



LMH Beacon

Winter 2021 Edition

“To appreciate the beauty of a snowflake it is necessary to stand out in the cold.”

Aristotle

As some of you are aware, Marg Marcovecchio has announced her retirement after 32 years of service at our Home. In that time, she has provided excellent service and leadership to our Dietary and Housekeeping departments. She began her starting role here in 1989, was appointed Director of Dietary in 1998, and took on further responsibility to become Director of Dietary and Housekeeping in 2003. I would like to personally thank Marg for being an asset to the Senior Management Team and for the many moments of guidance she has provided during my own transition into our Home over the last couple of years. We wish her all the best as she plans and enjoys her retirement - it is very well deserved! Marg's last day in our Home was Tuesday, November 30th.

As Marg moves on, Tina Klassen is stepping into the role of Director of Dietary Services. Tina has worked in our Dietary department since the year 2000 and has been instrumental in developing and maintaining the excellent reputation we have for providing top-notch resident care. We are excited to have Tina join our Senior Management Team and using her vast amount of experience, dedication, and worth ethic to lead our Dietary Department. Tina's official start date as Director of Dietary Services was on Monday, November 15th. Our Housekeeping department will continue to fall under the leadership of Tena Brum as Housekeeping Supervisor, for which we are very grateful.

As hard as it can be to accept change, it's inevitable. Our Home has faced many changes over the last couple of years, and we will undoubtedly face more changes in the future.

Jeff Konrad
Administrator

What Did We Do This Autumn?



With September came a change in décor around our Home - a few of our LTC residents helped in planting fall mums in the front entrance, and a burst of reds, oranges, and yellows have brightened our common areas to get us in the autumn mood. Even though we've had some very nice early-autumn weather, our residents have been keeping busy indoors on chilly days, with puzzles, bingo, crafts, and sweet treats.

On September 30th, we recognized the first annual National Day for Truth and Reconciliation; staff and residents dressed in orange to show our support for the Aboriginal Peoples who have suffered in years past through our country's residential school program. Throughout October, we collected donations for Breast Cancer research - raising \$501.45 - and wearing pink on October 22nd to show our support. Thank you to everyone who participated!

All residents who were interested received their COVID-19 boosters and flu shots, and our staff are well on their way to receiving their boosters as well. We sent out our annual resident and family surveys at the beginning of November so that we can learn where our Home can improve and find out what you think we're doing right. Thank you to all the residents and their families who sent in a survey! Our staff members also participated in our annual mandatory staff education.

November is generally a month of remembrance: we took a moment of silence on November 11th to remember those who have fought for our country's freedoms, and we held our annual Memorial Service on November 17th, where we took time to remember the residents we have loved and lost over the last year. While we have taken the time to reflect on the past, we also want to look forward to the future.

New Faces

RR

Catherine Lafebber

LTC Floor 1

Ed Neufeld

LTC Floor 2

Robert Preston

Bill Stein

LTC Floor 3

Marie Dick

Helen Dick

Terry Misener

Sylvia Jette

Departed Friends

Therese Sleiman

September 11th

Frank Dyck

September 17th

Ken Wiper

September 17th

Gertrude Toews

September 19th

Elizabeth Gruenberg

October 3rd

Harry Riediger

October 12th

Margaret A. Tiessen

October 14th

Margaret D. Tiessen

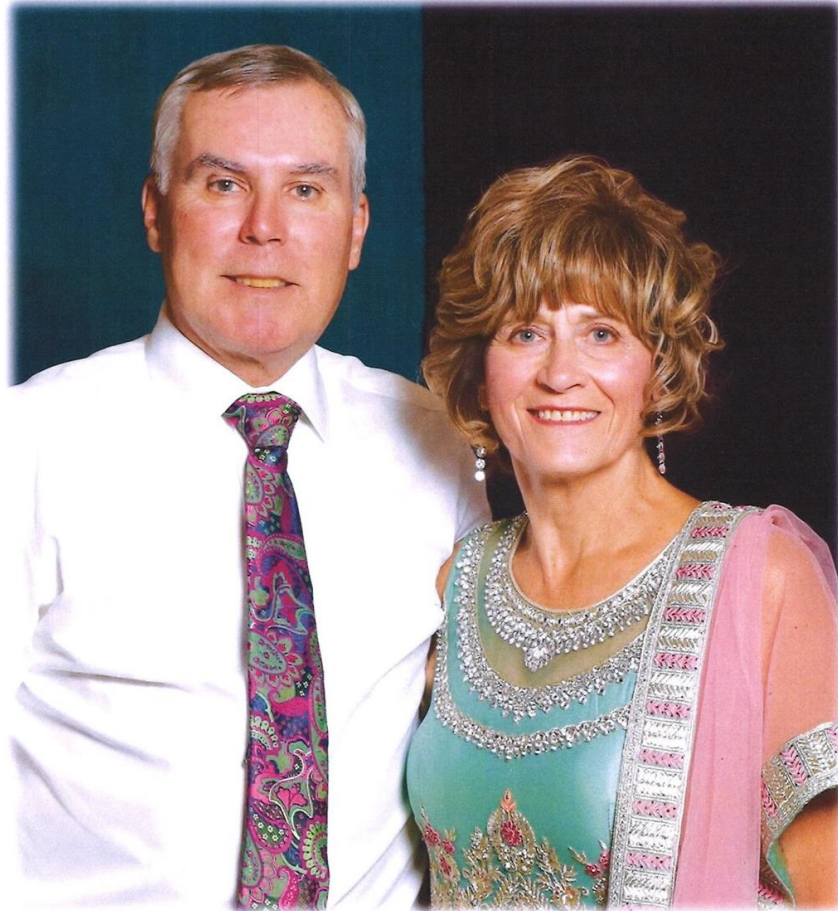
October 23rd

Aloena Irvine

November 7th

Irene Brown

November 19th



Evelyn Greenwood

Our hearts have been deeply saddened by the tragic news of Evelyn Greenwood's passing on September 6th.

Evelyn was well known to many at our Home. She was a significant part of our Home Rebuild Project back in 2005, an employee from 2008 to 2013, and has continued to be a dedicated volunteer who spent countless hours contributing to our annual Golf and Gala events, as well as keeping the flowers in our Courtyard looking beautiful during the spring and summer seasons.

May God grant peace and comfort to her family and friends as we mourn her passing and honour her memory.

Our Church Community



LUMC

October 14th - *Imagination Regional Gathering*, a time of deep listening and sharing together as we look at where God is calling us together as a regional church

November 10th - *LUMC Annual Meeting*

NLUMC

September 12th - *Church Picnic*

October 1st-31st - *Socktober*, Donations of new socks and underwear for The Bridge Youth Centre in Leamington

October 10th - *Thanksgiving Sunday Donations*, non-perishable goods accepted for donation to the Salvation Army Food Bank

Faith Mennonite Church

October 15th - *Melo Clinic & Pregnancy Centre Gala*, guest speakers Dr. Laura Lewis and Anne Waddell.

November 10th - *Annual General Meeting*

November 29th - *Community Meal*

Harrow Mennonite Church

September 4 - *Lunch Box Items Food Drive*, donations accepted for the Harrow Foodbank

November 27 - *Unbaked Apple Pie Fundraiser*

Meadow Brook Church

October 1st - *The Bridge Sleep Out*, our youth group participated to raise awareness of youth homelessness.

October 31st - *Light the Night*, community Halloween event.

November 14th - *Operation Christmas Child* collections finished

Deer Run Church

October 9th - *Thanksgiving Dinner*, meal pick up, served 628 meals in one hour.

October 17th - *Belize Camping Experience*, information night with Leah Perez.

November 21st - *Baptism and Membership Service*

November 28th - *Congregational Budget Meeting*



As expected, regulations have changed as the colder months arrived. These are our current visiting procedures for Long Term Care and Retirement as of October 13th.

- As we have implemented a Mandatory Vaccination Policy, all Staff, Contractors, Volunteers, and General Visitors coming into our Home must be fully vaccinated. As of October 12th, all of our active staff are vaccinated. Staff are required to be tested three times a week. Caregivers and Visitors are required to be tested at least once a week.
- Essential Caregivers who are unvaccinated are required to be tested upon every entry to the building. They are also required to wear full PPE - gown, face shield, and N95 mask. Fit testing for an N95 mask should be scheduled in advance prior to their first visit.
- All staff and visitors in the building must wear a medical mask throughout the duration of their shift/visit.
- All visits between residents and friends/families must be booked in advance by 2:00pm on the prior business day.
- There is no limit to how many visitors each resident can have at one time. There are, however, limits on how many people can be in one room at once (dependent on the size of the room). The standard right now is that no more than five people (including residents) can visit within a resident's room.
- Common rooms in both of our Homes can be booked for visits and shared meals among fully vaccinated residents and their families. These are arranged through the Front Office. Families are encouraged to bring in their own meals, as we will only provide meals from our Kitchen for parties of three or less (including the resident).
- Residents are allowed to leave the building for day and overnight visits. These must be arranged through the Front Office.



Winter 2021



*First Day
of Winter*

Tuesday, December 21st



*Christmas Fellowship Meal
Thursday, December 23rd*



**NEW YEAR'S
DAY!**

January 1, 2022



Family Day

Monday, February 21st

VALENTINE'S DAY

MONDAY,
FEBRUARY 14TH



Our next newsletter will be available at
the beginning of March



The Christmas season is upon us! We know that the pandemic restrictions have put a bit of a damper on the holidays, but we will do our best to make sure that the spirit of our Home remains as festive as possible.

Towards the end of November, we were lucky enough to have Charlotte Murray and Anna Herhalt volunteer to decorate the different areas of our Home for the holidays, and the RR Courtyard has been wonderfully lit up thanks to Judy Ferrari (Social/Recreation Director), Rick Ferrari (Maintenance), and Kris Lowes (LTC Ward Clerk). On November 29th, our RR residents were invited to participate in the official unveiling of the Courtyard lights, complete with hot chocolate and cookies.

Christmas Fellowship Meal

On Thursday, December 23rd, we will be having our Christmas Fellowship Meal of turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, and more. This meal will only be provided for residents and staff. We are hoping that our 2022 Christmas Fellowship Meal will be able to include families and our Complex as it had before the pandemic.

Holiday Room Reservations

Everyone wishing to book one of our common rooms for family get-togethers should do so as soon as possible. RR residents and their families may book the Craft Room, Berg Lounge, and JC Neufeld Auditorium, all of which currently have a 10-person capacity. LTC residents and their families may book the Lounge on their resident's floor, each with a 6-person capacity. Up to 5 people may visit in a resident's room. These capacities include the resident(s).

All in-house and off-site visits with our residents over the course of December 24th - January 3rd must be booked through the Front Office by Wednesday, December 22nd.



A word from our Chaplain

Waiting can be fun! Advent is waiting - it's counting down the days until Christmas and in all honesty, it's a fun time. I often think that we don't maximize this time of year. We are in such a rush to get ready for Christmas that we forget "getting-ready" is what Christmas is all about. It is getting out the decorations, getting presents wrapped, baking cookies, having friends over, caroling with the family, candle lit services, and Christmas concerts. Because we are doing all these things, the time until Christmas seems to fly by.

This year many of us will be able to embrace family again, and to see those whom we love might become the greatest Christmas gift of all. The depth of our love and our yearning to embrace will grow as we get closer to Christmas.

Maybe this year we will get a small glimpse of the overwhelming love God had for all people to send Christ - Immanuel, God with us - into our world, a light for all which cannot be overcome. Through all the darkness, we experienced that true light was and is present.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:1-3 NIV)

I wish you a joyous Advent and a Merry Christmas - God be with you!

-Rev. Cathrin van Sintern-Dick

Channel 398 Weekly Church Services

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>
9:45am LUMC				
1:00pm Catholic Mass				
	6:00pm Deer Run	6:00pm NLUMC	6:00pm Meadow Brook	2:00pm Faith Church



HAPPY NEW YEAR

2022

By gracious powers so wonderfully sheltered
and confidently waiting, come what may,
we know that God is with us night and morning,
and never fails to meet us each new day.

Yet are our hearts by their old foe tormented;
still evil days bring burdens hard to bear;
O give our frightened souls the sure salvation
for which, O Lord, you taught us to prepare.

And when the cup you give is filled to brimming
with bitter suffering, hard to understand,
we take it gladly, trusting though with trembling,
out of so good and so beloved a hand.

If once again, in this mixed world, you give us
the joy we had, the brightness of your sun,
we shall recall what we have learned through sorrow,
and dedicate our lives to you alone.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

1945



LTC Family Council

The Long Term Care Homes Act of the government of Ontario states that a Family Council be included in the legislation governing LTC Homes in Ontario.

The Leamington Mennonite Home has had an active Family Council in place for years. Our Family Council listens to all LTC residents and their families to ensure mutual support and encouragement for our resident loved ones. The Family Council strives to become knowledgeable about the Home's operations and we will address any resident concerns. We can be a united voice in recommending what residents would like to see done to improve the care or quality of life within the Leamington Mennonite Home.

We want all Long Term Care residents and their families to know that they can reach out to us at any time with any concerns or suggestions.

At present, our Family Council members are Sandy Brown, Cindy Cox, Jeff Dueckman, Brenda Fischer, Delores Klassen, Louise Tiessen, Ruth Warkentin, and Louise Wiens.

Brenda Fischer, Family Council Chair

519-890-8914

brefisch11@gmail.com



Wellness & Mobility Inc. works directly with the Leamington Mennonite Home as your Preferred Mobility Provider. We offer technical repair days every Thursday to service your walkers and wheelchairs, and free adjustments and labour are included on all repairs. In addition, we provide warranty work on any equipment regardless of original purchase location.

Wellness & Mobility is a fully funded Assistive Device Program (ADP) provider throughout Ontario. ADP can assist with 75% of the purchase price of your new equipment. We can assist with all the required paperwork for funding and provide free loaner equipment and delivery of the walker/wheelchair you require.

We have been serving Southern Ontario residents for the past 34 years. Our knowledge of the products available on the market to fulfil the needs of our customers is second to none. We work alongside government agencies and insurance companies to maximize the resources for funding available to our customers.

**Onsite Rep: Chris Shepley
519-563-9288**

Head Office: 800-220-1761

www.wami.ca



Meet your Neighbors

Long Term Care

Lawrence Woelk



Lawrence was born on September 20, 1957, in Leamington. He has two brothers and three sisters, one of whom is deceased. Lawrence was sixteen years old when a drunk driver ran into him - he suffered a brain stem injury which left him severely disabled. Visit him and share your stories with him! He enjoys playing chess and checkers and doing word search puzzles. Lawrence also likes watching *Wheel of Fortune* and *Jeopardy*. Lawrence moved into our Home in September 2008.

Linda was born on February 29, 1944, in Benpath, Lambton County. She grew up in Dresden with two younger brothers in her family. On June 29, 1963, she married her husband, Bill, who passed away in 1980. Linda worked for twenty years at the Leamington Home Hardware store and retired in 2007. Linda loves to read the daily newspaper and watch television game shows like *Let's Make a Deal* and *Jeopardy*. Linda is very thankful to be healthy and to be able to be up and walking. She has two daughters, one son, and four grandchildren that she loves very much. Linda moved into our Home in February 2010.

Linda Barnett



Retirement Residence

Ruby Baker



Ruby was born on February 10, 1935 at home in Mersea Township. She was the oldest of eleven children, with seven brothers and 3 sisters. As a young girl, she belonged to the *Salvation Army Girl Guides*. She met Len Baker in 1952 and they were married a year later. She worked seasonally at *Heinz* and at the *Leamington Lodge* while raising their four children. Ruby played drums in a local band for years and enjoys knitting, embroidery, and reading the Bible. She and Len have six grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Len passed away unexpectedly in March 2021, but Ruby still lives in our Retirement Residence, where she and Len moved in November 2012.

Keep Looking Up, Things Will Get Better! **By Elfrieda Neufeld**

Acres and acres of sunflowers - what a sight! Travelling through southern Manitoba, I was again overwhelmed by the sight of sunflowers raising their golden heads to the sun.

When the sun shines, the sunflowers raise their heads to meet its warmth. At sunset, they lose their contact and turn every which way.

Several weeks after my first husband's death, I came home from work feeling as low as I could get. I sat down to sort my mail: the usual bills, unending advertisements for grave markers, and one personal letter. I did not know if I could face one more *feel-sorry-for-you* kind of note.

The letter was from a friend who, through tragic circumstances, lost her husband several years before. Her short message to me was, "Keep looking up, things WILL get better."

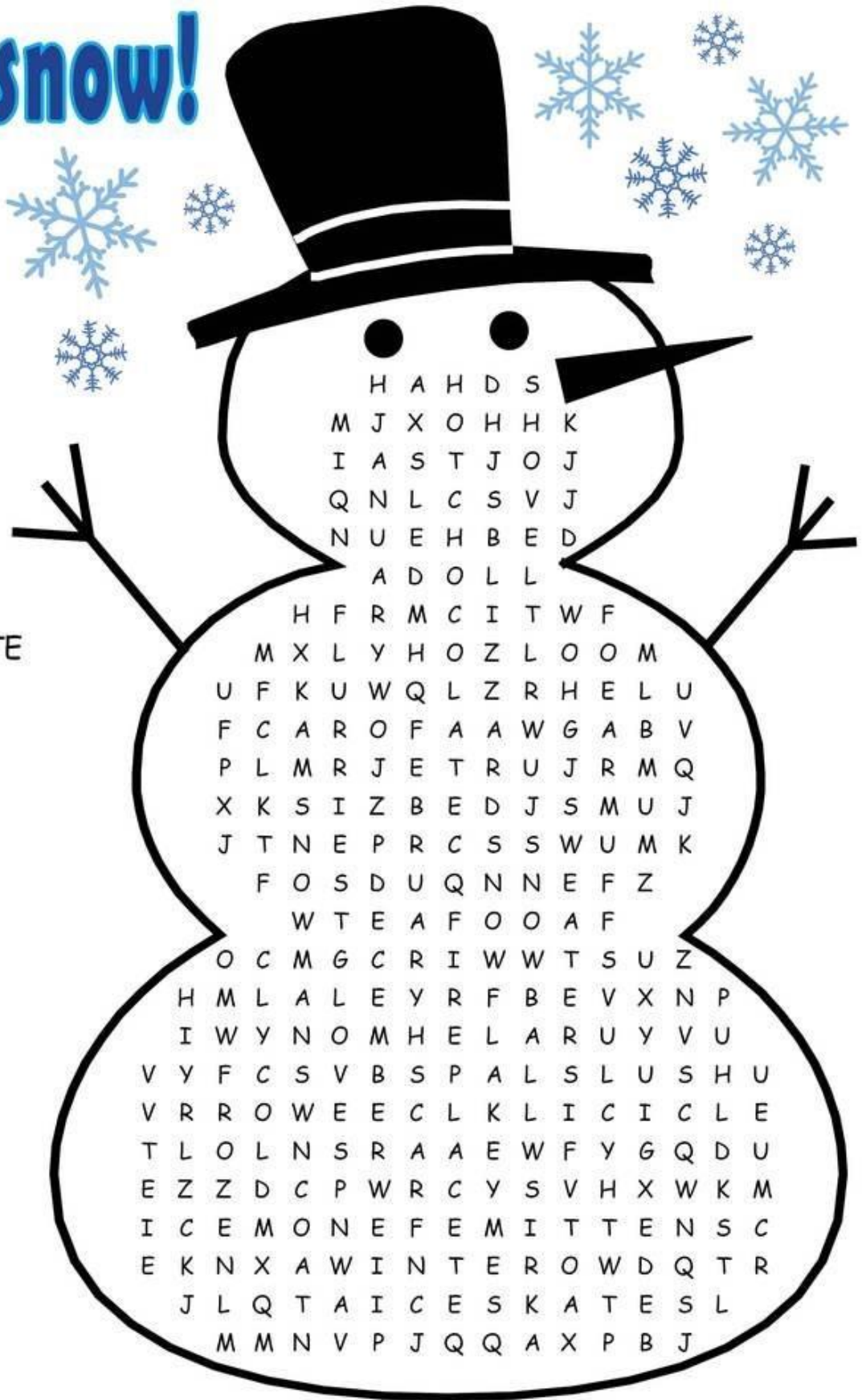
When we lose contact with God, as sunflowers with the sun, we turn every which way and are often thrust into the depths of despair. We need only to raise our heads and hearts to Him to regain complete communion with him.

Lord, help me to always keep looking up!



Let it snow!

BLIZZARD
COAT
COLD
DECEMBER
EARMUFFS
FEBRUARY
FIREPLACE
FLURRIES
FROZEN
GLOVES
HOT CHOCOLATE
ICE
ICE SKATES
ICICLE
JANUARY
MITTENS
SCARF
SHOVEL
SLED
SLUSH
SNOWBALL
SNOWFLAKE
SNOWMAN
SWEATER
WINTER



COLOR BY NUMBER

Directions: Use the color code to complete

blue = 7	orange = 9	green = 11
yellow = 8	black = 10	white = 12

