOURS



If you or a loved one is in need of additional assistance, please contact the YNC office at 717.627.0072 or visit us at www.YourNeighborhoodConnection.org.



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