A PUBLICATION OF LUTHER HOME OF MERCY, WILLISTON, OHIO

NUMBER 1

### **Snowstorms and Neighbors Remembered**



It just kept snowing; and then the wind came out of the Northeast, brisk and steady before twisting to blow in our face from the West. Some time in the night, the wind raised its voice and quickened its pace to forty miles per hour as temperatures fell to minus seventeen degrees. Man alive, I don't like to be cold; and the experience stirred remembrance of Mr. Tolerton and his faithful deliveries of ice to the neighborhood of my growing up years. A job like that in winter would chill all your bones.

Remembering our "Ice Man" brought many others to mind, including those who delivered milk, bread, coal and mail to our homes. Those folks took a great deal of pride in their reliable service;

and were apologetic in 1950 when record snowfall chased by 40 mph winds drifted to heights of 25-30 feet, closed all roadways to travel. Mr. Fisher, of course, still carried the mail door to door. Cline's bakery had to ration sales, but stayed open late for families in need of bread. Virgil and Clara Wilson lived above their Old Reliable Carry-out & Dairy. They couldn't shovel out or make deliveries; but Virgil kept his dairy running for walk-ins, and Clara manned the counter till "I couldn't see straight." The blizzard had "whited-out" the sign above Kuenzli's market, remembered for kindness to neighbors through "Depression" years. John & Frieda stayed on, however, till they "ran out of almost everything."

We have not had an ice box in our kitchen for a long time; but winter storms come by every year, and the bold ones are long remembered. While not a clone to the blizzard of 1950 or 1978, last month's storm brought heavy snowfall, high winds and bitter cold, ice and drift covered roadways. Travel was restricted to all but first-responders, shifts were cancelled and schools were shut down for days. Staff stayed over at Filling Memorial and Luther Home of Mercy, working long hours, getting tired, resting, and then going back to do it again. This will be one to remember; and, as with all bold storms, remembered with the



names, faces, voices and devotional service of those who would not rest until all vital services were delivered to neighbors in need.

...Pastor Don Wukotich

# **Love Shared At Christmas!**

Christmas is a wonderful time of the year for sharing and we appreciate the many friends and congregations who share their love with us. Your generosity is always so overwhelming and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts! A huge "THANK YOU" to the following....

#### Members of...

Advent Lutheran Church, Uniontown, OH Ball Corporation, Findlay, OH Beta Sigma Phi Sorority David's Rebekah Circle, Canal Winchester, OH Immanuel Lutheran Church, Palmyra, MI Luther Home of Mercy Staff Mercy Women's Care Staff at St. Charles Hospital Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Catholic Church, Martin (Bono), OH Peace's Eu Hannah Circle, Port Clinton, OH Peace's Sarah Circle, Port Clinton, OH St. John Lutheran Church, Rocky Ridge, OH St. John's Lydia Circle, Oak Harbor, OH St. John's Ruth Circle, Oak Harbor, OH St. John's Priscilla Circle, Port Clinton, OH St. Mark's/Mary-Martha Guild, Delaware, OH St. Paul's Helping Hands, Sulphur Springs, OH St. Peter's Hannah Circle, Martin (Blackberry), OH Trinity Ladies Aid, Elmore, OH Zion Lutheran Church Women, Gibsonburg, OH Zion Lutheran Church, Perrysburg, OH

# **Auxiliary News**

The first meeting for this year will be **Monday**, **April 7**, at 1:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administration Building in Williston. All the money raised through their dues and fundraisers is used for residents and clients of Luther Home. Items purchased last year include cooking utensils, toasters & microwaves for cottages, awards for employees with 20 years of service, funds for the activity fund, to refurbish the exercise area in the gym, and purchase another AED for campus. New members are always welcome! The dues are only \$5.00 per year...to join, simply send your check to LHM AUX-ILIARY, PO BOX 187, WILLISTON, OH 43468.

Their next project is a spring bake sale at Genoa Bank on Friday, April 11, and homemade baked goods and workers are needed. If you are willing to bake or help with this event, please contact Karen Schanke at kschank@lutherhome.org or call at 419-972-4354. Items can be picked up if needed.

Your help with this worthwhile organization would be truly appreciated!

#### Families & Individuals...

Ruth Beaupre & Sandy Abke Linda Bellman Judy Below Chuck & Jerl Campbell Lewis Carbone Family Miriam Evarts Mark Gribble Family Terry & Brenda Hetrick Jim Lake Family Stan Machosky Family Mike O'Donnell Family Veneta Oberhaus **Robert Rengel Family** Sattler, Gump & Hertzfeld Families Lawrence Skinn Family John Spoerl Family Tom Sutphin Sandra Tank John Kohlman Family Linda VanSickle **Robert Young Family** 



Paul enjoys wearing his new Ohio State shirt that he received for Christmas!

## **JOINT ANNUAL MEETING**

#### LUTHERAN MINISTRIES OF MERCY FILLING HOMES LUTHER HOME OF MERCY

Thursday, April 3, 2013 at Zoar Lutheran Church 314 E. Indiana Ave. Perrysburg, Ohio 43551

6:00-7:00 p.m. – Registration & Refreshments 7:00 p.m. – Worship Service 7:30 p.m. – Annual Meeting

Everyone is invited. Two delegates from Association congregations are requested. Please email kschank@lutherhome.org Or call 419-972-4354 with reservations.

# **Equipment Grant Received**

LHM is excited to announce a grant from the Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation for the purchase of new lifting and transfer equipment on our main campus. Insuring the safety and comfort of our residents as well as the safety of our staff is a top priority. After evaluating equipment needs and Worker's Compensation claims, it was determined that standardizing the types of lifting equipment on campus may serve to enhance safety practices.

Working together, Physical Therapist, Rebecca Sparks, and Mission Advancement Coordinator, Megan O'Brien, constructed a funding proposal that included six new mobile sling lifting systems along with three standing transfer aids. The equipment will be used to help in lifting and transferring residents who have limited mobility and decreased weight bearing capacity.

The award, in the amount of \$39,000.00, is a 3 to 1 matching grant where BWC will match \$3 for every \$1 spent by Luther Home on equipment aimed at reducing workplace injuries.

Luther Home will provide BWC with quarterly data reports and a follow-up case study to assist them in determining the effectiveness of safety interventions and establish best practices.

## **Agency Update**



Several times each year Luther Home of Mercy hosts meetings designed for the family members, guardians and close friends of residents on campus and clients in our Community Ministries. The next scheduled meeting will be held on Sunday, March 23, immediately following worship at 10 am in the chapel. The meeting will begin at approx. 11 am and will feature a presentation by President and Chief Executive Officer, Pastor Donald Wukotich. Pastor Don plans to share news relating to our ministry – providing a reminder of our mission, sharing good things that are taking place, celebrating accomplishments, looking to the future, forecasting challenges and plans

to overcome. Families and friends are encouraged to join us for the meeting, and light refreshments, as we share this important information.

## **Update on "Schleicher Homes" Construction**

Record snowfall, high winds and extremely cold temperatures have challenged progress of new construction at all three "Schleicher Homes" sites; but the building continues with some 40% completion reported.

As earlier communicated, each home features quality construction with approximately 3,000 sq. ft. of barrier-free, fullysprinklered living space for four individuals with special needs. Building sites are located in West Toledo and Oregon, Ohio residential developments. Pictured here is



a new home under construction at Chicory Drive, off East Angola Road in West Toledo. The homes are made possible by way of a generous grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The total grant will provide Mercy Outreach Ministries V with \$1,581,000 for capital construction; and, in addition, will provide qualifying occupants a three year rental subsidy contract totaling \$153,000. It is expected that this project will be completed and ready for occupancy by September of 2014.

# Disabilities Awareness Month

The theme for March Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month this year is "Ability At Work." We encourage you to recognize that all persons have unique talents and gifts to offer to their community. Take time to get to know someone with a developmental disability and recognize their ability at work and see their potential.



We'd like you to meet a few people who are putting their talents to work for others in the community. First we'd like to introduce Mary Rita, who is 64 years old and lives in an apartment in West Toledo. Five days a week she attends Emmaus Community Center in Oregon. There she has the meaningful job of heat-sealing name labels in resident clothing. This is a job that she absolutely loves and takes very seriously. As she says, "when clothes go to the laundry, it is so important that they have a name on them, so everyone knows who they belong to." She does everything in a very systematic way to make sure that the labels are put on in the proper position, cooled

*Mary Rita gets much satisfaction and* down, folded, and put back in the container that they were brought in. *enjoyment doing her job.* 

Mary Rita grew up in Bay Village near Cleveland and is the middle child of three sisters and one brother. After both parents passed away, she moved to the Toledo area to be near her three sisters. They get together often and like to take trips together. Some of her favorite things to do in her spare time include reading the large print Reader's Digest and watching television, especially "Little House on the Prairie," "the Waltons" and a variety of movies.

Next, meet Jay who lives in Fremont and has worked as a dishwasher at the 818 Club for more than 25 years. He enjoys his work, where he often stops by tables to greet his many friends from around

town. When Jay is not working, he can often be found cheering on the local football and basketball teams. He is an avid sports fan, and enjoys working out at the gym and playing basketball for the Sandusky County Rebels, a team sponsored by the Sandusky County Board of Developmental Disabilities. He is very involved in family activities with his siblings and enjoys watching his brothers perform in the Together Band.

Next meet our "Vending Machine Crew"...Jason, Nickie, and Jennifer. Under the direction of staff, this Crew has been working together for 4 years to fill pop and snack machines on the main campus in Williston each week. Three shifts of staff make use of these machines, so they empty quickly. They have a wide variety of snacks that they replenish the machine with. The pop machine also has the choice of water or juice, so that everyone has



Nickie, Jennifer, and Jason fill the snack machine each week with munchies for the staff to enjoy.

a good variety to choose from. This is a job that they look forward to each week and feel that they are contributing a valuable service for staff members.



Washing the dishes at the 818 Club keeps Jay busy!

Mary Rita, Jay, Jason, Nickie, and

Jennifer are blessings to all of us at Luther Home. We ask that you join us during the month of March to meet and recognize the abilities of persons with developmental disabilities in your communities.

# Special Olympics 🎲

LHM is thrilled to be involved in Special Olympics again after about a five-year absence. We are part of Area 4 which includes these nine counties...Williams, Fulton, Lucas, Wood, Defiance, Paulding, Ottawa, Sandusky, and Erie. The first event of the year was a bowling tournament at Al-Mar Lanes in Bowling Green on January 12. Three of our residents participated in this tournament and enjoyed the challenge. Two basketball skills events are already planned and additional opportunities will be available in the spring. Many of our residents are looking forward to being a part of these exciting activities. If you are interested in volunteering to help with any of these events, please contact Megan O'Brien at 419-972-4436.

Our residents also enjoy participating in many other "fun activities." We have a special "Activity Fund" reserved for our residents



Marty, Scott, and Doug (in front) accompanied by staff and volunteers had a great time at the bowling tournament.

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and clients. If you are interested in contributing to this fund, just mark "Activity Fund" in the memo section of your check.

Advent Lutheran Church
Uniontown, OH
ANONYMOUS
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Anson
Liverpool, NY
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Baird
Hilton Head, SC
Mr. and Mrs. Bert Banks, Jr.
Oregon, OH
Mr. and Mrs. Richard V. Beard
Perrysburg, OH
Bethany Lutheran Church Women
Roseville, MI
Bethlehem Lutheran Church Women
Attica, OH
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Pemberville, OH
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond M. Bilecky
Columbia Station, OH
Mr. James Blausey
Cygnet, OH
Mr. and Mrs. William H. Blecke
Perrysburg, OH
Ms. Becky Bothe
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Mrs. Don Bothe
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Genoa, OH
Rev. Alvera J. Brandt
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#### **EARLY SPRING 2014**

#### ECHOES OF MERCY

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**Olivet Lutheran Church** Svlvania, OH Parma's Deborah Circle Parma, OH Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Parman Fremont, OH Mrs. Jean Paulus Lima, OH **Peace Lutheran Church Women** Galion, OH Mr. and Mrs. Donald Peters Pemberville, OH Mr. and Mrs. David Pfisterer Findlay, OH Mrs. Virginia C. Podolny Cleveland, OH Mr. and Mrs. Milton R. Pommeranz Toledo, OH Portage Valley Federation/Luth Men Perrysburg, OH **Rev. David D. Proctor** Bryan, OH Mr. James D. Rasmussen Chesterfield, MI Mr. & Mrs. Michael Rasmussen Macomb, MI Mrs. Phyllis Rasmussen Fraser, MI Mr. and Mrs. Ronald C. Reed Gahannna, OH Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Reese Warren, MI **Resurrection Lutheran Church** Port Clinton, OH Mr. and Mrs. David M. Rinderknecht Upper Sandusky, OH Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Root Fremont, OH Mr. Kyle D. Ruff Marysville, MI Mr. Dean F. Rust Alexandria, VA **Rev. and Mrs. John Rutz** Perrysburg, OH Mr. and Mrs. Thomas D. Ryan Frankenmuth, MI Mrs. Phyllis Sampsell Northwood, OH Mrs. Margaret San Gregory Bellevue, OH Mrs. Karen A. Schepman Woodville, OH Mrs. Eloise Schober Perrysburg, OH **Miss Rita Schober** Millbury, OH Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Schult Perrysburg, OH Mr. and Mrs. Earl F. Schulte Genoa, OH Mr. Floyd G. Schutte Phoenix, AZ Mr. Gary Schwochow Fremont, OH Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Sevits Perrysburg, OH Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church



This is just a sample of the beautiful handmade blankets that were donated by the Ladies Sewing Group from Memorial Lutheran Church in Toledo.

#### ECHOES OF MERCY

#### **EARLY SPRING 2014**

**Christine Siefert Trust** Cleveland, OH Mr. and Mrs. Russell L. Siek Pemberville, OH Miss Joan A. Slebos Bowling Green, OH Ms. Sandee Sledd Doraville, GA Mr. William E. Smith Deshler, OH Solomon Lutheran Church Woodville, OH Mr. and Mrs. Norbert C. Sonnenberg Archbold, OH Mr. Tony Spahn Venice, FL Ms. Christine A. Stamp Castalia, OH Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Stein Perrysburg, OH St. James Lutheran Church Bradner, OH St. John Lutheran Church Women Deshler, OH St. John Lutheran Church Women Marblehead, OH St. John Lutheran Church Montpelier, OH St. John Lutheran Church New Washington, OH St. John Lutheran Church Oak Harbor, OH St. John Lutheran Church Women Oak Harbor, OH St. John Lutheran Church Stony Ridge, OH St. John Lutheran Church Toledo, OH St. John Lutheran Church Williston, OH St. Mark Lutheran Church Delaware, OH St. Mark Lutheran Church Graytown, OH St. Mark's Mary of Bethany Guild Steubenville, OH St. Mark Lutheran Church Wapakoneta, OH St. Martin Lutheran Church Women Marine City, MI St. Matthew Lutheran Church Lima, OH St. Michael Lutheran Church Ottawa Lake, MI St. Paul Lutheran Church Blissfield, MI St. Paul Lutheran Church Bowling Green, OH St. Paul Lutheran Church Casco, MI St. Paul Lutheran Sunday School Casco, MI

St. Paul Lutheran Church Women Lakeside, OH

St. Paul Lutheran Church Maumee, OH St. Paul Lutheran Church Maybee, MI St. Paul Lutheran Church Women Maybee, MI St. Paul's Lutheran Church Napoleon, OH St. Paul Lutheran Church Prospect, OH St. Paul Lutheran Church Sulphur Springs, OH St. Paul Lutheran Church Women Toledo, OH St. Paul Lutheran Church Women Upper Sandusky, OH St. Peter Lutheran Church Women Martin, OH St. Peter Lutheran Church Norwalk, OH St. Peter Lutheran Church Women Ridgeville Corners, OH St. Peter Lutheran Church Saint Clair, MI St. Petri Lutheran Church Toledo, OH Mrs. Velma L. Sundermeyer Sylvania, OH Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Suttle Perrysburg, OH Mr. Mike Thompson Toledo, OH Thrivent Choice Minneapolis, MN Thrivent Financial Ottawa County Chapter 30011 Oak Harbor, OH **Thrivent Financial East Lucas Co Chapter** Toledo, OH **Trinity Lutheran Church** Bryan, OH Trinity Lutheran Church Elmore, OH Mr. and Mrs. Roger Trout Warren, IN **United Way of Greater Toledo** Toledo, OH Mr. Gordon B. Wahlers Marblehead, OH Mr. Robert F. Walters Toledo, OH S. Warren Toledo, OH Miss Mary Anne Wiedenheft Columbus, OH Mr. and Mrs. Karl Wohlfarth Toledo, OH Mrs. Patricia Wolfe Toledo, OH Rev. and Mrs. Donald L. Wukotich Woodville, OH Mrs. Cherie Yetter Farmington Hills, MI Mr. and Mrs. John Zatko Oregon, OH Zion Lutheran Church Women Gibsonburg, OH



These students from BGSU did a great job painting our gym and exercise area during their Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service.

Zion Lutheran Church LaFavette, OH Zion Lutheran Church Women Loudonville, OH **Zion Lutheran Church** Luckey OH **Zion Lutheran Church Women** Luckey, OH **Zion Lutheran Church** Sandusky, OH Zion's Dorcas Society Saint Marys, OH **Zion Lutheran Church** Valley City, OH Zion's Martin Luther Society Vallev City, OH **Zoar Lutheran Church** Perrysburg, OH Mr. and Mrs. Louis H. Zorn Sandusky, OH

## Memorials

November 1, 2013 – January 31, 2014

Ms. Mary Jane Alexander Mrs. Donna R. Alexander Hagerstown, MD Helen B. Ameling Mr. and Mrs. Paul A. Clark, Sr. Helena, OH Kathleen Andersen Mrs. Winifred Genzman Fremont, OH Ruth, Oliver & Gary Anderson Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Miller Haverhill, MA **Billy Ankenbrandt** Mr. & Mrs. Roger R. Scheid Monroeville, OH Norman E. Atkinson Mrs. Lucile E. Atkinson Fremont, OH Iona Baker Mr. and Mrs. Blair D. Miller Elmore, OH Allan Barkhau Mr. and Mrs. Duane Arndt Elmore, OH **Donald A. Beck** Mrs. Wilma M. Greider Fremont, OH Mr. and Mrs. Eugene L. Nickel Oak Harbor, OH **Craig Bell** Mr. and Mrs. Paul A. Clark, Sr. Helena, OH Eldo & Agnes Bergman Henry & Bess Bergman Mr. Henry "Hank" Bergman II Mrs. Dona Mae Welch & Family Genoa, OH Sofia E. Beruscha Mr. and Mrs. Paul A. Clark, Sr. Helena, OH Mr. & Mrs. Henry Bettenbrock Miss Janet C. Bettenbrock Bowling Green, OH Robert F. Betzel Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Bolton Albuquerque, NM Carl H. Blank Carl & Edna Blank Mrs. Audrey K. Blank Cheyenne, WY Harold & Alta Bockbrader Ms. Darla Culberson Toledo, OH Polly P. Bodine Mr. and Mrs. Paul A. Clark, Sr. Helena, OH Arnold & Sophia Boldt Mr. and Mrs. James F. Gerber Petersburg, MI Larry Bringe Ms. Kaye Boss Elmore, OH Mr. & Mrs. Mark Boss Elmore, OH Sue, Michael & Megan Brown Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Sandrock Curtice, OH

#### **EARLY SPRING 2014**

#### ECHOES OF MERCY

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Velma Holtz Mr. and Mrs. James F. Gerber Petersburg, MI Arthur & Erna Hotmer Mrs. Donna M. Schell Genoa, OH Marilyn Huntington Mr. and Mrs. Paul A. Clark, Sr. Helena, OH Anna Jaquilland Mr. James Routson Waterville, OH George & Ida Jasmund Norma Jasmund Mr. and Mrs. Norman K. Figy Wesley Chapel, FL Edwin J. Johnson Terry Johnson Mr. and Mrs. Wayne R. Johnson Rossford, OH Mrs. Martha Juillard Mr. Donald L. Juillard Stryker, OH Rev. Douglas W. Kahl Mr. and Mrs. John A. Savage Manchester, MI Joanne Magee Katerman Mr. Robert S. Hartman Port Clinton, OH Cindy Kempher Mrs. Verna Stuckey Fremont, OH Madeline King The Albright Family Martin, OH Mrs. Carole Beamer Martin, OH Mr. and Mrs. Forest Sabin Millbury, OH Ms. Linda Schlievert Curtice, OH St. John Lutheran Church Women Williston, OH Lamar Kiser Mrs. Verna Stuckey Fremont, OH Mr. & Mrs. Ervin Klingbeil Mr. Gaylord W. Oestreich Martin, OH Mr. Paul Knake, Jr. Ms. Joan Radeloff Walbridge, OH **Charles & Lucile Knight** Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Knight Toledo, OH Ruth Knoblauch Mr. and Mrs. Loren H. Dillon Upper Sandusky, OH Fred Koenreich Mr. and Mrs. Roland A. Henderson Genoa, OH Eileen Konieczny Mr. and Mrs. Arlyn J. Bensch Oak Harbor, OH Mr. and Mrs. Roland A. Henderson Genoa, OH Mr. & Mrs. Robert Schimmoeller Oak Harbor, OH St. John Lutheran Church Women Williston, OH Mrs. Viola Kopfman Mrs. Elaine Radunz Toledo, OH



Joey shows off the banner he created at the Super Bowl Party.

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it may seem that getting out those golf clubs is a long way away.... but warmer weather will be coming! So, put these dates on your calendar for the upcoming golf season....

18th Annual Four Agency Golf Scramble Stone Ridge Golf Club Bowling Green, Ohio 9:00 a.m. Shotgun Start Priday, August 15 29th Annual LHM Golf Scramble Maumee Bay Golf Course Oregon, Ohio 8:00 a.m. Shotgun Start LUTHER HOME OF MERCY 5810 N MAIN ST PO BOX 187 WILLISTON OH 43468-0187

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Luther Home of Mercy is an ICF/DD (Intermediate Care Facility for Developmentally Disabled) - the main campus is located in Williston and the Outreach Community Ministry serves clients in four NW Ohio counties.

### "Swing Into Spring" **Auction and Fun-Raiser**

### Friday, April 25 Luther Home of Mercy Gym

Doors Open at 5:00 for Silent Auction & Dinner 6:30 Live Auction 7:00 Dessert & Entertainment Tickets: \$15.00 in advance or \$18.00 at the door.

For more information, contact mobrien@lutherhome.org Call 419-972-4354 or 419-836-7741

Proceeds from the evening will be dedicated toward sports and recreational programs for hundreds of individuals in Lucas, Ottawa, Wood, and Sandusky Counties