

# Echoes of Mercy

A PUBLICATION OF LUTHER HOME OF MERCY • WILLISTON, OHIO

HOLIDAY EDITION 2025



**ROAD TRIP FUN**  
READ MORE ON PAGE FIVE

Luther Home of Mercy is a Lutheran Ministries of Mercy Affiliate



# Lutheran Ministries of Mercy:

## THRIVING THROUGH THE SEASONS

Dear Friends, Families, and Supporters,

It's incredible to think that the LSS food pantry is celebrating 50 years of service within an organization that has ministered to the greater Toledo community for more than a century...or that Luther Home will soon celebrate its centennial anniversary...or Filling Home, the youngest of our organizations, now has more than half a century of caring under its belt.

Born from small gatherings of friends and neighbors, stirred by faith and the pressing needs of our communities, these organizations began humbly: feeding the hungry, caring for the disabled. Guided by scripture and empowered by prayer, early efforts were never about numbers but about love, one person and one family at a time.

As the seasons have passed, through faithful endurance and deep-rooted partnerships, our organizations have steadily evolved and grown. We have embraced innovation without compromising mission, have integrated technology, weathered economic fluctuations, and evolving public policy. Leadership has passed from one faithful generation to the next, carrying with it the founding vision, yet continually shaped by the evolving needs of the world around us. Where once we served tens...then hundreds...now thousands...we remain driven by a continuing call to mission...a call to love God...love people...and bring hope where it's needed most.

Today, our ministries emerge stronger than ever, rejoicing in the blessings of the past and continuing as adaptive, vibrant communities of service. Thank you for joining us in another season of this important work.

Sincerely,



**Terri Rodriguez**  
President and CEO  
Lutheran Ministries of Mercy

## YEAR-END GIVING

*Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. —Psalm 136:1*

As we start to think about celebrating the holidays with family and friends, we are reminded of God's love. And while gifting presents to loved ones is a hallmark of the holiday season, charitable giving is also at its highest during this time of year.

According to our research, nearly one-third of annual giving occurs during the last three months of the year. Please consider these tips as you make your giving choices.

1

**Decide what matters to you!**  
No matter which organization you choose, there is no wrong gift when it comes to making a difference.

2

**Do your research.**  
Visit our websites or Candid.org to learn all about our organizations. We maintain up-to-date fiscal and program information on these sites.

3

**Tax deduction eligibility.**  
In addition to benefiting your chosen charity, your donation may also qualify for a tax deduction. Your financial advisor will help you make the best choices for your charitable giving goals.

## Counting Our Blessings by Megan O'Brien, Vice President

In October we held our third annual donor recognition luncheon. Friends gathered over plates of turkey while stories and ministry updates were shared. Represented in this group of faithful partners included:

- The Portage Valley Federation of Lutheran Men and Pastors whose sole mission, since our doors opened, is to support the Home
- Pastors and members of our Association of Congregations; including churches who were instrumental in our founding and continue to support our ministry
- Past and present Board of Directors and Foundation Board members
- Past and present staff members
- Volunteers who have served in countless ways
- Resident families who so generously support their loved one and all who are part of Luther Home



*George & Barb Beery support their son and all those who call us home.*

These special occasions are not only a way for us to say our “thanks” but a time to count our blessings. It is through the love and generosity of these friendships, forged nearly a century ago, that has shaped this ministry and enables us to continue carrying out our mission today. As we look to the future, we do so with hearts full of gratitude and hope. May the spirit of faith, service and community that has sustained us for generations continue to guide our work—and may the bonds we share only grow stronger in the years to come.

## Eagle Scout Project Plants Seeds of Joy

We are thrilled to celebrate Andrew Riga, a dedicated Scout, who chose Luther Home of Mercy as the site for his Eagle Scout project. Inspired by a loved one with developmental disabilities, Andrew designed and built two beautiful, handcrafted planter boxes for our Advent Day Program.



*Andrew Riga showing off his Eagle Scout project.*

These thoughtfully constructed boxes—complete with wheels for easy mobility—will allow individuals in our program to grow flowers, herbs and vegetables throughout the year. More than just a gardening tool, these planters foster independence, creativity and a deeper connection with nature.

Within days of the delivery, our clients eagerly stained the boxes and planted the vibrant mums Andrew and his family provided. This gift is already making a lasting impact. Andrew's work is planting more than seeds—it's growing confidence, joy and community. We are deeply grateful for his hard work and heart.



*Planting flowers in their new raised beds.*





## Gifts

**Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Bacon**  
Toledo, OH  
**Mr. Richard Bosse**  
Perrysburg, OH  
**Rev. and Mrs. Charles Campbell**  
Toledo, OH  
**Mr. Robert Chambers**  
Curtice, OH  
**Mr. Dan Christie**  
Miamisburg, OH  
**Mrs. Jennie Cox**  
Risingsun, OH  
**Mrs. Nancy Coy**  
Northwood, OH  
**Mrs. Phyllis Dehring**  
Williston, OH  
**Mr. and Mrs. Alan Draves**  
Cridersville, OH  
**Mrs. Karen Eversman**  
Oregon, OH  
**Mr. Edward Fritz**  
Delphos, OH  
**Ms. Richelle Gargas**  
Oregon, OH  
**Mr. and Mrs. Donald Gerke**  
Pemberville, OH  
**Mr. and Mrs. David Gerwin**  
Gibsonburg, OH  
**Mr. and Mrs. Jan D. Graves**  
Norwalk, OH  
**Mr. and Mrs. Merle Haar**  
Elmore, OH  
**Mr. John Heminger**  
Genoa, OH  
**Pastor Robert Johnson**  
Stony Ridge, OH  
**Ms. Donna Keller**  
Oregon, OH  
**Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kieswether**  
Englewood, FL  
**Mr. and Mrs. Randall Kruse**  
Woodville, OH  
**Mr. David LaPlantz**  
Santa Fe, NM  
**Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Lehle**  
Sandusky, OH  
**Ms. Sandy Leuck**  
Bradner, OH  
**Ms. Susan List**  
Monroe, MI  
**Mr. and Mrs. Terry Lowe**  
Graytown, OH  
**Mr. Henry Lusiak**  
Johnstown, OH  
**Mr. and Mrs. John Meyer**  
Millbury, OH

**Rev. Kurt and Donna Meyers**  
Toledo, OH  
**Mr. and Mrs. Richard Myers**  
Port Clinton, OH  
**Mr. William Nattrass**  
Woodstock, GA  
**Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Oberhaus**  
Napoleon, OH  
**Mrs. Alnita Paterson**  
Chardon, OH  
**Mr. and Mrs. Randy L. Patrick**  
Oak Harbor, OH  
**Mrs. Nina Pfisterer**  
Findlay, OH  
**Mr. Dean H. Pyers**  
Perrysburg, OH  
**Mr. Will Rogers**  
Holland, OH  
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**Mr. and Mrs. James Rybarczyk**  
Maumee, OH  
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Bellevue, OH  
**Ms. Angela Scardina**  
Curtice, OH  
**Ms. Brandi Schimming**  
Walbridge, OH  
**Ms. Mara Schuettler**  
Grand Ledge, MI  
**Mr. and Mrs. Doug Shank**  
Genoa, OH  
**Mr. and Mrs. James Siniard**  
Oregon, OH  
**Ms. Linda Smith**  
Oak Harbor, OH  
**Mrs. Jean Snyder**  
Perrysburg, OH  
**Mr. Greg Sparks**  
Perrysburg, OH  
**Mrs. Velma Strait**  
Risingsun, OH  
**Mrs. Velma Sundermeyer**  
Sylvania, OH  
**Mr. and Mrs. James Vogelbacher**  
Curtice, OH  
**Mrs. Marjorie Whiting**  
Elmore, OH  
**Ms. Ruth Wiechman**  
Columbus, OH  
**Mrs. Jean Witt**  
Martin, OH  
**Mr. Thomas Woodings**  
Woodville, OH  
**Mr. and Mrs. James Zafirau**  
Port Clinton, OH

**Ms. Tina Zeiter**  
Monclova, OH

## Charitable Gift Annuity

**Monthly gift in memory of**  
**Rev. Don Wukotich**  
 Terry Bossert  
 Maumee, OH

## Corporate Gifts

**ConocoPhillips Company**  
Bartlesville, OK  
**Ecolab**  
TX  
**Manulife Financial Corporation**  
Newark, NJ  
**Portage Valley Federation of Lutheran Men & Pastors**  
Bowling Green, OH

## Estate, Trust & Planned Giving

**Mr. William Buckenberger Estate**  
Perrysburg, OH  
**Mr. and Mrs. Carl Dierksheide**  
Bradner, OH  
**Martin and Helen Fahncke Memorial Fund**  
Minneapolis, MN  
**J. Henry Huseman, Endowment Fund**  
Chicago, IL  
**Clayman A. and Ruth M. Kabat Trust**  
Chicago, IL  
**Christine Siefert Trust**  
Cleveland, OH  
**Charles E. and Carolyn D. Young Charitable Trust**  
Galena, OH

Lists in this issue acknowledge gifts from July 1 - September 30, 2025. While we strive to acknowledge all gifts accurately, it is possible that errors have been made. If any are discovered, please accept our apologies and notify Melissa Gregg at 419-972-4338 or mgregg@lutherhome.org.

## Road Trip Fun

Joanne took a memorable trip to Kentucky, filled with fun, faith and a few sweet treats! Her journey included visits to the Ark Encounter and the Creation Museum, two destinations that brought the Bible to life.

At the Ark Encounter, Joanne was fascinated by how the animals were transported and surprised by how many different species were represented. She especially enjoyed seeing the depiction of Adam and Eve in the pool of water, a moment that sparked reflection on her own faith—which she says means she'll be going to heaven.

The Creation Museum was another highlight. Joanne loved the vibrant exhibits and appreciated being pushed in a wheelchair when she got tired—a little moment of care that made the experience more enjoyable. Her trip wasn't just about sightseeing. Joanne picked up a few souvenirs, including a t-shirt, some pumpkin butter, Santa Paws pajamas and some taffy to sweeten the ride home.

This trip came about after a conversation between Joanne and Kim, her staff. Kim shared her experience of visiting the museums because she knew how much Joanne enjoys church.



Joanne & Kim having fun at the museum.



Cindy enjoying the new outdoor furniture.

**Christmas Worship**  
**December 14, 2025**  
**2:30 p.m.**

Join us in celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ!



*The service will include scripture readings and residents portraying the Christmas story followed by light refreshments.*

Luther Home of Mercy  
 Habilitation Gym  
 5810 N Main St  
 Williston, OH

## Thank You

### Ottawa Sandusky Seneca Solid Waste District

Thanks to a generous grant, we were able to purchase outdoor furniture made from recycled milk jugs, combining sustainability with comfort. The furniture has been installed at our Emmanuel Lutheran Center, creating a welcoming space for those we serve. We appreciate OSS Solid Waste District for believing in our mission and making a difference in the lives of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities.





David & his friends love to volunteer at Seagate Food Bank.



Thanks Cedar Creek Church for spending your Serve Day with us celebrating Christmas in July!



Patti enjoying a local pumpkin patch.



## Memorials

### Lisa Agricola

Ms. Karen Agricola  
West Chester, OH

### Gerald Ahrens

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Gerke  
Pemberville, OH

### Bev Albright

St. Paul Lutheran Church Women  
Clyde, OH

### Robert Avers

Mrs. Gladys Kroos  
Elmore, OH

### Jimmy Bennett

Susan Johnson  
Toledo, OH

### Gary Chausky

Ms. Betty Johnson  
Toledo, OH

### Michael Czerniak

Mrs. Dolores Czerniak  
Toledo, OH

### Douglas Dahlke

Ms. Karen Reinke  
West Melbourne, FL

### Patricia Delventhal

Ms. Jane Phillips  
Curtice, OH

### F. Elaine Denning

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Kleinser  
Northwood, OH

### Maxine Dunn

Mr. and Mrs. Terry Sautter  
Lake Wylie, SC

### Lois Walters-Ebka

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Siek  
Pemberville, OH

### Alvera and Whitey Fishbaugh

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Fishbaugh  
Green Springs, OH

### Linda Futrel

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Prah  
Genoa, OH

### Bertha and Howard Gahn

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Fishbaugh  
Green Springs, OH

### John Charles Hovis

Mr. and Mrs. Daren Cable  
Woodville, OH

### Shaylee Junga

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kuzma  
Oregon, OH

### John Lockwood

Miss Mary Lockwood  
Grove City, OH

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### Mary Rita Mansfield

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Chovanec  
Swanton, OH

Ms. Diana Coyne

Temperance, MI

Mr. and Mrs. Lay

Stuart, FL

Mr. and Mrs. Paul McNichol

Toledo, OH

### Paul Meier

Mrs. Sally Meier  
Pemberville, OH

### Paul H. and Mary M. Miller

Mrs. Christine Hamilton  
Castalia, OH

### Glenn and Jean Moenter

Mr. and Mrs. Brad Moenter  
Waterville, OH

### Herb Oiler

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### Linda O'Leary

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Bridgeville, PA

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Mazur

Pittsburgh, PA

Ms. Barbara Nattrass

Nashville, TN

### Grace Pedoto

Ms. Karen Agricola  
West Chester, OH

### Fred Schneiderbauer

Ms. Norma Schneiderbauer  
Maumee, OH

### Rev. and Mrs. Rennix L. Van Scoy

Mr. and Mrs. James W. Hess  
Toledo, OH

### Mary Sidoti

St. Paul Lutheran Church Women  
Clyde, OH

### Carol Vaffis

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Fishbaugh  
Green Springs, OH

### Donald and Elnora Vorwerk

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Storm  
Dundee, IL

### Dick and Dorothy Wardell

Mr. Thomas Wardell  
Lake Helen, FL

### Kacy Weickert

Mr. Eugene Dierksheide  
Fremont, OH

### James F., Helen E., & James J. Wheeler

Ms. Sharon Ann Wheeler  
Saint Clair, MI

### Pastor Donald Wukotich

Mr. and Mrs. Arlyn Bensch  
Oak Harbor, OH

Mrs. Dorothy Hendershot  
Hartville, OH

## 2025 Shining Star Award

Direct Support Professional (DSP) Week, celebrated annually in September, is a great opportunity to highlight the dedicated, innovative direct support workforce that is the heart and soul of supports for people with disabilities at Luther Home of Mercy. DSPs support people with disabilities to be included and participate in our community.

A huge congratulations to Ashley Smith for being chosen as the winner of Sandusky County Board of Developmental Disabilities 2025 Shining Star DSP Award! Ashley, a DSP at Emmanuel Lutheran Center Day Program, was nominated by a peer who shared these words:

"Ashley has truly exceeded her role as a DSP. She has dedicated countless hours engaging with our individuals, listening to their interests, and actively planning events and outings that resonate with them. Ashley has built meaningful relationships with the individuals she serves, and it's heartwarming to see how much they look forward to her presence every day. Her ability to connect and be a true friend to those she supports is inspiring and invaluable."



Ashley with her award (top) and at Emmanuel Day Program with the friends she supports daily.

### Learn More



A heartfelt thanks to each person who has used Thrivent's generosity programs to support Luther Home's ministries for individuals with disabilities. So far in 2025, Luther Home of Mercy has received over \$8,000 from Thrivent Choice Dollars®, plus Thrivent Action Team Cards for specific projects. We are honored to be recognized as an enrolled charity of Thrivent. Scan the QR code or visit [Thrivent.com/generosity](https://thrivent.com/generosity) to learn about the ways to give through Thrivent.

thrivent®

# Thankful

### Ask About Our Volunteer Opportunities!

Contact Melissa for details: [mgregg@lutherhome.org](mailto:mgregg@lutherhome.org) or 419-972-4338





## Honor Roll

### All the work done at Luther Home

Dr. and Mrs. Russel Peltzer  
Springfield, OR

### Mary and Ernest Behm

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Thrift  
Camp Hill, PA

### Deborah Craze

Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Craze  
Sterling Heights, MI

### Jo Anne

Ms. Nancy Chamberlain  
Bryan, OH

### Thom and Barbra Meyer

Mr. Dale Avers  
Luckey, OH

### Arlene Ramler

Ms. Jackie Bast  
Genoa, OH

Ms. Peggy Bast

Berlin Heights, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bast

Oak Harbor, OH

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Bast

Curtice, OH

Mrs. Donna Schell

Oak Harbor, OH

### Donna Rolf

Mr. William Welling  
Phoenix, AZ

### Mason Staib

Mr. and Mrs. William Staib  
Walbridge, OH

### Harold and Carol Tewers

Ms. Elaine Money  
Plano, TX

### Bette Wistinghausen's Birthday

Mrs. Cheryl Peterson  
Ft Lauderdale, FL

## The Power of Friendship



David & Richard at their last visit.

David Robinson has visited Richard regularly for 16 years at the Williston Campus. Dave was looking for purpose, after his wife passed away, when Diane, a Luther Home staff member, introduced him to Richard.

Dave and Richard became fast friends, visiting twice a week, until recently. They are like brothers... Richard being the younger brother. Their favorite pastimes include reading the Peach Section and listening to old-time murder mystery radio shows – their favorite is “Johnny Dollar.”

The two gentlemen love talking about sports, especially golf and broadcasters like Jim Nantz. Both have enjoyed sharing stories about their childhoods, faith and family. Richard is an avid Braille reader, but also loves having Dave read to him. Their latest book was "Rhinestone Cowboy."

David last visited in September and let Richard know age and health concerns have caught up with him, so he'll no longer be able to visit frequently. They enjoyed a long chat, there were a lot of “Amen’s” said.

“Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up.”  
*Ecclesiastes 4:9–10 (NIV)*



Jason, Chrissy, Lynn and Robert enjoyed the Wizard of Oz themed Northwest Ohio Special Needs Prom held in Oak Harbor, OH.

## Christmas Wish List

Annually, we ask our community to join us in our work by donating items from our Christmas Wish List. The following items help us fill-in gaps for the individuals we serve, provide supplies for our day programs and homes. If you, your family, your business or church would like to support our ministries by purchasing an item or two from our wish list, we would be grateful! Another option is to apply for a Thrivent Action Card. Email Melissa at [mgregg@lutherhome.org](mailto:mgregg@lutherhome.org) or call 419-972-4338 if you have questions. Thank you for helping us bring Christmas cheer!

### Arts & Crafts

- Art Supplies: (pom poms, stencils, paint markers, googly eyes, beads and string, feathers, buttons, decorative edge scissors, pipe cleaners)
- Bulletin Board Paper
- Coloring Books
- Construction/Art Paper
- Craft Kits (easy skill level)
- Crayons/Colored Pencils
- Hot Glue Gun & Glue Sticks
- Glue Sticks & Glue Dots
- Moon/Kinetic Sand
- Paint Brushes (All Sizes)
- NeeDoh
- STEM Kits (wooden)
- Stickers (All Sizes)
- Washable Markers
- Watercolor Paints

### Games & Toys

- Basketballs (full size)
- Educational (play money, workbooks, clocks to learn how to tell time, cards, etc.)
- Games/Cards for 5 & under (Old Maid, UNO, Trouble, Sorry, Lite-Brite, etc.)

### Miscellaneous

- Adult Bibs
- Bubble Machine & Bubbles
- Electric Razors (male & female)
- Gift Cards (grocery, restaurant, movies, entertainment) *please none that require online redemption*
- Golf Umbrellas
- Radio Headphones (wireless, over-the-ear)
- Lunch Tote
- Karaoke Machine
- Optical Fiber Lamps Or Lights, Lava Lamps
- Portable Radio/CD Player

### Kitchen

- Baking Pans
- Blender
- Cookware (pots & pans)
- Crockpot
- Electric Can Opener
- Hand Mixer
- Keurig
- Mixing & Serving Bowls
- Towels, Dishcloths, hot pads
- Utensils (cooking/serving)

Wish list donations may be shipped or dropped off:

Luther Home of Mercy, Attn: Melissa  
5810 N Main St  
Williston, OH 43468

(if mailing by USPS, please add PO Box 187 to the address above)

## Join Our Team

Compassionate individuals wanted to support our ministries for adults with disabilities!

Employee benefits include health, dental & vision insurance; paid time off; and, premium pay for holidays worked.



Open positions are located in Williston, unless otherwise noted.

- Direct Care Support, 1<sup>st</sup> shift (PT), 2<sup>nd</sup> (PT/FT).
- Driver/Transportation
- DSP (Supported Living Provider), Part-Time, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Shift, homes in Lucas, Ottawa and Wood counties
- IT Manager/Server Admin
- Maintenance (2<sup>nd</sup> shift)
- Nurses (2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> shift)
- Program Manager/Qualified Intellectual Disability Professional
- Team Lead, Lucas County

Apply now at  
[www.lutherhome.org](http://www.lutherhome.org)



# GIVING TUESDAY

## A Day to Do Good and Make Outdoor Spaces Shine

GivingTuesday is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of radical generosity that was created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. Since then, it has grown into a year-round global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate and celebrate generosity. We'd love to have you join us in this celebration of generosity through a gift.

This year, your Giving Tuesday donation will help enhance our outdoor spaces with additions like permanent shade in the Garden of Compassion and outdoor furniture. Through the generosity of our partners, the first \$4,000 donated for Giving Tuesday will be matched! Thank you to Hylant for their continued generosity with a \$3,000 match and our \$1,000 matching sponsor, Lee Terry Holdings, LLC: Terry L. Bossert, CEO.

We invite you to join our matching donors by donating on December 3, 2025! Give online at [lutherhome.org](http://lutherhome.org) (include *Giving Tues* in the comments) or mail a check, with Giving Tuesday on the memo line, to Luther Home of Mercy, 5810 N Main St, PO Box 187, Williston, OH 43468.

**HYLANT**  
Insurance & Employee Benefits



"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth... But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven...  
For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."  
*Matthew 6:19-21 (NIV)*

## 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Outing a Hit

Thanks to the support of compassionate sponsors, golfers and donors over \$12,000 was raised at the annual golf outing. This generosity will allow us to purchase and maintain a golf cart for our Ginny's Kitchen staff—making it easier to deliver items across our campus. Please consider supporting these great businesses who made an impact on our ministries!

**Presenting Lunch Sponsor:** GenoaBank

**Leader Board Sponsor:** Semro Henry

**Champion Sponsors:** CLA, Rudolph Libbe Group, Venture Visionary Partners

**Driving Range Sponsor:** TESCO

**Sponsors:** AA Boos & Sons, AllCare Pharmacy, Asset Protection Corporation, Chipmatic, CWS Environmental, Eastman & Smith Ltd., Edward Jones: Austin S. Dean, Enterprise Fleet Management, Greer Group Construction, ICP Pharmacy, Oak Harbor Class of 1983/84, PNC Financial Services Group, Precision Business Solutions, P.T. Services Rehabilitation, Inc., Samsen Furniture, Gary Schumaker LLC, ServiceMaster CDR, Sonit Systems, Voya Financial: Tobias P. Cardone

**Donors:** Pastor Chuck & Jeri Campbell, The Dotson Company, Greg Sparks

**Prize Donors:** Alan Miller Jewelers, Appliance Center, Blackberry Corners Tavern, Bob's Discount Furniture, Hirzel Canning Company & Farms, Hollywood Casino, Imagination Station: Toledo's Science Center, J&M Cruise Lines, Marsha's Homemade Buckeyes, Maumee Valley Group, Metroparks Toledo, National Museum of the Great Lakes, PayCom, Raising Cane's, Sky Zone Holland, Toledo Walleye, Toledo Zoo & Aquarium



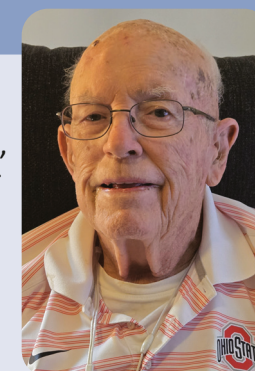
*The Pocock Family have golfed almost every year to support our ministries.*



*2025 Fall Fest: Mikki with Elaine & Liz, Martha playing skeeball, Craig ready for dinner & Pastor Alan Brown sharing the message*

## A Life of Service

Lowell Hartman has dedicated his life to serving others with humility and heart. For over 40 years, he has been a steadfast Board Member of Luther Home of Mercy, offering wisdom, leadership, and unwavering support. In addition to his governance role, Lowell served as a part-time groundskeeper for 9 years, caring for the campus with the same devotion he's shown throughout his life.



*Lowell Hartman, a dedicated volunteer.*

His commitment to safety and community spans an incredible 65 years as a volunteer firefighter. His service included conducting fire drills and responding to emergencies at Luther Home's main campus in Williston. Lowell fondly recalls the early days when a simple button at the Home would alert the fire department directly—a testament to the close-knit relationship he helped foster between the Home and local emergency services.

Professionally, Lowell spent his career in construction and generously shared his expertise with Luther Home, advising on building projects and improvements. His contributions have helped shape the physical and spiritual foundation of the ministry.

Lowell's connection to Luther Home began early in life. His father, Ira, was both a Board Member and the architect behind several of the original cottages that still house residents today. This legacy of service and compassion has continued through Lowell's lifelong involvement.

Luther Home of Mercy, founded in 1928 to serve individuals with developmental disabilities, has been deeply blessed by Lowell's dedication. His selfless service, spanning decades and generations, reflects the very heart of our mission.



## Church Gifts

Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
Pemberville, OH  
Christ Lutheran Church  
Bowling Green, OH  
Faith Lutheran Church  
Fremont, OH  
Lutheran Church of the Master  
Perrysburg, OH  
Messiah Lutheran Church  
Toledo, OH  
Northwestern Ohio Synod ELCA  
Findlay, OH  
Resurrection Lutheran Church  
Port Clinton, OH  
Solomon Lutheran Church  
Woodville, OH  
St. John Lutheran Church  
Deshler, OH  
St. John Lutheran Church  
Williston, OH  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
Oak Harbor, OH  
St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
Lima, OH  
St. Michael Lutheran Church  
Ottawa Lake, MI  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Sulphur Springs, OH  
St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Delphos, OH  
St. Peter Lutheran Church  
Martin, OH  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Elmore, OH  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Sandusky, OH  
Zion Lutheran Church  
Lucky, OH  
Zoar Lutheran Church  
Perrysburg, OH



### Our Mission

We are a ministry *Enriching Lives and Individual Abilities*

### Our Values

Faithfulness  
Stewardship  
Ethical Behavior  
Integrity  
Diversity

### Our Ministries

#### Intermediate Care Facility (ICF)

Williston Campus

#### Supported Living Homes & Services

Lucas, Ottawa & Wood counties

#### Day Programs

Advent, Sylvania  
Emmanuel, Lindsey  
Emmaus, Oregon  
Genesis, Northwood

### Lutheran Ministries Of Mercy Board of Directors

Rev. Juli Lejman-Guy, Chair  
Bobbie Abel, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair  
Bishop Chester B. Trail, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair  
Rev. Charles Campbell, Secretary  
Tim Schumm, Treasurer  
Andy Barthel  
Denise Etzler  
Marilyn E. Ford  
Matthew H. Garrow  
Rob Giesige  
Donovan Greening  
Amy Merkel  
Jeff Mires  
Timothy Robinson  
Jeffrey L. Schwartz  
Becky Stewart  
Kathleen Winters

### Luther Home of Mercy Foundation Board of Trustees

Arlyn Bensch, President  
John Zechman, Vice President  
Anthony Mifsud, Treasurer  
Lowell Hartman  
Mitchell Hoyles  
Jed Osborn  
Terri Rodriguez

### Please send address changes:

Email: [info@lutherhome.org](mailto:info@lutherhome.org)


Echoes of Mercy  
5810 N Main St, PO Box 187  
Williston, OH 43468

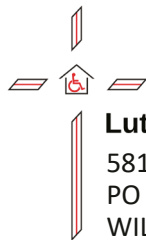
### Main Office - Williston

Monday-Friday, 8 am-4 pm

419-836-7741

[www.lutherhome.org](http://www.lutherhome.org)

 @LutherHomeOfMercy



### Luther Home of Mercy

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Joel relaxing with Storm during a recent visit from Paws & Hooves.

If you'd like to learn more about Luther Home's ministries, volunteering, a tour or to request a speaker for your organization or church, please contact Melissa at 419-972-4338 or [mgregg@lutherhome.org](mailto:mgregg@lutherhome.org).

## Save the Date! August 21, 2026 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Golf Outing



Thank you GenoaBank for your ongoing support of Luther Home!