

# THE ST. LUKE SPIRIT



January 2016

Volume 4, Issue 1

## Upcoming Resident & Tenant Activities:

- **Braille Awareness with Helen Duhn**  
January 4 at 10 a.m.  
Riverview Terrace
- **Lifelong Learners**  
January 6 at 2:30 p.m.  
Riverview Terrace Chapel
- **Book Club with Mary Ellen**  
January 11 at 2:30 p.m.  
Hillside Terrace
- **Marshmallow Party**  
January 11 at 3 p.m.  
St. Luke Lutheran Home
- **Technology Class**  
January 13 at 3 p.m.  
St. Luke Lutheran Home
- **Winters Past & Hot Chocolate**  
January 25 at 2:30 p.m.  
Riverview Terrace
- **Travel Club**  
January 27 at 3 p.m.  
St. Luke Lutheran Home

**More January 2016 activities are available online at [www.stlukelh.com](http://www.stlukelh.com)**

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

**M**ay the year of 2016 be a year of health and happiness ...  
 A year of wealth and wisdom ...  
 A year of peace and prosperity ...  
 A year of glee and glow ...  
 And also a year of love and laughter for you.  
**Happy New Year!**



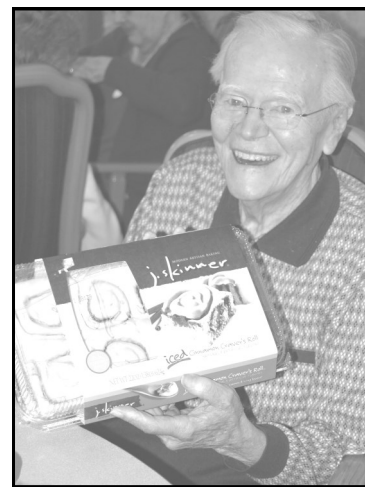
Whether you caroled, baked, donated, entertained, gave a gift or said a prayer, the time you spent and the holiday cheer you shared are appreciated.  
**Thank you!**



Vivian Rock, of Hillside Terrace, enjoys the “Mooseltoe” tale read to her by a Fairview Elementary second grade student. (At right) Santa Claus, also known as Steve Hurst, greets Lorraine Birchard with a Christmas gift while his elves - David & Carolyn Gustin and Jamie Hurst-Gonzalez - savor the holiday moment at Hillside Terrace.



Betty Schwarck taught herself to shape corn husks into various forms. This holiday season, she has shared a nativity scene she designed at Riverview Terrace. (At right) Fellow Riverview Terrace tenant Dr. Harry Rasdal is all smiles with what he received from Santa Claus.



Stop by St. Luke Homes & Services' Facebook page for more photos.

▪ **WELCOME**

Thelma Wicks

Lorraine Birchard

▪ **SYMPATHY**

Ann Sorenson

Earl Angell

Orville "Rocky"  
Tronson

Pearl Steinke

Edna Reynolds

Ada Lauck

Dorothy Chamberlain

▪ **NEW STAFF**

• Victoria Williams  
St. Luke CNA

• Tara Mixon  
St. Luke LPN

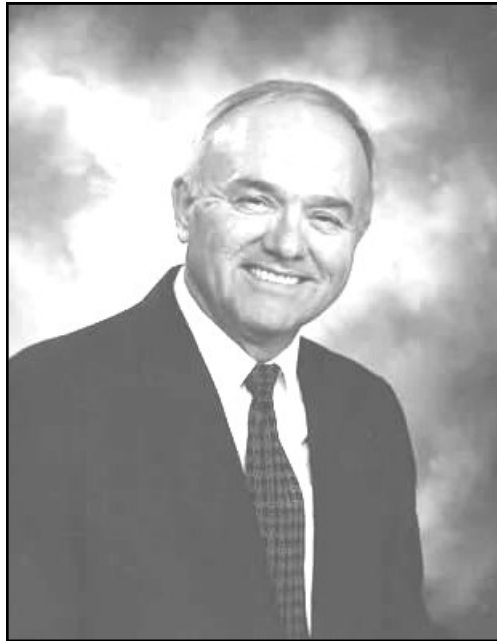
• Mary Grace Thorne  
St. Luke Dietary Aide

• Samuel Moranga  
St. Luke RN

• Cindy Ellenwood  
St. Luke Dietary Aide

• Amanda Johnson  
St. Luke CNA

**IN MEMORY**



**Terry D. Dandy**

December 23, 1944 - December 9, 2015

**St. Luke Homes & Services  
CEO/Administrator  
March 1990 - March 2013**

**After Glow**

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one.

I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done.

I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days.

I'd like the tears of those who grieve to dry before the sun of happy memories that I leave when life is done.

- Carol Mirkel

**JANUARY HOMEOWNER, TENANT & RESIDENT BIRTHDAYS**

7 - Pat Woods  
9 - Miriam Bergen  
10 - Mae Koch  
15 - Alice Carlson  
16 - Mildred Bruns

17 - Beverly Beving  
22 - Gerald Hanson  
25 - Mary Maurer  
27 - Lora Norlin  
29 - Edwin Geerdes

**THANK YOU**

**We appreciate your tax-deductible gifts and donations. They enhance the lives of campus homeowners, tenants and residents and continue to help make the fulfillment of St. Luke Homes & Services' Christian mission possible.**

- Bill Green, of Spencer, donated snow globes and music boxes for St. Luke Lutheran Home residents to enjoy in memory of his mother, Lucille Green.
- Dr. & Mrs. K.M. Johannsen, of Storm Lake, donated \$100 to St. Luke Lutheran Home in memory of departed souls from the St. Luke Homes & Services campus.
- The Bethlehem Lutheran Women of the ELCA, of Royal, donated a \$10 memorial to St. Luke Lutheran Home in memory of Lois Beck.
- John & Pat Jensen, of Everly, donated \$1,000 toward St. Luke Homes & Services' Chaplain Fund.
- The St. Luke Lutheran Home Auxiliary donated \$250 for St. Luke Lutheran Home resident Christmas gifts.
- First Lutheran Church, of Milford, donated \$600 to the Special Gift Fund.

**COMMUNITY CORNERSTONES****▪Bethany Lutheran Church**

15 West 14th Street, Spencer

(712) 262-2327

[www.bethluthspencer.com](http://www.bethluthspencer.com)**▪Bethlehem Lutheran Church**

207 Church Street, Royal

Rev. Deb Mechler

(712) 933-2229

[royalbethlehemlutheran.com](http://royalbethlehemlutheran.com)**▪Christ the King Lutheran Church**

500 Fourth Avenue SW, Spencer

Rev. David Zimmer

(712) 262-2244

[www.ctkspencer.com](http://www.ctkspencer.com)**▪First English Lutheran Church**

1311 E. 18th Street, Spencer

Pastor Paul Kaldahl

(712) 262-5598

<http://spencer-church.com>**▪First Lutheran Church**

1525 Three Cross Road, Milford

Pastor Bob Vaage

(712) 338-4514

[www.3cross.org](http://www.3cross.org)**▪Grace Lutheran Church**

801 Hill Avenue, Spirit Lake

Rev. Dr. Martin Lucin

(712) 336-2446

[www.gracelutheranspiritlake.org](http://www.gracelutheranspiritlake.org)**▪Grace Lutheran Church**

380 N. Rerick Avenue, Primghar

(712) 957-4795

**▪Hope Lutheran Church**

206 N. Washington Street, Everly

Pastor Dan Taylor

(712) 834-2767

[www.hopeeverly.com](http://www.hopeeverly.com)**▪Immanuel Lutheran Church**

2300 27th Street, Spirit Lake

Rev. David Simonson

(712) 336-1010

[lcmslakes.org](http://lcmslakes.org)**▪Immanuel Lutheran Church**

206 Terril Avenue, Terril

Pastor David Doellinger

(712) 853-6192

[www.facebook.com/lcmsterril](http://www.facebook.com/lcmsterril)**▪St. Paul's Lutheran Church**

60 N. Central Avenue, Hartley

Pastor Chris Nitzel

(712) 728-2711

[www.stpaullutheranhartley.com/](http://www.stpaullutheranhartley.com/)**▪Trinity Lutheran Church**

105 East High Street, Linn Grove

(712) 296-4438

**▪Trinity Lutheran Church**

9th &amp; 11th Avenue West, Spencer

Rev. C. Peter Maisenbach

(712) 262-1287

[www.trinitylutheranchurchspencer.com](http://www.trinitylutheranchurchspencer.com)

**THRIVENT MEMBERS CAN SHOW THEIR CARE  
FOR THE ST. LUKE HOMES & SERVICES COMMUNITY**

St. Luke Homes & Services is now able to receive grant funding from Thrivent Financial through the Thrivent Choice® Program.

The program allows eligible Thrivent members to recommend how a portion of Thrivent's charitable funds are distributed.

Nationwide, nearly \$55 million in funding was distributed to more than 25,650 enrolled churches and nonprofit organizations through the program in 2014. More than \$225 million has been distributed since the program began in 2010.

To learn more about Thrivent Choice® and for complete program terms and conditions, visit [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice).

*Your consideration and support is appreciated by the St. Luke Homes & Services community!*

- Entrance to the St. Luke Homes & Services pool & spa is now only available with a personally-coded “card” or “key fob.” These are available at the St. Luke Lutheran Home front desk, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

- If you invite a St. Luke campus tenant or resident to go with you out of the building, or to join you for a meal off campus, please make sure to “check out” and notify staff of your location and estimated time of return.

- Members of the Maintenance Department work hard each winter to clear snow and ice from campus walkways. Please be very careful when entering and exiting your vehicle and the buildings. Consider wearing boots with non-skid soles. If you use a cane, replace the rubber tip before it is worn smooth. You might also consider buying an ice pick-like attachment that fits onto the end of the cane to help keep you from slipping when you walk.

- If you would like to enjoy a meal on the St. Luke campus, please notify us by calling (712) 262-5931. At least two hours advance notice, or 24-hours notice for a holiday meal reservation, is appreciated.

## CONTACT A CAMPUS DIRECTOR

Alan Campbell.....	CEO/Administrator.....	(712) 262-5931, ext. 104
Nancy Mills.....	Health Services.....	(712) 262-5931, ext. 112
Greg Meeter.....	CFO/Controller.....	(712) 262-5931, ext. 105
Georgia Wrightsman.....	Social Worker.....	(712) 262-5931, ext. 109
Dale Meyer.....	Maintenance.....	(712) 262-5931, ext. 139
Pastor John Syvertson.....	Chaplain.....	(712) 262-5931, ext. 103
Kris Todd.....	Public Relations/Marketing.....	(712) 262-5931, ext. 646
Jenna Walsh.....	Dietary Services.....	(712) 262-5931, ext. 125
Amanda Klein.....	Activities.....	(712) 262-5931, ext. 107
Linda Manwarren.....	Laundry.....	(712) 262-5931, ext. 111
Becky Thong.....	Housekeeping.....	(712) 262-5931, ext. 110
Kim Krause.....	Office/Human Resources.....	(712) 262-5931, ext. 108
Kerri Kofoot.....	Director of Assisted Living.....	(712) 262-5932, ext. 201
Mavis Leinen.....	The Highlands.....	(712) 262-5404

## CELEBRATING OUR STAFF

Many years of dedicated and caring service to the Spencer campus’ homeowners, tenants and residents was recently recognized. The following St. Luke Homes & Services staff members have received certificates for their steadfast service, as indicated in five-year timeframes below:

- |                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Becky Thong - 30 years     | Kim Krause - 20 years    |
| Sherry Simcox - 20 years   | Linda Harders - 15 years |
| Phyllis Larson - 15 years  | Kim Manwarren - 15 years |
| Cher Lindahl - 10 years    | Bonnie Newman - 15 years |
| Joni Stein - 10 years      | Bev Carstensen - 5 years |
| Lynn Kind - 5 years        | Amanda Klein - 5 years   |
| Kristi Kracht - 5 years    | Deb McGuire - 5 years    |
| Rebecca Ricketts - 5 years | Terri Stewart - 5 years  |
| David Thiessen - 5 years   |                          |

thank you!

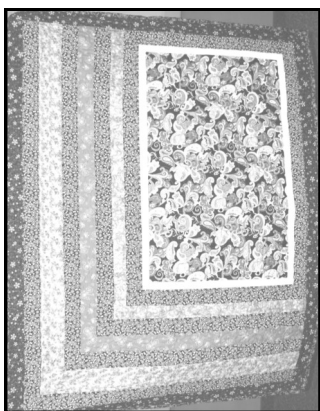
Congratulations!

## ‘TEAM BRIONNA’ ADVANCES EPILEPSY AWARENESS



St. Luke staff members have brought epilepsy awareness to the forefront with the purchase and wearing of purple “Team Brionna” T-shirts in support of Brionna Sembach, the 12-year-old daughter of CNA Mary Sembach.

## HALVERSON THE QUILT RAFFLE WINNER



**Congratulations to Brenda Halverson of Linn Grove! As the winning quilt raffle ticket holder, she will receive this beautiful 48” x 62” quilt (at left) created and sewn by Nancy Mills, St. Luke Homes & Services’ Director of Health Services.**

**Proceeds from the quilt raffle will support enhancing the life, health and faith of St. Luke Homes & Services residents.**

**A special “thank you” to all who purchased quilt raffle tickets. Your gracious support of St. Luke Homes & Services, its residents, and the healthcare ministries which occur within the retirement community are sincerely appreciated.**

## SHARING THE GIFT OF MUSIC

At the suggestion of her father, who had purchased a used piano, 9-year-old Lavon (Walstrom) Kephart began to “tickle the ivories.”

“You are going to take piano lessons now because someday you’re going to play the organ at church. We always need organists,” Oscar Walstrom told his daughter.

“And, that was my goal when I was 9,” Lavon, now 91, recalled recently with a smile.

Lavon started playing the organ at 14 and could play many classical songs by memory at 16. With guidance from three teachers, the student was quickly told that she had surpassed all of their abilities.

She continued to feed her musical passion by playing the piano and organ at First English Lutheran Church, in Spencer, until 1981.

Next, Lavon filled in as piano player for the Leland Thuirer band, which brought her to St. Luke Lutheran Home. Playing familiar tunes every month on the piano for residents of St. Luke has become an over 30-year tradition for Lavon, who, over the years, has also added Hillside & Riverview Terrace Assisted Living, The Highlands, Spencer Area Activity Center and Longhouse-Northshire to her playing venues. While saddened to learn that Lavon intends to retire from tickling the ivories, we, of St. Luke Homes & Services, are grateful for the magical, musical memories she has blessed us with.



**Local pianist Lavon Kephart released a “Lavon Live!” CD in May 2015. The piano compilation features Lavon playing 20 well-known songs.**

## PLAN TO ATTEND ‘AGING WITH GRACE’ LESSONS

Trinity Lutheran Church, of Spencer, and St. Luke Homes & Services are partnering this winter to present an “Aging with Grace” adult-education series of lessons. Three lessons are scheduled to occur following the Sunday Eucharist, at 10:45 a.m., in the Chapter Room of the church, which is located on the corner of 9th & 11th Avenue West. These lessons will be:

January 24, 2016	Aging with Grace: Issues of Aging	Presented by Georgia Wrightsman
January 31, 2016	Aging with Grace: Options of Aging	Presented by Al Campbell
February 7, 2016	Aging with Grace: Decisions of Aging	Presented by Nancy Mills

The Aging with Grace lessons are free and no prior registration is required. Anyone, and everyone, is welcome to attend. Any questions you may have about this adult-education series may be directed to Trinity Lutheran Church at (712) 262-1287 or to St. Luke Lutheran Home at (712) 262-5931. We look forward to seeing you!

# Celebrate 2016 with us!

- St. Luke Homes & Services**
- The Highlands
  - Hillside Terrace
  - Riverview Terrace
  - St. Luke Lutheran Home

1301 St. Luke Drive  
Spencer, Iowa 51301

Phone: (712) 262-5931  
Fax: (712) 262-4743  
E-mail: stlukelh@stlukelh.com

If you are interested in visiting with someone about where to enjoy your retirement years, call Georgia Wrightsman at (712) 262-5931.



*St. Luke Homes & Services, Inc.*  
*"A Caring Community"*



## Governing Board

- Kaylan Abel
- Mark Nothwehr
- Frank Halverson
- Jerry Clausen
- Neal Drefke
- Jim Hitchcock
- Rev. Peter Maisenbach
- Rev. Deb Mechler
- Ron Muetzel

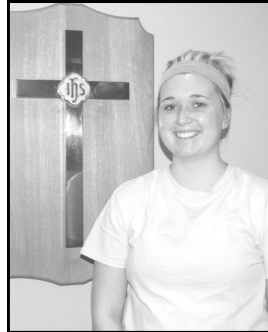
## EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Crystal Gambell for being named St. Luke Homes & Services' Employee of the Year and Employee of the Month!

Crystal is always cheerful. Her coworkers like her positive attitude, talkative nature and solid work ethic.

Because of her outgoing attitude, Crystal is a great recruiter. She enjoys her job as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) and speaks highly of St. Luke Lutheran Home.

"I love people and I love the people I care for. I like working here because there is nice teamwork.



**Crystal Gambell**  
St. Luke Lutheran Home  
CNA since October 2013

"Everyone is always willing to help and it feels like home here," she said.

At the encouragement of her grandmother, Ellen Essick, Crystal began working in March 2012 as a dietary aide at St. Luke Lutheran Home.

The then-Spencer High School student took a CNA class and became a CNA at St. Luke in October 2013.

Crystal would eventually like to become a paramedic.

"It is definitely not a job for everyone," Crystal said. "But, I appreciate that paramedics can save lives and they never know what their day is going to be like. It is like that here at St. Luke."

Outside of work, Crystal enjoys spending time with friends and family. She lives in Milford, likes to be outside and stay busy. Attending chuckwagon races and playing softball are favorite pastimes of the First English Lutheran Church member.

## TENANT OF THE MONTH

Charles Scheil has an easy-going manner and a quiet, yet quick and striking smile that make him a very welcome addition at Hillside Terrace Assisted Living.

Charles, a 1949 graduate of Central High School, in Sioux City, joined the Air National Guard in 1949 and began working as a telephone installer for Western Electric. During the Korean War, he served as a military policeman for the Nebraska Air Command in Bangor, Maine, with the 174<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron. In February 1951, Charles married Lois, his high school sweetheart. From 1949 to 1952, he guarded the northern tier of the United States and was responsible for reopening



**Charles Scheil**  
Hillside Terrace tenant  
since June 2015

military bases.

Following the war, Charles returned to Sioux City, where he was rehired as a technician and an installer with Northwestern Bell.

The Scheil family, which now included four children – Randy (of Cedar Rapids), Robyn Larsen (of Spencer), Rick (of El Segundo, Calif.)

and Rusty (of Aurora, Ill.) – moved to Spencer in 1969, when Charles was named manager of the local branch of Northwestern Bell. He was introduced to, and became very active in, the Kiwanis organization. Charles, who served as Lieutenant Governor for Iowa in 1977-78, was active in Kiwanis for 30 years.

When Spencer's Northwestern Bell closed in 1980, Charles was promoted and became foreman at AT&T in St. Louis.

He retired in 1988 in order to care for his wife, who had been diagnosed with breast cancer.

In 1990, the Scheils returned to Northwest Iowa and built a home in West Okoboji.

Family remains important to Charles, who now also claims nine grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.