



# LMH Beacon

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## Winter 2024 Edition

***Spring passes and one remembers one's innocence. Summer passes and one remembers one's exuberance. Autumn passes and one remembers one's reverence. Winter passes and one remembers one's perseverance.***

**Yoko Ono**

The year 2025 will mark 60 years since the Leamington Mennonite Home first opened its doors at 22 Garrison Avenue. What started as a modest long-term care home has grown into a seniors complex with long-term care, assisted living, three apartment buildings, and an entire street of townhouses. We've come a long way since 1964, but not without difficulty. Different challenges have come our way, but we have persevered.

All this to say that things are always changing. We can't run from change, nor should we. Different changes help to shape our character and bring along personal growth. As things change both inside and outside of our LMH community, some things will stay the same, like our faith-centered values and our desire to provide excellent care for our residents. We have persevered for 60 years, and we will continue to persevere no matter what challenges come our way. We will adapt as required, but we will not lose sight of who we are at our core.

Jeff Konrad  
*Administrator*



# What did we do this Autumn?



## September



Open House for the New Chaplain  
 RR Walmart Shopping Trip  
 LTC Point Pelee Bus Trip  
 RR Trip to Thiessen's Apple Orchard  
 LTC Fall Crafts and Games  
 Birthday Party



### New Faces

RR  
 Abe & Susan Epp  
 Irma Janzen

LTC Floor 1  
 Ann Bishop

LTC Floor 2  
 Assunta Quadrini

LTC Floor 3  
 Margaret McRae  
 Dave & Betty Hamm



## October



LTC Thanksgiving Crafts

Retirement Party for CFO Irene Collard

LTC Pumpkin Painting

Halloween Staff Costume Contest



### Departed Friends

Edith Tiessen  
 September 7th

Dorothy Roberts  
 September 12th

John Natrass  
 September 12th

Edna Labelle  
 September 22nd

Johanna Dyck  
 October 5th

Margaret McRae  
 October 18th

Donna Latam  
 October 27th

Ana Palenkas  
 November 5th

Cory Boudry  
 November 25th

Withew Cummings  
 November 28th



## November



LTC Remembrance Day Crafts

RR Walmart

Timmies Tuesday

Minister of LTC Visit

Christmas Decorating

RR Colasanti's Trip



**Our current Activity Calendar is available on our website:  
[www.mennonitehome.ca/activity-calendars](http://www.mennonitehome.ca/activity-calendars)**

# **Thank you to our many supporters who came to our Fall Fundraiser!**



**A huge thank you to The Great Canadian Dueling Pianos for keeping our guests entertained all evening! Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets, sponsored our event, and those involved in the planning of the evening!**

**Our Home is very grateful for the \$71,000 raised, which is going towards the much-needed renovations in the Pickwick Apartments.**

# *In memory of those we have loved and lost...*

November 2023 - November 2024

## Long Term Care

Mary Jane Barnet  
Wilf Barnet  
Bill Berg  
Donna Brown  
Helen Dick  
Larry Dunmore  
Hermie Fennema

Helga Harder  
Edna Labelle  
Margaret McRae  
John Natrass  
John Neufeld  
Ana Palenkas  
Bob Preston  
Dorothy Roberts

Anne Saba  
Hilde Sawatzky  
Kurt Shcachowskoy  
Helene Stadler  
Doug Trimble  
Helena Wall  
Kay Whitfield

## Retirement Residence

Royce Campbell  
Johanna Dyck

Margaret Herhalt  
June Knopp

Donna Latam  
Henry Penner

## Complex

Thomas Hillman  
Bob Manery

Edith Tiessen  
Bill Willms

## Volunteers

Lynda Mastronardi

*Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.  
Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and  
you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.*

Matthew 11:28-30



# Minister of Health & Long-Term Care Visit

On November 16<sup>th</sup> we were honoured to welcome the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, Natalia Kusendova-Bashta, and our local MPP, Trevor Jones, to the Leamington Mennonite Home! We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our incredible staff for their tremendous effort in preparing our Home for this special visit; LMH truly shone that day!



# Church Family News



## LUMC

September 8<sup>th</sup> - September Kickoff, church-wide hotdog lunch and activities

October 5<sup>th</sup> - Harvest Gathering, at Henry & Alison Klassen's farm, including games, rides, bonfire, and food

October 6<sup>th</sup> - What Does a Sermon Do? learn simple preaching tools to enable listeners to hear the good news

October 13<sup>th</sup> and November 24<sup>th</sup> - Levite Choir, joining for the Sunday morning service

November 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> - Women's Retreat, at the Holy Family Retreat House

November 26<sup>th</sup> - Theatre Outing, trip to Petrolia to see Starbright Christmas

## NLUMC

September 8<sup>th</sup> - Potluck Lunch, in celebration of Education Sunday

September 21<sup>st</sup> - Annual Lightning Bolt, UMEI's 5-10k walk/run at Point Pelee

September 28<sup>th</sup> - Robotics Mini, coding and robotics day at UMEI for kids in grades 1-3

October 5<sup>th</sup> - Ride for Refuge, walk or bike ride to raise funds for refugees settling in our community, hosted by SECC

October 6<sup>th</sup> - Open House Celebration, for the Lebanese family who the church sponsored seven years ago, hosted by Fred & Linda Driedger

October 6<sup>th</sup> - Fish Fry Fundraiser, a family-friendly meal of perch, chicken

tenders, fries, baked potatoes, and more

October 11<sup>th</sup> - Pizza Night, at the Roma Club with the Community Building Team

October 13<sup>th</sup> - Membership Meeting, to review the updated NLUMC bylaws

October 18<sup>th</sup> - UMEI Alumni & Friends Trivia Night, at Crave Bar & Grill

October 30<sup>th</sup> - UMEI Annual Meeting

October 31<sup>st</sup> - Cherokee Home Church Gathering, to hang out and give out Halloween treats to trick or treaters

November 17<sup>th</sup> - Heart Song Sunday

November 26<sup>th</sup> - Seniors Christmas Social

### **Faith Mennonite Church**

September 11<sup>th</sup> - *Food for All Luncheon*, community fundraiser for the SWO Gleaners

September 15<sup>th</sup> - *Wild Church*

September 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> - *Camping*, a church family group camping weekend

September 21<sup>st</sup> - *Walk for Peace*, a walk to Seacliff Park with song and prayer for peace in Gaza

October 2<sup>nd</sup> - *Faith 2050*

October 18<sup>th</sup> - *Sleeping Out for the Bridge*, annual fundraiser

October 17<sup>th</sup> - *Carolinian Wild Church*

### **Deer Run Church**

September 22<sup>nd</sup> - *Baptism Classes start*

September 23<sup>rd</sup> - *Women's German Bible Study starts*

September 28<sup>th</sup> - *Women Rooted in the Word*, even for all women 18+

September 29<sup>th</sup> - *Worship Night*

October 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> - *Contending for the Faith in Today's Culture*, women's Bible study begins the book of Jude

October 13<sup>th</sup> - *Thanksgiving Banquet*

October 31<sup>st</sup> - *Family Fun Night*

November 3<sup>rd</sup> - *Membership Class*, for those who would like to become members of Deer Run Church

November 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> - *Living Abundantly*, coaching course by Pastor Annie Bergen

November 10<sup>th</sup> - *Membership and Baptism Service*

November 23<sup>rd</sup> - *Mana Dach*, German ministry event

November 24<sup>th</sup> - *Congregational Budget Meeting*

### **Meadow Brook Church**

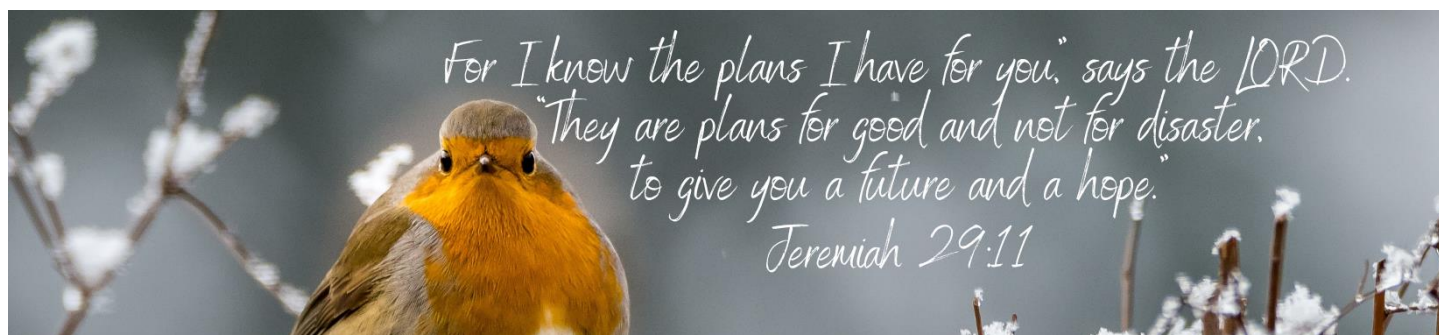
September 20<sup>th</sup> - *Refresh Conference*

September 29<sup>th</sup> - *Ministry Expo*, an opportunity to learn more about the ministry opportunities within the church

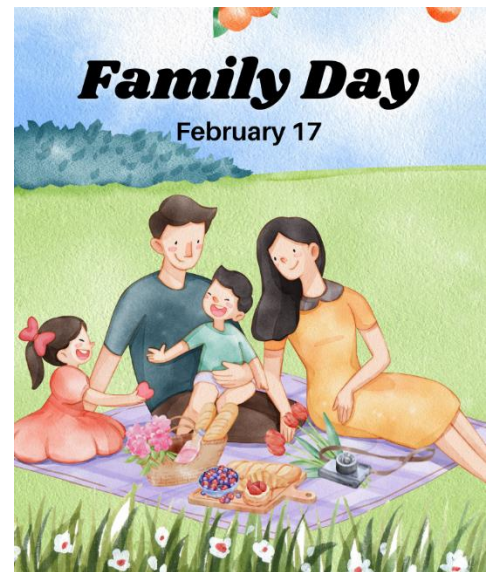
November 1<sup>st</sup> - *Samaritan's Purse Info Night*, about their International Disaster Relief

November 2<sup>nd</sup> - *Pathways*, class to get to know the church better and prepare for baptism

November 17<sup>th</sup> - *Samaritan's Purse Christmas Shoebox Deadline*, for Operation Christmas Child



# Winter 2024



Our next newsletter will be available at  
the beginning of March






# *It's the most wonderful time of the year!*

- Monday, Dec.2<sup>nd</sup> LTC - Christmas Lights Bus Tour @ 6pm
- Tuesday, Dec.3<sup>rd</sup> NLUMC Christmas Sing-Along @ 2pm  
RR - Christmas Lights Bus Tour @ 6pm
- Wednesday, Dec.4<sup>th</sup> Advent Service: Love @ 2pm  
RR - Gingerbread Decorating Contest @ 5:45pm  
LTC - Christmas Movie @ 6pm
- Saturday, Dec.7<sup>th</sup> RR - Christmas Movie @ 1:30pm  
Ruthven Church Children's Christmas Program @ 6:30pm
- Monday, Dec.9<sup>th</sup> Southshore School Christmas Program @ 9:15am  
LTC - Christmas Lights Bus Tour @ 6pm
- Wednesday, Dec.11<sup>th</sup> Advent Service: Joy @ 2pm  
RR - Piano Recital @ 6pm  
LTC - Christmas Movie @ 6pm
- Thursday, Dec.12<sup>th</sup> Windsor Symphony Quartet Performance @ 2pm  
RR - Christmas Lightstravaganza @ 6pm
- Saturday, Dec.14<sup>th</sup> A Christmas Card of Carols @ 1:30pm
- Tuesday, Dec.17<sup>th</sup> RR - Christmas Around the World @ 9:30am
- Wednesday, Dec.18<sup>th</sup> Advent Service: Peace @ 2pm  
LTC - Christmas Movie @ 6pm
- Thursday, Dec.19<sup>th</sup> RR - The Real Story of Christmas @ 9:30am  
Christmas Tractor Parade @ 5:15pm  
LTC - Christmas Lightstravaganza @ 5:30pm  
RR - UMEI Christmas Coffee Gathering @ 6pm
- Tuesday, Dec.24<sup>th</sup> LUMC Christmas Eve Program @ 6:30pm
- Wednesday, Dec.25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Stockings @ 8:30am  
LUMC Christmas Program @ 9:45am  
RR - Christmas Movie @ 5:30pm

**Check your placemats or screens in the LTC Dining Rooms and RR Lobby  
for date/time changes and locations**



In previous years we  
have asked that  
poinsettias not be  
brought into our Home  
due to staff allergies.

This is no longer an issue  
and we can once again  
allow poinsettias in the  
building.

Residents and their  
loved ones are now  
welcome to bring in  
poinsettias during the  
Christmas season if they  
wish.



# A word from our Chaplain

*In those days, a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. (Luke 2:1-5)*

The story of Israel is the story of an ongoing journey with God. Some of the more prominent journeys are those of Abraham and Sarah who traveled from Haran to Shechem in Canaan, the 40-year spell that the Jewish people spent in the Sinai wilderness, and the journey of Mary and Joseph who traveled from Nazareth to Bethlehem. When God calls, it seems, things are put in motion. There is no standing still. Following God's call is likened in the Bible to a journey with God, one that involves the elements of risk, courage, and trust.

Life itself is a journey that is filled with twists and turns along the way. As followers of Jesus, a life dedicated to God is not defined by standing still but being open to the call of God, wherever that may take us. Our faith assures us we never travel alone on that road.

As we enter the season of Advent, we are reminded that this too, is a journey we embark upon-- a time of traveling together in faith, hope, and love. Each of us brings unique experiences and gifts to this path, and as a community, we support one another along the way. Just as the wise men followed the star with steadfast hearts, we, too, move forward with the promise of Christ's light guiding us. This journey is not one we take alone; it is one of shared moments, encouragement, and a deep sense of belonging. May we, the staff and residents of The Leamington Mennonite Home, walk together with joy and anticipation, knowing that the destination is a celebration of God's greatest gift: the birth of His Son.

In Christ's peace,  
Anna-Lisa Salo  
Chaplain





# Discover Your Legacy

Our new Resident Legacy Coach will be available to assist residents who wish to document stories from their lives for their children, grandchildren or anyone, including themselves. These stories serve to facilitate looking back and seeing what residents' lives have meant to them, the wisdom they have gained, the practical skills they have learned, the mistakes they have made, the successes they have enjoyed, the origins of family traditions, and any philosophical or spiritual gems they have encountered. If you are interested in sharing your story or part of it, please let Linda Thiessen-Belch know.

Linda Thiessen-Belch



## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- Saturday, Nov.30<sup>th</sup>**      **Leamington Christmas Parade, Uptown Leamington**
- Sunday, Dec.1<sup>st</sup>**        **Christmas in the Country, John R. Park Homestead**
- Saturday, Dec.14<sup>th</sup>**    **Breakfast with Santa, Lakeside Park in Kingsville**
- Saturday, Dec.14<sup>th</sup>**    **Once Upon a Christmas - A Dance Theatre Production, The Capitol Theatre in Windsor**
- Saturday, Dec.21<sup>st</sup>**    **Winter Solstice Candle Labyrinth Event, Sprucewood Shores Estate Winery in Amherstburg**



# Meet your Neighbors

## Long Term Care

Anne Tiessen



**Anne** was born on July 20, 1922 in the Ukraine. Her family immigrated to Canada in 1926 and settled in Manitoba, moving to Ruthven two years later. Anne met her husband, Nick, while working on a farm and they were married on May 1, 1943. They lived in Point Pelee where they worked in the apple orchard for three years. They bought a farm on Mersea Road 5 where they grew a wide variety of crops. Anne enjoyed knitting, crocheting and sewing, and decorated beautiful wedding cakes for many brides. When Nick and Anne retired in 1995, they moved to Pickwick Drive. Nick passed away in 1999 at the Home. She moved into our Retirement Residence in July 2006 and into our Long Term Care Home in February 2018. Anne has four children, four grandchildren, and 10 great grandchildren.

**Elizabeth** was born on June 13, 1926 in Saskatchewan. Her parents immigrated from the Ukraine and she had three older siblings. She met her husband, Jake, at a party and they dated for a year before they got married in 1951. They lived in their home on highway 77 for 45 years and moved into the Pickwick townhouses in 2009 before moving into the Retirement Residence at the end of 2018. Elizabeth moved into the Long Term Care Home at the beginning of 2024.

Elizabeth Lehn



## Retirement Residence

Jake Lehn



**Jake** was born on February 26, 1927, in Southampton, England. He grew up in a farming family in Saskatchewan and moved to Leamington in 1949. He married Elizabeth in 1951. Jake was a welder and mechanic for the HJ Heinz Company for 35 years. He is a great storyteller and gifted at creating things. He built many miniature buildings, including a model of the farm he grew up on, LUMC, and NLUMC, which are displayed at the Heritage Centre. Jake and Elizabeth have three children, eight grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.



Jenny Boyde



**Jenny** has been part of the LMH staff since February 2006 and currently works as a Cook in our Kitchen. Her favourite things to make for our residents include homemade soups, bread and buns, and lasagna. she enjoys interacting with our residents every day.

Jenny grew up in Newfoundland and came to Leamington in 1997. Before working at LMH she spent four years as a Supervisor at Tim Hortons. Jenny has a full house at home - she and her husband have three children, one dog, one cat, and have hosted many foster children through the Children's Aid Society over the years. She enjoys spending time at her trailer at Leisure Lake in the summer, decorating her home for the different seasons and holidays, and hot tubbing and watching movies in the winter. She also works part-time at a private group home for mentally challenged adults.

**Elsie** has been part of the LMH staff since August 1989 when she was 17 years old. Most of those years have been spent working with residents as a Personal Support Worker, but in the last year or so she has taken on the role of Occupational Therapy Assistant. She appreciates the supportive team that helps her every day, and she loves helping our residents.

Elsie was born and raised in Leamington and moved to Kingsville after she got married. She and her husband, Paul, have three children - a son, Aaron, and twin daughters, Addison and Anissa. They also have two cats named Peanut and Theo. In her free time Elsie enjoys playing hockey, watching sports live or on TV, kayaking, and biking.

Elsie Leili



# Resident & Family Councils

All residents are invited and encouraged to attend and participate in the monthly **Resident Council** Meetings. Meetings, led by the Resident Chair, focus on resident preferences for activities, events, and programming. Resident services such as meals, personal care, housekeeping, and laundry are discussed and evaluated.

A **Family Council** consisting of LTC resident family members meets every three months to review resident services, care, and activities. The Family Council assists in the identification of needs, preferences, and projects for the Long Term Care Home.

The Leamington Mennonite Home has a Family Council consisting of resident family members who work to improve the lives of residents. The Council:

- Allows families to give each other ongoing mutual support and encouragement
- Handles group concerns
- Provides the opportunity to become knowledgeable about the Home's operations
- Advises or recommends what residents would like to see done to improve care or quality of life in the Home



*Jeff Blake*  
LTC Resident Council Chair



*Anita Janzen*  
RR Resident Council Chair



*Brenda Fischer*  
Family Council Chair

## Family Council Members

- |                  |                 |                |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Sandy Brown      | Ruth Driedger   | Brenda Fischer |
| Jennifer Fittler | Delores Klassen | Debbie Simpson |
| Louise Tiessen   | Ruth Warkentin  | Louise Wiens   |



STYLES TO LOVE.  
EASY TO WEAR.



**Silvert's**  
Adaptive Clothing & Footwear

Many residents who live in Long Term Care and Retirement Homes will require adaptive clothing at some point. You can find adaptive clothing at stores like Geri Fashions ([gerifashions.com](http://gerifashions.com)) and Solverts ([silverts.com](http://silverts.com)).

Adaptive clothing is apparel that has been designed for people who have difficulties dressing themselves due to age, disability or general lack of mobility. Common misconceptions of adaptive clothing is that it is only for people who are bound to a wheelchair, however anyone who is limited by traditional clothing can benefit from adaptive clothing.

Many seniors appreciate the ease and comfort that adaptive clothing can offer, such as open back shirts, extra wide slippers and shoes, easy snap pants, and wrap-around skirts and dresses for women.

For those managing health conditions such as ALS, cerebral palsy, Alzheimer's, arthritis, shoulder surgery recovery, edema, or hospital recovery, adaptive clothing can make a significant and appreciated difference in life quality simply by making dressing less difficult.

Adaptive clothing makes changing easier as it requires less mobility to adjust, remove and put on. These garments focus on keeping motion centralized and close to the body as opposed to stretching your arms, legs or back to adjust them. A primary benefit of adaptive clothing is that caregivers can more easily change clothing on an individual with low mobility.







**A REMINDER FOR  
RESIDENTS AND  
THEIR FAMILIES:**

**IF YOU ARE BRINGING A BIRTHDAY CAKE TO  
BE SERVED ON YOUR/YOUR LOVED ONE'S  
BIRTHDAY,**

**PLEASE NOTIFY OUR RECEPTIONIST  
([MELISSAGEBRAEL@MENNONITEHOME.CA](mailto:MELISSAGEBRAEL@MENNONITEHOME.CA))**

**OR OUR DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL &  
RECREATION SERVICES  
([JUDY@MENNONITEHOME.CA](mailto:JUDY@MENNONITEHOME.CA))**

**BY 2PM THE DAY PRIOR**

**THIS GIVES OUR DIETARY STAFF ENOUGH TIME TO  
PLAN ACCORDINGLY AND ENSURES THAT THE  
CAKE WILL BE SERVED AT YOUR DESIRED TIME**

**CAKES MUST BE DELIVERED BY  
9AM TO BE SERVED WITH LUNCH AND  
11AM TO BE SERVED WITH SUPPER**





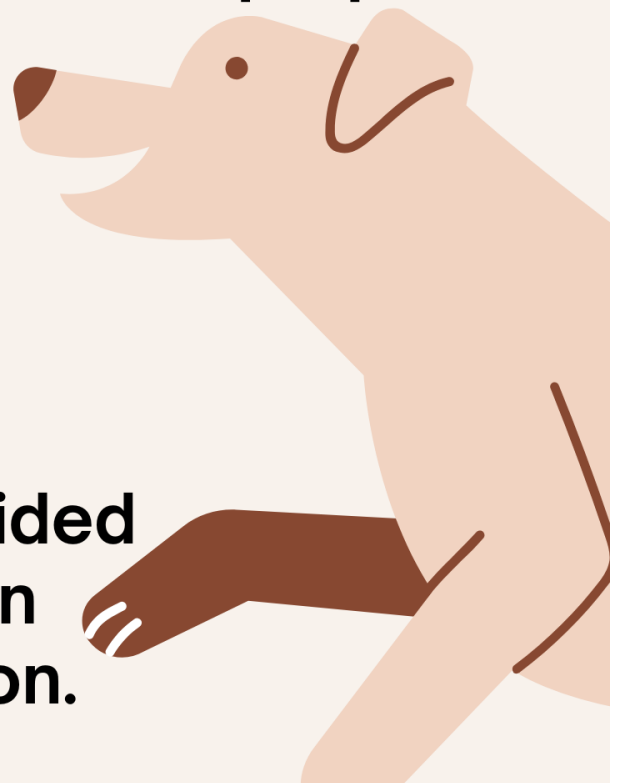
# **BRINGING A PET INTO OUR HOME?**

**The Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care requires all pets coming into our Home to be registered with our Front Office.**

**Pet owners must provide proof of the pet's vaccination on an annual basis for Infection Prevention & Control purposes.**

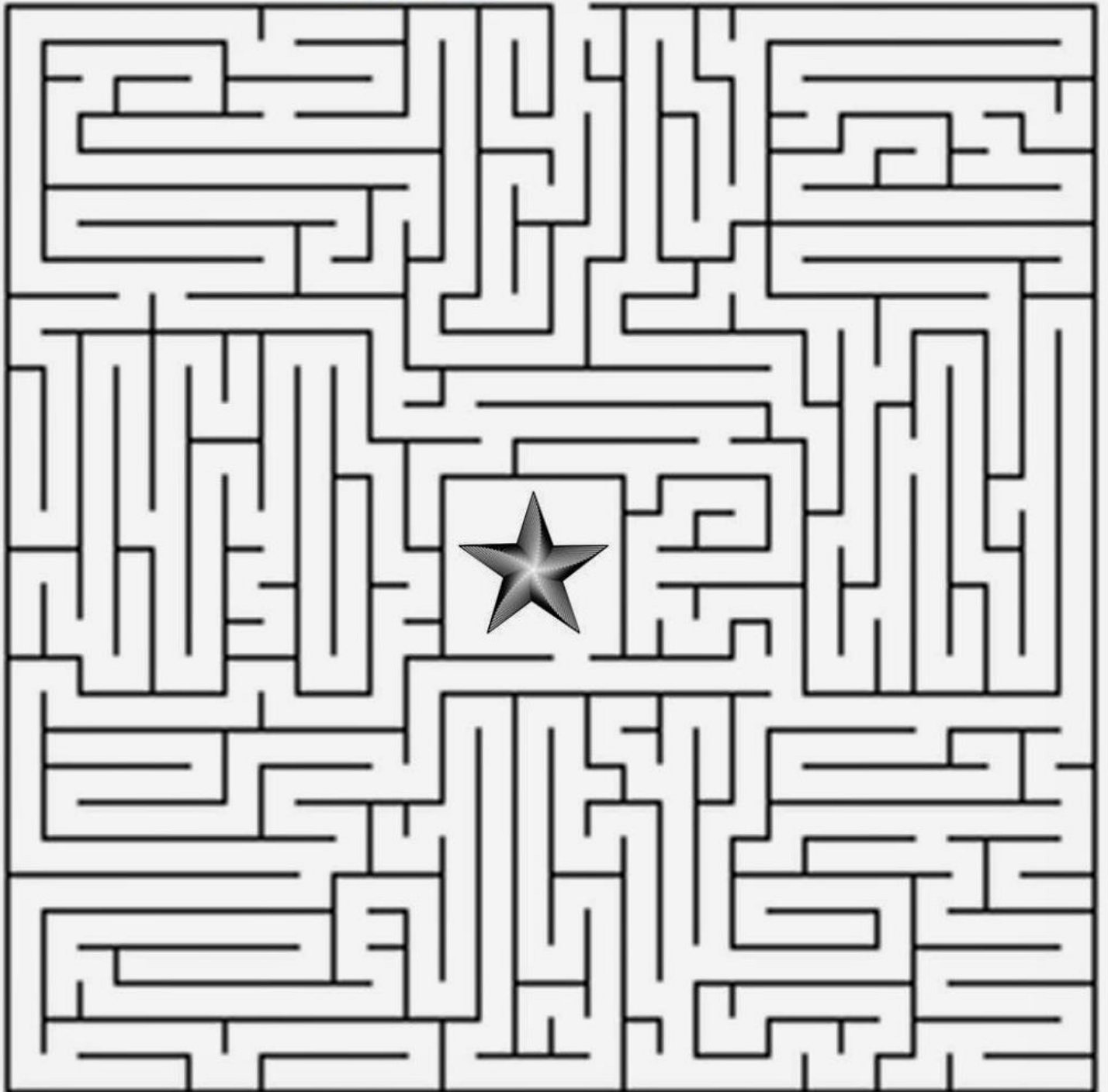
**Unregistered and/or unvaccinated pets will not be permitted in our building.**

**Pet owners will be provided with our Pet Visitation Policy upon registration.**



# Christmas Maze

Can you help the wise men follow the star to find Jesus?





# WINTER



K O A X M G U P N Q D S H O V E L C W F I T  
 Z B N I R E T A E W S O J S Y A D I L O H K  
 A J T Q H V I M O G T L B R N P X U G E F C  
 N T F S O L S T I C E G E I A H R B D L R X  
 S D E Z C U B N H L Y P V M F R T A Q W O P  
 L I B U K H F O A U P R T D I L S N E G Z O  
 W G R D E L C I C I M X A E P T O H T S E B  
 H I N F Y O K G L O V E S U M C R D I P N L  
 S R X I L B W S P H U F N T R K A E B J Q Y  
 C F P A D E C E M B E R O Z H B N G T A S N  
 A H T O G R Q H F T L I W V D A E K S N P A  
 R E K L W H A P U N O T S B G J C F O U I M  
 F C V B E K J O D X N Q H G L Y S W R A T W  
 M A S G U N E M B K G Z O P W I B Q F R L O  
 U L O K F T N H S W J B E C S A Z P V Y G N  
 E P D T I C G A E R O M S F L B K Z H C A S  
 Q E J H B I D U L T H N Y L G N I T A K S M  
 A R W O E P N B Z F N C S X J O H M U R V G  
 B I C L R M H G Q P S E K A L F W O N S D U  
 Y F S N V T E K C A J H D Q Z I P L X M B R

blizzard	frostbite	igloo	skating	snowman
December	frozen	jacket	skiing	snowshoes
February	gloves	January	sleigh	solstice
fireplace	hockey	longjohns	slippery	sweater
flannel	holidays	mitts	snowballs	toboggan
flurries	hot chocolate	scarf	snowboarding	whiteout
frigid	icicle	shovel	snowflakes	wintertime

