



THE ST. LUKE SPIRIT



Winter 2019-20

Volume 7, Issue 4

Upcoming Resident & Tenant Activities:

- **Elvis Presley Day**
January 8
Riverview Terrace
- **Music with Bob Floss**
January 9 at 3 p.m.
St. Luke Lutheran Home
- **Entertainment with
Thelma & Louise**
January 10 at 5:30 p.m.
Riverview Terrace
- **Wine & Canvas Painting**
January 15 at 2:30 p.m.
Riverview Terrace
- **Balloon Volleyball**
January 23 at 2:30 p.m.
Riverview Terrace
- **Music with Ray Meyer**
January 30 at 3 p.m.
St. Luke Lutheran Home
- **Music with Neil Hewitt**
March 21 at 2 p.m.
St. Luke Lutheran Home

**More activities are
available online at
www.stlukelh.com**

NEW YEAR BLESSINGS

Happy New Year

Wishing you beautiful moments, treasured memories
and all the blessings a heart can know in 2020

**St. Luke Lutheran Home
Riverview Terrace Assisted Living
The Highlands
South Ridge Heights**



Annual Meeting Notice



Letters will soon be sent to church pastors and/or board chairpersons seeking representatives to attend the St. Luke Homes & Services Annual Meeting on the afternoon of Sunday, March 1, 2020, at The Highlands in Spencer.

If you are interested in attending this informative meeting, or in serving as a St. Luke Homes & Services board member, please contact your respective church pastor or St. Luke Homes & Services CEO/Administrator David West at (712) 262-5931.

THANK YOU

▪ WELCOME

Duane & Kay Kracht

Wayne Paulsen

Charlie & Bert Anderson

William Birchard

Bruce Lamport

▪ BEST WISHES

James Echtenkamp

Richard "Dick" Schmidt

▪ SYMPATHY

Zerena Dardis

Harry "Skip" Ritchart

Frank Rose

Minnie Vance

Margaret Bohn

Bill Frederick

Warner Walrath

Harold Eninger

JoAnn Kemp

Joanne Koch

Phyllis Abel

Winona Loomis

Marsha Heimgartner

Kenneth "Sam"
Heimgartner

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.

- The family of Gertrude Wedel donated a collection of Department 56 Merry Makers figurines and an assortment of jewelry to be used as bingo prizes at St. Luke Lutheran Home.
- The family of Betty Kaiser donated a \$70 memorial to St. Luke Lutheran Home's Special Gifts Fund.
- Jan Swanson, a homeowner at The Highlands, contributed a \$20 memorial for JoAnn Kemp to St. Luke Lutheran Home.
- The family of Warner & Julia Walrath donated a silver tea service to St. Luke Lutheran Home.
- An anonymous individual donated a weighted blanket to St. Luke Lutheran Home for use by residents.
- The St. Luke Lutheran Home Auxiliary provided funding for the purchase of four flat screen televisions for resident rooms, a projector & screen, and a double-unit Belgian waffle maker.
- The family of Roger & Karen Arndt donated paper supplies and bathroom supplies for use by residents and staff of St. Luke Homes & Services.
- Kae Roti, of Spencer, donated Christmas decorations, dish towels and bingo gifts for use by residents of St. Luke Lutheran Home.
- The family of Doris Rentsch gave \$100 in recognition of St. Luke Lutheran Home and Riverview Terrace Assisted Living staff for their Christmas party and Christmas tea.
- The family of Minnie Vance gave \$220 in appreciation for the excellent care she received during her stay at St. Luke Lutheran Home.
- The St. Luke Lutheran Home Auxiliary contributed \$250 toward the purchase of Christmas presents for residents of St. Luke Lutheran Home.
- The family of Joanne Koch donated \$100 to St. Luke Homes & Services' Benevolent Fund in memory of Joanne Koch.
- Tim & Susan Christensen, of Royal, donated 75 battery-powered candles for use in Christmas Eve worship services on the St. Luke Homes & Services campus.
- Evening Shade Chapter Spencer & Evening Shade Buena Vista Chapter Sioux Rapids handcrafted and donated two busy mats for use by residents of St. Luke Lutheran Home.

WATCH WITH US!



Kindermusik

**Kindermusik children will be singing and dancing
at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 13,
at St. Luke Lutheran Home.
Come join in the fun!**

RESIDENT OF THE MONTH

Genevieve “Genny” Bertness grew up in Winnebago, Nebraska. She and her family moved to Greenville, in Northwest Iowa, in 1944.

Four years later, she and her family moved to Sioux Rapids. There, she graduated high school, and met Merlin “Bubby” Bertness who was the “love of her life.” On October 1, 1950, they married. The newlyweds lived in the Marathon area before relocating to Linn Grove, where Genny and Bubby worked side-by-side in the Bertness family’s farming operation. In addition to assisting with daily chores, spring planting and fall harvests on the farm, Genny was known for her large garden, her cooking abilities, and for being a gracious hostess. “Mom was known as the ‘hostess with the mostest,’” her daughters explained. “She has always loved to entertain people, is very artistic and is an extremely gifted decorator.”



Genny Bertness
St. Luke Lutheran Home
resident since March 2015

For fun, Genny enjoyed bird watching, sewing, visiting with “coffee group” friends, playing cards and games, and golfing. She was an active member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Linn Grove and involved

in her community. Genny is a long-term member of P.E.O., Chapter GJ.

In 1997, the Bertnesses retired from farming and moved to Arnolds Park. They enjoyed wintering, first in Florida and later Arizona, where they stayed busy and enjoyed their many friends.

Genny relocated to St. Luke Lutheran Home in March 2015. She is a member of First Lutheran Church, Milford, and enjoys the musical activities offered, including those featuring Bob Floss and Ray Meyer, as well as interacting with students when they visit, and attending worship services offered at St. Luke Lutheran Home.

Family and friends are very important to Genny. She adores time spent with her two daughters: Brenda (Frank) Halverson of Linn Grove and Diane (Doug) Brunsting of Hawarden, four grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

STELZER SERVES AS INTERN CHAPLAIN



Kathy Stelzer is a clinical pastoral education student studying to become a deacon in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA). She is serving as an intern chaplain under the guidance of St. Luke Homes & Services Chaplain John Syvertson.

“John has taken me under his wing and guided me by his example of spreading God’s love to the residents and staff of St. Luke, Riverview Terrace and The Highlands. I have joined him in worship services, visiting numerous residents, leading weekly Bible studies and enjoying fellowship during coffee hour at The Highlands,” Kathy said. “I have thoroughly enjoyed my time of training at St. Luke

Homes & Services and have appreciated the welcome I received from both residents and staff. I have been touched by the love that fills the hallways here and John has taught me a great deal and is a living example of God’s bountiful grace in the world.”

Kathy’s training will continue through mid-March at St. Luke Homes & Services. She will then move on to other training opportunities.

Do you have questions?

Please give us a call.

South Ridge Heights
(712) 260-1950

Riverview Terrace
(712) 262-5932

St. Luke Lutheran Home
(712) 262-5931

The Highlands
(712) 262-5404

**"Like"
St. Luke
Homes & Services
on Facebook!**



Our Mission:

"To enhance the life, health and faith of all who choose to live in the St. Luke Christian community."

NEW SPECIALIZED MINISTRY TASK FORCE

The Western Iowa Synod is exploring the formation of a Specialized Ministry Task Force for specialized care settings, diaconal, associates in ministry and other related ministries.

Designed for ministers serving in specialized settings, such as hospitals, nursing homes, hospice chaplains, visitation ministries, etc., the group would meet regularly at a central location.

The Task Force would support specialized ministers in their roles by sharing resources, education opportunities and experiences.

Those interested in being a part of the Specialized Ministry Task Force should contact Chaplain John Syvertson, St. Luke Homes & Services, Spencer: (712) 262-5931 (office) or (712) 260-7637 (cell)

or email jsyverts@hotmail.com

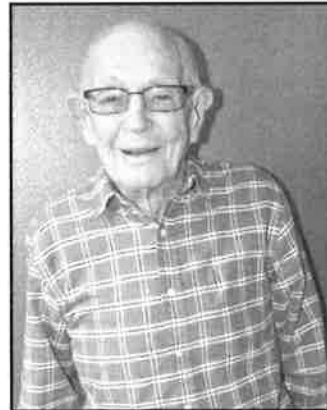
HOMEOWNER OF THE MONTH

Born October 5, 1927, in Detroit, Michigan, Ed Bayne learned to be resilient and flexible because of his father's job with Atlantic Refining Company. Shortly after he was born, Ed and his family moved to Mount Pleasant, before relocating to the East Coast where they lived in several communities in Pennsylvania and New York. The Baynes returned to Iowa in 1940.

Ed graduated from Oakville High School in 1945. He earned a bachelor's degree from Iowa Western College.

Following high school, Ed farmed near Wapello. In 1951, the U.S. Army "interrupted" his farming life when he was drafted and then served for two years during the Korean War. He was assigned to 8th Army Headquarters in the G2 Section.

Following discharge from the Army he returned to farm in Iowa. After 10 years of farming he went to work with the General Electric Company in Burlington. He held several positions with GE, working 10 years in human relations before retiring in 1990.



Ed Bayne
Highlands homeowner
since March 2017

In July 1970, Ed married Mary Louise Wilkerson, a Wapello Elementary School teacher who he says was adored by her students. Together the couple enjoyed gardening, traveling that included many trips to Scotland and England to visit relatives, wintering in Florida, and attending local Kiwanis Club and Historical Society meetings. Ed liked to golf and fish in the Florida surf.

Treasured moments for Ed and Mary Louise were spent with their son, Dr. Rick Wilkerson and wife Barbara of Spencer, who brought nine grandchildren

and six great-grandchildren into the picture, and with their grandson, Blake Johnson and wife Sharon of Ames, who brought another two great-grandchildren into their life.

Since moving into The Highlands in March 2017, Ed has enjoyed "mix & mingle" gatherings and several entertainers like pianist Glenn Henriksen. He makes exercise a priority every day and enjoys reading military historical books and autobiographies of the country's leaders from the Spencer Public Library.

"There are some wonderful people here at The Highlands. Spencer has something really good here with what is offered on the St. Luke Homes & Services campus," Ed said. "I can't say enough good words about St. Luke Lutheran Home and how their staff treated my wife, Mary Louise, and I when she was a resident there."

Mary Louise passed away in August 2018.

Ed attends the First Congregational Church and recently joined the Daybreakers Kiwanis Club in Spencer. He follows the Iowa State Cyclones and the Iowa Hawkeyes. He keeps in touch with many friends in Wapello.

NEW STAFF

Welcome to the following individuals who recently joined the St. Luke Homes & Services campus:

- Leticia Garcia
Riverview Terrace
Personal Service
Assistant
- Jessica Herman
St. Luke Dietary Aide
- Amy Norgaard
St. Luke CNA
- Alex Hefner
Riverview Terrace
Cook & St. Luke
Dietary Aide
- Makala Carrico
St. Luke CNA
- Carol Orris
Riverview Terrace
Personal Service
Assistant
- Megan Long
Riverview Terrace
Personal Service
Assistant
- Jessica Rogers
St. Luke CNA
- Aracely Quiroz
St. Luke Dietary Aide
- Hope Markley
St. Luke CNA
- Hannah Schiltz
St. Luke Dietary Aide

SPECIAL VALENTINE MEAL PLANNED

Special evening meals, selected by tenants of Riverview Terrace and residents of St. Luke Lutheran Home, will be served by local Kiwanis members on February 11.

Photographs from this special time will be posted on St. Luke Homes & Services' Facebook page!



Riverview Terrace Assisted Living

From a tenant's perspective



"I enjoy living at Riverview Terrace because I know it is a safe place. Everybody is so good at helping when you need them. And, our family was happy that we moved here from that big house in Webb."

- Donna Frederick



"Riverview Terrace has been good to me. I really enjoy talking to the other residents and the staff and feeling like I am in my own home, except I don't do dishes and I don't cook. Yay! I come and go when I want. I like to put together puzzles in the foyer, especially when people come by and help me do some pieces and visit. This is a great place to live."

- Bernice Parks



"I think it's great here. Riverview Terrace feels like home. The people are friendly, and the food is good. I am comfortable and enjoy myself here. There are a lot of different activities going on, but if you don't want to participate in something you don't have to. When staff says they are going to do something, they do it. I like it here."

- Larry Stanislav

Apartments Available

Spencer, Iowa

712-262-5932

www.stlukelh.com

SPONSORING CHURCHES OF ST. LUKE HOMES & SERVICES

- Bethany Lutheran Church - Spencer, Iowa
- Christ the King Lutheran Church - Spencer, Iowa
- First Lutheran Church - Milford, Iowa
- Grace Lutheran Church - Primghar, Iowa
- Immanuel Lutheran Church - Spirit Lake, Iowa
- St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Hartley, Iowa
- Trinity Lutheran Church - Spencer, Iowa

- Bethlehem Lutheran Church - Royal, Iowa
- First English Lutheran Church - Spencer, Iowa
- Grace Lutheran Church - Spirit Lake, Iowa
- Hope Lutheran Church - Everly, Iowa
- Immanuel Lutheran Church - Terril, Iowa
- Trinity Lutheran Church - Linn Grove, Iowa

APARTMENTS AVAILABLE

SHARE YOUR PROM OUTFITS



Monthly & Short-Term Apartment Rentals



Rent as low as \$450/month

Available Now!

- Studio
- Furnished Studio
- One-Bedroom Apartment
- Two-Bedroom Apartment

Amenities Offered:

Secure building
Furnished with refrigerator, range & microwave
All utilities included except Phone and Internet

Laundry facilities
Elevator
Lawn care & snow removal
Access to heated garage & indoor aquatic center



"We would highly recommend South Ridge Heights. We feel very safe here and everybody has been so accommodating with any needs we've had. No matter if it's short-term, long-term or somewhere in between, this is the perfect location!"

- Bill & Jane Campbell



1209 12th Street SE • Spencer, Iowa
(712) 262-5404 or (712) 280-1950

We'll be hosting a Prom at St. Luke Lutheran Home on Thursday, January 23 at 2:30 p.m.

Consider wearing - or displaying - your prom outfit!

We'd like to hear your prom memories and see your prom photographs!

Contact Amanda, Megan or Ange at (712) 262-5931 with questions or to drop off your prom attire for display.



A FEW 'SPECIAL MOMENTS' IN PHOTOGRAPHS



- A. Having coffee and visiting with friends in Webb
- B. Participating in horse races at Riverview Terrace
- C. Visiting Vander Haag's Truck Museum in Sanborn
- D. Racing turkeys at Riverview Terrace



St. Luke Homes & Services has a fund that supplements tenants and residents who do not have the financial resources available to participate in optional activities.

If you would like to assist, please make a tax-deductible donation to:

**St. Luke Homes & Services
c/o The Benevolent Fund
1301 St. Luke Drive
Spencer, Iowa 51301**

HOLIDAY PHOTOS



Trick or treating fun at The Highlands and St. Luke Lutheran Home.



St. Luke Lutheran Home's Christmas party.



This St. Luke Lutheran Home "Make A Wish" program recipient enjoyed her favorite meal of KFC with a couple of her friends. Make A Wish wishes, such as this one, are granted in part courtesy of St. Luke Homes & Services' Benevolent Fund and participating individuals, organizations and businesses.



Join Our Family St. Luke Homes & Services "A Caring Community"



I love interacting with our residents and the Christian setting St. Luke Homes & Services provides. We are all one big family. I also love being able to do something I enjoy while at work.

Kim Draper
Assistant Dietary Director
14-year employee



I really enjoy working with the elderly and talking with them about the days when they grew up. I like to interact with them by doing puzzles, card games and taking them outside for walks. It puts a big smile on their face and mine.

Kim Cross
Certified Nursing Assistant
2-year employee



This is a great place to work! I like my residents and my coworkers. I've made a lot of friends at St. Luke Lutheran Home and I've learned a lot for potentially becoming a nurse.

Crystal Gambell
Certified Nursing Assistant
4-year employee



I enjoy working with the residents and getting to know their stories. It's a great working environment and I have made several good friends here. Being appreciated by the residents and their families, and being able to help residents in their times of need, fills my heart.

Sarah Diekmann
Certified Medical Assistant
12-year employee

St. Luke
Lutheran Home

Riverview Terrace
Assisted Living

The Highlands &
South Ridge Heights

Spencer, Iowa

www.stlukelh.com



Painting Christmas ornaments, making gingerbread houses, and playing reindeer antler ring toss at Riverview Terrace Assisted Living.

- St. Luke Homes & Services
- South Ridge Heights
 - Riverview Terrace
 - St. Luke Lutheran Home
 - The Highlands

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.

We're on the Web!
www.stlukelh.com

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



Governing Board

Rev. Deb Mechler
Roger Morris
Sandi Schmidt
Jerry Clausen
Frank Halverson
Gary Halverson
Rev. Paul Kaldahl
Jane Kruse
Dr. Dean Pingel

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Ashley Fox is a woman who, when she sets her mind to doing something, works at it until she accomplishes it. Her love of the residents she cares for is what keeps her coming back on a daily basis to work as a CNA.

Working at St. Luke Lutheran Home is a "family affair" for Ashley. Her mother began working as a CNA in 2006 before transitioning to become a Certified Medical Assistant in 2016. Ashley started in the dietary department of St. Luke Lutheran Home as a Spencer High School student, before earning her CNA certification as



Ashley Fox
St. Luke Lutheran Home
Certified Nursing Assistant

a senior, and then starting to work on the floor as a full-time CNA in 2017. Her younger siblings have both followed in her footsteps,

working as dietary aides and then as CNAs at St. Luke.

Outside of work, Ashley stays busy with her 2-year-old son, Braxton, and homework. She recently enrolled as a full-time student, taking online courses for Radiologic Technology, at Northwest Iowa Community College.

Ashley's love of softball, and all things related to the outdoors, began in kindergarten. She grew up in Estherville, played softball for the city league and as a high school student there before moving with her family to Spencer, where she played for the Spencer Tigers softball team.

Ashley also enjoys dirt biking, camping and go karting. She plans to teach her son to fish this upcoming summer.

TENANT OF THE MONTH

Raised on a farm near Ruthven, Loretta Bendlin had an older and a younger sister. She learned to cook, but preferred working with the animals on their family farm. Loretta took care of the calves and helped with the milk cows, chickens and crops. She belonged to the Gillett Grove boys' 4-H Club, and learned to walk with the calves she would show at the Clay County Fair as her father would drive their small Ford tractor with her and the respective calf walking behind.

Loretta graduated from Gillett Grove High School in 1952 and worked to amass a fulfilling career while providing for her family. She served as an overnight CNA at Spencer Hospital, an assistant and bookkeeper at the Fideler dental practice, and as a dental assistant and bookkeeper for Dr. Ellis Schlichtemeier.



Loretta Bendlin
Riverview Terrace tenant
since January 2019

In the midst of her busy life, a friend invited Loretta and her children to dinner. When her family arrived at the friend's home, they found a gentleman had also been invited. Loretta remembers calling her friend into the kitchen and then being quietly, but sternly, told, "Just go back in and sit down, Loretta."

What began as a blind date eventually ended in wedded bliss as Loretta and Don Bendlin married in September 1974. According to Loretta, the Korean War veteran had a good heart and took to her children immediately, making them "their" kids.

Shortly after retiring, Loretta started working again as a cook and housekeeper at Cutty's Okoboji Resort Club.

In January 2019, she moved to Riverview Terrace, where she continues to thrive. This avid reader and card player is often found having coffee with friends, exercising with others before lunch, playing 500 most afternoons, and participating in many of the activities offered.

Family has always come first for Loretta. She treasures time spent with her children, including Sally (Rick) Sandvig of Spencer, Nancy (Dan) Schroeder of Merrill, and Karen (Dan) Schemmel of Sioux City, her 17 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and one great-great-granddaughter.