

VILLAGE VOICE

HOLIDAY EDITION 2025

Carry Each Other's Burdens

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

Galatians 6:2 (NRSV)

Dear Friends of Bethany Village,

As this year draws to a close, my heart is filled with gratitude for the many ways our community continues to live out these words of Scripture. Each day, I see neighbors, families, staff, and volunteers carrying one another's burdens in love — sharing kindness, offering comfort, and creating joy in the lives of our elders.

This year has been a remarkable season of growth and blessing for Bethany Home Association. Through the generous support of grants, we have expanded our capacity for memory care within our assisted living community. This gift allows us to serve more individuals living with memory loss, helping them remain in a familiar and supportive home environment longer — surrounded by compassionate caregivers and the rhythms of daily life that bring them peace.

As stewards of this faith-based mission, we are reminded that our work is not only about buildings and programs, but about people — the residents who call Bethany Village "home," the team members who bring their gifts of service, and the friends and supporters who share our vision. Together, we are extending the ministry of care that began more than a century ago and continues today with purpose and hope.

We have also experienced the joy of community in so many ways this year. Shared meals brought residents and friends together around the table. Local students visited and filled our halls with laughter. Donations from our staff helped us provide back-to-school supplies for area children, connecting generations through acts of kindness. Summer's ice cream social and our annual Gala dinner were bright reminders that joy and generosity flourish when we gather in gratitude. Each event, each donation, and each act of service has strengthened the bonds that make Bethany Village not just a place of care, but a community of belonging.

As we prepare for a new year, we invite you to continue walking beside us in this mission. Your gifts make it possible for us to provide high-quality, compassionate care for our elders and to continue expanding programs that support independence, dignity, and faith-centered living. Together, we carry forward a ministry of love that touches hearts across generations.

With gratitude and peace,



Kris Erickson
Chief Executive Officer



Kris Erickson,
Bethany Village CEO

"And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and do good deeds."

Hebrews 10:24 (NRSV)

BETHANY +VILLAGE

THE ART OF LIVING



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Empowering seniors
creatively, intellectually,
and emotionally to do
what they do best.

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Joseph Benter,
Administrator for
Bethany Home

Looking Back / Looking Forward



As 2025 draws to a close, we take a moment to reflect on a year filled with progress, perseverance, and promise. Guided by our mission, *“Celebrating life’s journey together in God’s love”*, and inspired by our vision of a vibrant, inclusive Christian community, Bethany Home continues its commitment to compassionate, professional care and responsible stewardship.

One of the most exciting milestones of the year began in early November when construction commenced on our neighborhood renovation. The first phase will focus on Pleasant View and Elin hallways, and includes removal of wallpaper and carpet, installation of modern flooring and updated lighting with a refreshed, welcoming environment for residents, staff, and families. This marks the first visible step in a multi-phase plan that will ultimately modernize our entire campus, creating spaces that reflect the warmth and dignity of those we serve.

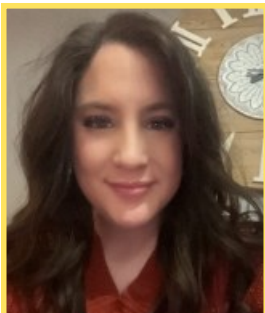
Our staff, the heart of Bethany Home, continue to embody our values of Christian faith, compassionate care, and passionate service. We have welcomed many new team members, invested in staff development, mentorship, and recognition programs while reinforcing our culture of respect and teamwork. Our turn-over rate continues to remain low compared to other facilities in the area, reflecting what I have always

(Continued on page 4)

SUNFLOWER TERRACE



It’s a Great Time for Assisted Living!



Kaitlynn Kennedy,
Assisted Living
Operator

As the holiday season draws near, I hope it gives each of us a chance to pause and reflect on the many joyful moments we’ve shared this year. 2025 has truly been filled with *“greats!”* Great memories, great milestones, and, most importantly, great people.

One of the highlights of our year was receiving a grant to help install a new wander guard system. This important addition will allow us to continue providing a safe, caring environment for our residents; something we’re deeply proud of. We also created wonderful new memories together, from hosting our first Easter Egg Hunt here at Sunflower Terrace, to welcoming everyone for the Bethany Village Ice Cream Social. The laughter, smiles, and sense of togetherness made each of these events truly special.

As we look ahead, my hope is that our “Village” continues to grow stronger, with even more community involvement, shared experiences, and moments that remind us why Sunflower Terrace is such a special place to call home. We are so thankful for all our

volunteers; not only for the items you donate but for the time, care, and heart you give so generously.

Wishing each of you a joyful holiday season and a New Year filled with warmth, peace, and many more *“greats!”*

With heartfelt gratitude, Kaitlynn Kennedy



(Continued from page 3)

believed; Bethany Home is a great place to work.

Resident life and community engagement for 2025 was a year of connection and celebration. Residents enjoyed inter-generational programs with local schools and churches. I saw an increase in family and friends bringing energy and joy into the residents' lives. And let's not forget, it was also a Hyllningsfest year!

A big thanks to Pastor Ethan for helping our spiritual programs flourish by offering comfort, hope, and renewal to residents and staff alike.

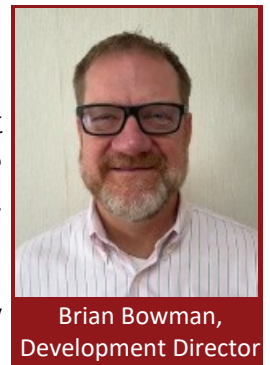
As we look toward 2026, Bethany Home remains committed to completing renovations and preparing for future modernization. Expanding life enrichment, wellness initiatives, and strengthening partnerships within the Lindsborg community continues to be a top priority while continuing to provide peace of mind to residents and families through thoughtful, personalized care.

Together, we are not only preserving a proud legacy, but also shaping a future where every resident can truly thrive in a compassionate Christian environment.

Joseph Benter,
Administrator

Bethany Village is excited to welcome Brian Bowman!

Brian brings a diverse and purpose-driven background to his role as Director of Development at Bethany Village. A proud graduate of Kansas State University with a degree in Industrial Engineering, Brian's path has been anything but conventional. From playing rugby and skydiving with the KSU Parachute Club, his college years were full of energy and exploration.



Brian Bowman,
Development Director

After graduation, Brian served in the Peace Corps as a math teacher in the Solomon Islands and later as a Rural Community Educator in Vanuatu. These experiences deepened his commitment to service and community development.

Back in Kansas, Brian transitioned into engineering and leadership roles, contributing to companies like Cameron International, Viega, and Pfizer.

At home in Lindsborg, Brian is a proud husband to Dana, an author, and father of two active sons, Charlie and Henry. He enjoys cycling, cheering on the Smoky Valley Vikings, KSU Wildcats, Chiefs, and Royals, and living out his values in a town he deeply loves.

Brian's work is anchored in his Christian faith, which guides his mission to serve others and uplift communities. He is excited to help grow the mission of Bethany Village and share Christ's love through meaningful development work.

CAUTION

Neighborhood Renovations Underway at Bethany Home

Fundraising efforts began early this year to make some much needed improvements and renovations to Bethany Home. Thanks to a generous donation from the Verlla Coughenour Trust, grants from the Smoky Valley and the Greater Salina Community Foundations and the support of many generous friends and family, we are well on our way to meeting our first goal of \$250,000.



Susan Lundstrom, daughter and Trustee for the Verlla Coughenour Trust, donated \$100,000 to the Neighborhood renovation project at Bethany Home.

The renovations, which began on our west neighborhood, Pleasant View, on November 10, will include removing the old wall-paper and replacing the out-dated carpet. The construction team hopes to finish Pleasant View by the end of the year. Work on Elin Hall will begin in January.

If you would like to donate to the project, please designate "Building Renovations" on the enclosed card or contact Brian Bowman or Jennifer Cantrell for other ways to help the project become a reality.





*But the angel said to them,
“Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you
good news of great joy for all the people:
to you is born this day
in the city of David a Savior,
who is the Messiah, the Lord.
This will be a sign for you:
you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth
and lying in a manger.”*

*And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude
of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,
“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”*

Luke 2:10-14 NRSVUE

CHAPLAIN'S BLESSING

The verses quoted from Luke 2 seem to shout out God's hope, love and grace; good news of great joy for all the people. The words proclaimed to ordinary folk, shepherds. Shepherds who were out in a field not expecting anything to be different. Shepherds who were just doing their job, possibly visiting with one another about their day, the weather. In the midst of their ordinary, not so special night, an angel appears with the words that not only changed their ordinary night into extraordinary but also the world's. The word that the Messiah was born—hope, love and grace! What a great beginning to a game changing ending! The birth that was the beginning of sins forgiven, death's defeat and life everlasting. WOW! The words spoken to the shepherds during their ordinary lives are spoken to us during our ordinary lives. In the midst of our day to day, God's words of hope, love and grace break into our world. The Messiah, the Lord has been born.

Looking back at the past year, it was easy to hear and see the words of hope, love and grace in the midst of everything at Bethany Village. Hope, grace and love were at the center of the great care given to the residents. The words were at the center of the day-by-day operations and upkeep of all Bethany Village. In the midst of the staff and resident's lives, hope, love and grace led the way. There were smiles, laughter, dancing, tears, all building up the community. The Holy Spirit led,

and, in the midst of the ordinary things, extraordinary things happened. The extraordinary things that can only happen when God's grace, hope and love abound!

In response to all the great things God did through and in the people of Bethany Village, we give God the praise. In the midst of the great staff and residents at Bethany Village, we give God the praise. In the midst of rejoicing that Bethany Village is here for people when they need it, we give God the praise. Celebrating the hope, love and grace, the good news of great joy, that angel brought to the Shepherds and to all of us, we join the chorus: Glory to God in the highest heaven and on earth peace among those whom he favors!

With a thankful heart, Merry Christmas
Ethan Feistner, Chaplain

Join us
FOR WORSHIP

December 24 - Christmas Eve Worship
Sunflower Terrace 1:00pm; Bethany Home 2:15pm
cookies and coffee to follow
December 25 - No Chapel services



2025 DONORS

PLATINUM LEVEL DONORS

\$5,000 and above

Verlla Coughenhour Trust

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Dennis & Martha Oakes

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Marcia Williams

Joel & Freda Woodard

Community Survey

What senior services are the most important to you? We would love to have your input on what the future of senior living looks like!

Bethany Village has been an innovative leader and is looking for the next step in expansion. Would you like to see more independent living for seniors? How about expanded options for home assistance? We want to hear what you think our community needs!

If you would like to visit in person or fill out a paper copy, contact Jennifer Cantrell at Bethany Home.



2025: Year in Pictures



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IN LOVING *Memory*



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Michael Bernstrom	Jane Grosland	Agnes Jennings	Ruth Nunemaker	Peggy Stewart
Doris Boller	Carolyn Hansen	Esther Jording	LeRoy Othling	LaDonna Stout
Ailene "Mickey" Bowie	Ingrid Harrison	Gloria Kahler	Arthur Panzer	Barbara Tanuis
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	Roger Hoeh	Landis "Lee" Larson	Lois Rundquist	Stewart Wright
		Craig Lilljegen	Katherine	Bonita Young
		Sarah Lindblad	Sommerfeld	Ruth Zier

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Romans 8:38-39**

