

# VILLAGE VOICE

HOLIDAY EDITION 2023

## Blessings Abound at Bethany Village!

I hope this holiday season brings you peace, comfort, and contentment. As every year wraps up, the days get shorter, and we settle in with loved ones to reflect on the things for which we are grateful and ways we have been blessed. Blessings and gratitude are always easy to find at Bethany Village.

One of the greatest blessings we experience is the joy of serving others here in the village. Staff and residents are always seeking ways to help one another. Because we spend so much time together, the relationships we form guide us to work together as one big caring family. Each person who serves or is served within our mission has a special part to play as we continually *“Celebrate Life’s Journey Together in God’s Love.”*

The blessings we have are not contained just within our buildings but spread to the greater community. In good times and in difficult circumstances, our community of families, and the Smoky Valley community have been there to

support our mission. In our hardest times, it is the kindness and support of our greater community that bring tears of joy. In turn, the staff have created an ACTS Fund that allows them to pool their personal gifts to give back to the community. Blessings abound within our mission.

It is my sincerest hope that we have blessed your lives and the lives of your loved ones in a meaningful way. We have also felt the prayers and support you have shared with us over the years. Our mission would not be here today without people like you.

This year our mission continued to emerge from pandemic conditions. While much of the world has moved on, we are required to remain diligent regarding the health and well being of those around us. We are finding that the post-pandemic world is very different than the one we knew four years ago, and we are still working to adapt to the realities that have emerged in the last year. Your prayers and support are needed now as much as they have ever been, as we strive to adapt our mission for another 100 years of service.

Thank you for all you have done to support our mission, our work, and our programs over the years. You are a blessing to those around you, and we are grateful for the blessings you have provided for us.



“Blessings and gratitude are always easy to find at Bethany Village!”  
Kris Erickson, CEO



Sharing through teaching: CNA classes were back in full swing following disruptions of the pandemic.



# Donor Spotlight

If you know Bethany Home, chances are, you know **Lan Nelson**. Lan has dedicated more than 41 1/2 years to Bethany Home and is passionate about faith, serving others, and music, but most importantly, the people at Bethany Home. “We have some pretty incredible staff,” says Lan, “and they take such good care of the residents.”

When asked why he donates, he noted, “It’s important to keep the organization going financially. If we don’t have the funds to keep the lights on, then we lose our mission as well.”

Lan has worked in virtually every department but is best known for his involvement with the worship programs and for keeping music alive at Bethany Home. Music has always been a big part of Lan’s life and he shares his musical talents with the residents of Bethany Home nearly every day.



*Lan Nelson plays the restored piano he donated to Sunflower Terrace Assisted Living in honor of Carole & Ken Gilman in 2016.*

*(Continued on page 5)*

# SUNFLOWER TERRACE



## Welcome to the Family!

Sunflower Terrace is proud to introduce the new assisted living operator, Kaitlynn Kennedy, RN. Kaitlynn grew up in Salina, but now lives in McPherson with her new husband, Weston and 3 dogs, Riley, Bella and Jax.

Kaitlynn is no stranger to Lindsborg as she originally obtained her CNA license through the summer program sponsored by Lindsborg Community Hospital and Bethany Village. She went on to Hutchinson Community College for her LPN and earned her RN through Rasmussen College. Currently, Kaitlyn is working toward her Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Wichita State University and hopes to finish in the next year.

Kaitlynn enjoys spending time with families and learning new things. “I am looking forward to building relationships with the residents and staff,” said Kaitlynn. “I am hoping to help improve the quality of care and maximize quality of life.”

Kaitlynn & Weston are also looking forward to welcoming a new baby to the family in 2024!

**Kaitlynn Kennedy, RN,** joined Sunflower Terrace as the Assisted Living Operator at the beginning of December.





# Advent

HOPE PEACE JOY LOVE

## CHAPLAIN'S BLESSING



Over the last many weeks, we at Bethany Village have been Proclaiming Our Story as we ventured on a worship and learning series of the stories of our faith. In our worship services, our bible studies, and our more informal conversations together, we've reflected on our

stories of creation, wonder, struggle, deliverance, remembering, belonging, praise, presence, commitment, righteousness and covenant. We know that we have a story of faith that is worth proclaiming, and as we enter this Advent and Christmas season, that story becomes even more special, as we rejoice in the amazing story of a love so deep that, as we hear in The Message translation of *John 1:14*, "The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood."

Sometimes, it's hard to understand and internalize that kind of love, especially when we are weary. And, holy smokes, are we weary. While we continue to face the ever-changing challenges of the pandemic, we also face challenges in our local community and in our global world.

### So how does a weary world rejoice?

This Advent, we'll explore this question (with materials developed by A Sanctified Art, a woman-led group of pastors, artists, and theologians), as we search for moments of joy amidst the struggles of daily life.

How does a weary world rejoice? We acknowledge our weariness. We find joy in connection. We allow ourselves to be amazed. We sing stories of hope. We make room. We root ourselves in ritual. We trust our belovedness.

Even when we are weary - especially when we are weary - we must proclaim our story, the story of a God who was born among us, who lived among us, who died among us, who rose among us, and who dwells among us still. Yes, that is a story worth proclaiming.

As we transition through the end of 2023, I pray that we find the strength to proclaim our story, and that in doing so, we catch that thrill of hope to carry us through this most holy season.

Rejoicing with you,

*Mandy Todd*

Rev. Dr. Mandy Todd, Chaplain

# Join Us FOR WORSHIP

**DECEMBER 21** - THE LONGEST NIGHT WORSHIP, 6PM  
(A COLLABORATION WITH BETHANY COLLEGE)  
COOKIES AND COFFEE TO FOLLOW

**DECEMBER 24** - CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP, 4PM



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Bethany Village depends on the support of the community and friends. Financial donations help offset unreimbursed care expenses, fund capital improvements and activities for residents.

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# BETHANY + VILLAGE

THE ART OF LIVING

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In Honor / In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Designation:  General Operating Fund  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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\$5,000 & above

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\$2,500 - \$4,999

Gold  
\$1,000 - \$2,499

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Bronze  
Up to \$249



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## 2023: YEAR IN PICTURES



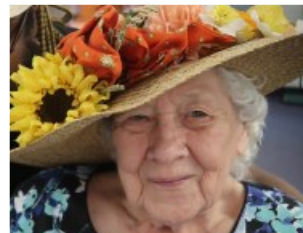
Lan Nelson started the annual the Ice Cream Social in 1983 and has helped every year!

You will often find him practicing piano and keeping tabs on the pianos throughout the building.

In 2016, Lan generously donated a beautiful 1928 Vose & Sons piano to Sunflower Terrace assisted living.

The piano was given to him by Carole & Ken Gilman but was in desperate need of restoration. Lan worked with Marty Hess of Hess Piano service in Wichita and the stunning instrument was delivered to Sunflower Terrace in Spring of 2016.

Lan not only shares his love of music with Bethany Village, but has given regularly through memorial donations, volunteers his time, and even bought ice cream for all the residents and staff on his 40th Anniversary.





# BETHANY+VILLAGE

321 N. Chestnut | Lindsborg, KS 67456

THE  
COTTAGES

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TERRACE

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HOME



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