

Luther Home of Mercy

HAPPENINGS AT THE HOME

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 1



**Luther
Home of
Mercy**

Happenings At The Home is an informational newsletter for family, friends and volunteers who share in the mission of Luther Home of Mercy.

Inside this issue:

December Giving	2
LMM Annual Meeting & Dinner	2
Host Home Program	2
Client Spotlight: Meet Melissa	3
Birthday Club	3
Holiday Fun	4

Giving Tuesday

We would like to say a huge THANK YOU to the MANY friends and supporters who dined at Bob Evans and contributed to our 2016 [#GivingTuesday](#) campaign. Before we received the totals on the Bob Evans contributions, in just one day, you generated \$13,188 in direct donations to help purchase a wheelchair accessible vehicle.

A total of 307 flyers were collected at local Bob Evans Restaurants bringing in a donation of \$1,101 to our ministry. By our estimates, that means more than 700 friends of Luther Home stopped by to grab a delicious meal to help us raise funds on [#GivingTuesday](#). We are blown away by your support and so thankful to Bob Evans for allowing us this opportunity!

We would also like to thank our friends at TESCO Bus for their generous donation of \$1,000 to our [#GivingTuesday](#) campaign. TESCO, a longtime friend and supporter of LHM, is a local company and one of the nation's largest bus distributors.

That would bring a grand total of \$15,289. What an extraordinary contribution! In addition, we are also waiting to hear back from the Toledo Community Foundation about an additional \$500 in matching funds. We are excited for the opportunity of increasing our vehicle fleet to further the freedom & independence of the people we serve.

Thank you for believing in our work, our mission and making new opportunities possible.

Thank You
#GIVINGTUESDAY

December Giving: *Thank you!*

As thankful as we are for all that made donations on Giving Tuesday, we are also very thankful for those of you who donated to our ministry in other ways in the month of December. Many individuals, groups and churches donated hundreds of gifts to our Adopt-A-Resident program this past year. All 94 of our campus residents were adopted, as well as 49 of our outreach clients. We had a very blessed Christmas here at Luther Home! Thank you for your generous donations and making Christmas very special for the individuals we serve.



Staff helped wrap presents for Adopt-A-Resident. Pictured right (L-R): Cottage 6B leadership, Connie and Beth wrapping campus residents' gifts.



Lutheran Ministries of Mercy Meeting & Dinner

Lutheran Ministries of Mercy will be hosting its annual meeting and dinner on March 13th, 2017 at Hilton Garden Inn in Perrysburg Levis Commons. Registration will begin at 5:30 pm and dinner will begin at 6:00 pm. The meeting will welcome speaker, Bishop Daniel Beaudoin. Daniel is the newly elected bishop of the Northwest Ohio Synod Evangelical Lutheran Churches in America. To RSVP, please contact Joyce Willier at 419-726-8653 or jwillier@lssnwo.org.



March 13, 2017

Host Home Program

Thanks to a generous Domestic Grant from the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, Luther Home of Mercy has been working on establishing a Host Home Program. The Host Home Program is designed to match individuals or families who are willing to open their homes and hearts and welcome a person with developmental disabilities into their lives. Unlike our more traditional settings, such as a group home or intermediate care facility, the Host Home Program offers individuals the benefits and enjoyment of living in a family environment while also receiving the supports necessary for a full and independent life in the community. LHM will carefully screen and select Host Home providers and, with the help of county personnel, match them with interested individuals based on common interests and compatibility. We will also offer on-going support and supervision for both the individual and the family as they journey together. If you would like to learn more about Host Homes, please contact Sue Tate, Director of Supported Living, at 419-704-8996 or state@lutherhome.org.



Client Spotlight: *Meet Melissa*



Melissa joined our ministry as a client at our newest day habilitation site, Advent Lutheran Center, when it opened its doors this past May. Melissa toured Advent and knew it was a good fit for her. Other than being a short distance from her home in Sylvania, which she shares with her parents, Advent provides her with social opportunities as Melissa describes, “I get to meet others and get involved in the community”. At day program, she enjoys working on the computer, being a social butterfly by interacting and joking with the staff & clients, crafting projects and baking.



At home, Melissa enjoys hanging out with her cat, Porky, and watching scary movies. Along with her parents, she has three siblings, three nephews and three nieces. She loves spending time with her family, especially her nieces and nephews, and taking family trips. Their most recent trip was to Great Wolf Lodge in Sandusky. She also spends time helping her mother babysit her nieces and nephews. Beyond babysitting, she is happy to share experiences and teach them about diversity. “I like being able to help them recognize others and accept others.”

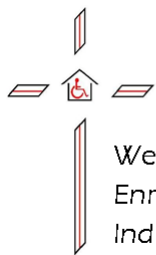
In many ways, Melissa is a social butterfly. About three years ago, her and her mother created a ladies group that has grown into about twenty women that meet once a month at a local restaurant to socialize. She is also involved in LHM’s On the Move’s bowling team. Melissa once volunteered at St. Vincent Hospital women's clinic as a greeter and assisted in their clothing donation room. “I loved volunteering; I got to meet women while they were pregnant and then see the babies after they were born.” She described her experience as very rewarding and hopes that she can get involved with volunteering again in the future. Melissa is looking forward to the New Year, as New Year’s Eve is her birthday. Happy Birthday, Melissa and Happy New Year!

Birthday Club

Birthdays are a special time for each and every one of us and we all deserve to have our special day recognized and celebrated. For many LHM residents and clients experiencing a happy birthday is made difficult by the absence of family and close friends. Lack of funds compounds this problem as almost 100% of residents and clients have incomes below the federal poverty line. That’s when their LHM family steps forward to make their day special. Supervision joins with staff members and other residents & clients to provide a cake, special gift and a time of shared birthday fellowship.

For donors wishing to assist in making birthdays special, we have created the LHM “Birthday Club”. Your gift of \$50 or more to this restricted fund will provide a cake, gift and party decorations for an individual’s special day. We welcome you to give in honor of someone else or even in honor of your own birthday. If you would like to learn more about the LHM “Birthday Club”, please contact Arielle Semer at 419-972-4431 or asemer@lutherhome.org.





We are a ministry
Enriching Lives &
Individual Abilities

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PD
WILLISTON, OH
PERMIT NO.1

Luther Home of Mercy

5810 N. Main Street

P.O. Box 187

Williston, OH 43468

www.lutherhome.org

Phone: 419-836-7741

Volunteer Info: 419-972-4431

E-mail: asemer@lutherhome.org



Holiday Fun!

We enjoyed some fun events this Christmas at Luther Home. Pictured below was our campus Christmas karaoke party and also the Outreach Christmas party that included special guests, Santa Claus and the Grinch! *Happy New Year!*

