



# LMH Beacon

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## Spring 2022 Edition

**“The day the LORD created hope was probably the same day He created Spring.”**

**Bernard Williams**

On January 10<sup>th</sup>, we had our first resident test positive after nearly two full years of the COVID-19 pandemic. We were officially put into Outbreak status by the Windsor Essex Public Health Unit on January 14<sup>th</sup>.

In-room isolation started immediately for residents in Long Term Care, and tray service for all meals was initiated. Our Housekeeping staff resumed cleaning high-touch areas three times per day, and PSWs took this responsibility one time per night shift. All staff and Caregivers on the third floor (where the spread started) were required to wear gowns and face shields, and all staff and Caregivers switched to N95 masks instead of Level 2 surgical masks. Full PPE requirements eventually spread to all floors as more residents began to test positive.

The total positive case count totalled seven in Long Term Care (six on third floor, one on first floor) and two in the Retirement Residence. Of these, three residents had received four doses of COVID-19 vaccine, three had received three doses, and one had received no doses and required hospitalization for a period. Our Outbreak status was lifted on February 5<sup>th</sup>.

As disappointing as it has been to have our streak ended, it's an incredible feat that we made it as long as we had without any positive cases among our residents. Thank you to all the staff who did what was required to get through the Outbreak and thank you to our residents and their loved ones for continuing to be patient while visits were further restricted. We hope that this will be the only time that any of our residents contract COVID-19 and look forward to the pandemic being over.

Jeff Konrad  
*Administrator*

# What did we do this Winter?



We started off our holiday season with a Christmas Singalong in our Retirement Residence that was put on by Pastor Alicia Good and others from NLUMC. Residents gathered in the Dining Room for an hour of classic carols and reflection on the hope that Christmas brings. Retirement residents also had a visit from *Crazy Raisy*, who provided a wonderful afternoon of musical entertainment.

In lieu of poinsettias, our Ladies' Auxiliary generously donated Christmas cactuses for each of our residents to enjoy. Residents also received homemade Christmas cards from students at Gore Hill Public School and Cardinal Carter Secondary School.

Right before Christmas, a local group of farmers decorated their tractors with a beautiful display of Christmas lights and treated our residents to a miniature Christmas parade in front of our Retirement Residence and Long Term Care Home.

Our Long Term Care residents made a variety of treats and winter crafts, including snowman paintings, Santa ornaments from popsicle sticks, cupcakes, chocolate pretzels, and marshmallow snowmen.

Nearly four full weeks of Outbreak put a damper on our daily activities, but we were glad to have musical guests, crafts, and games added to our schedules once again as Valentine's Day got closer. We are very glad to return to "normal" after having been in Outbreak.

While winter brings glistening snowy scenes and holiday cheer, we're anxious for the sun spring weather to come once again!

## New Faces

RR

Alfred & Jessie Mathies  
Anita Janzen

IJC Floor 1

Hermine Fennema  
Bruce Rice

IJC Floor 2

Kathy Quiring

IJC Floor 3

John Coulter  
Ken Chadwick  
Dorothy Roberts  
Jim Mastronardi

## Departed Friends

Rose Warkentin  
December 1st

Maria Krahn  
December 7th

John Coulter  
January 6th

Helen Teigrob  
January 16th

Agnes Tiessen  
January 19th

Dinah Friesen  
January 30th

Maria Mendonca  
February 4th

Mary Anne Fischer  
February 7th

Margaret Driedger  
February 27th

# Spring 2022



Our next newsletter will be available at the beginning of June



As a faith-based organization, our Home believes that Easter and the days of recognition before and after are about more than the beginning of spring, the Easter bunny, and eating a lot of chocolate. We take this time of year to remember the sacrifice that Christ made for all of mankind and his resurrection, reflecting on what that means to the Church. As God loves us so deeply, let us extend that love to those around us, especially in this dark and difficult time of COVID-19. He has given us grace, so let's extend grace to one another.

### **Easter Fellowship Meal**

On Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, we will be having our Easter Fellowship Meal of ham, scalloped potatoes, mixed veggies, and more. This meal will only be provided for residents and staff. We are hoping that our 2023 Easter Fellowship Meal will be able to include families and our Complex as it had before the pandemic.

### **Meal Sharing and Room Reservations**

Unfortunately, we are still unable to accommodate shared meals among residents and their families within our Home. We encourage all residents who are able to leave the premises to participate in family gatherings to do so while keeping health and safety measures in mind. Please notify the Front Office of your Easter holiday visits (both inside and outside of the Home) by Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> to ensure that you are on our visiting schedule.

**Office Closed**

**Good Friday | Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>**

*Happy Easter!*

From the Leamington Mennonite Home



Our COVID-19 safety measures changed rapidly throughout the winter months due to the introduction of the Omicron variant and our four weeks of Outbreak. These are our current visiting procedures for Long Term Care and Retirement and the anticipated changes in the near future:

#### **AS OF FEBRUARY 21<sup>ST</sup>**

- General visitors aged five years and older who have had at least two doses of COVID-19 vaccine will be able to resume visits within the Home.
- The number of visitors at a time per resident room will increase to three, including Essential Caregivers.
- All residents regardless of vaccine status will be able to resume social day trips.
- Residents who have had at least three vaccine doses will be able to enjoy overnight social absences.

#### **AS OF MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup>**

- General visitors under five years old will be able to resume visits.
- Staff and Essential Caregivers are required to have three vaccine doses.
- The number of visitors at a time will increase to four per resident room.
- All residents regardless of vaccination status will be able to enjoy social overnight absences.

Testing and PPE requirements for staff, Caregivers, and visitors continue to be in place. We will do our best to keep residents and their loved ones updated as per changes to the Ministry of Health and Public Health Unit visiting regulations.

# Our Church Community



## LUMC

January 23<sup>rd</sup> - *Virtual Foyer Conversation with Finance Committee*

February 23<sup>rd</sup> - *Incubators*

## NLUMC

January 9<sup>th</sup> - *Baptism Service & Communion*

January 16<sup>th</sup> - *Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday*

January 23<sup>rd</sup> - *Annual General Meeting*

## Faith Mennonite Church

December 5<sup>th</sup> - *Christmas Baking by Jr. Youth*, fundraiser for Camp Valaqua trip

December 7<sup>th</sup> - *Essex Cluster Christmas Party*

December 11<sup>th</sup> - *Faith Christmas Party*

December 18<sup>th</sup> - *Christmas Under the Stars Nativity Service*, prayer and Christmas carols around the fire

January 29<sup>th</sup> - *Annual Congregational Meeting*

January 31<sup>st</sup> - *Community Meal*

February 15<sup>th</sup> - *Take-out Chili Fundraising Lunch*

February 21<sup>st</sup> - *Community Meal*

## Meadow Brook Church

December 18<sup>th</sup> - *Community Meal Christmas Baking*, last day to include baked goods

December 19<sup>th</sup> - *Baptism Sunday*

December 26<sup>th</sup> - *Online Pancake Breakfast*

December 31<sup>st</sup> - *Food Drive ends*

January 19<sup>th</sup> - *Vision Sharing Night*

February 15<sup>th</sup> - *Annual General Meeting*

## Deer Run Church

December 7<sup>th</sup> - *Women's Praise & Prayer Night*

January 30<sup>th</sup> - *Congregational Reports Meeting*

February 24<sup>th</sup> - *Work as Worship Workshop*

For where two or three  
gather in my name, there  
am I with them.

Matthew 18:20



# A word from our Chaplain

*Proverbs 3:5-6 says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."*

*What a wonderful promise from God. Getting through the troubles and trials we face, is as simple as trusting in the Lord. Oh, who am I kidding. There are still times in my own life when I get overwhelmed, stressed out, and battered by life, and I'm tempted to trust in myself rather than trust in the Lord. My impatience with God during these hard and confusing times is ultimately what gets the ball rolling in the wrong direction, and in the end, I find myself more frustrated, angry, bitter, and confused than I was before.*

*These verses call me to trust God with all my heart and to not lean on my own understanding. When I trust Him with all my heart, I am trusting him with everything, even his timing. Trusting the Lord means that I will wait patiently for him to work out the plan and purpose he has put into motion. If that means I don't understand in the moment, that's ok. God will reveal everything to me in his perfect timing.*

*I love how John Piper puts it:*

*God is always doing 10,000 things in your life, and you may be aware of three of them... Not only may you see a tiny fraction of what God is doing in your life; the part you do see may make no sense to you.*

*The reality is that I don't know all the glorious things God is doing in and through my circumstances. I have to learn to trust that God is at work every day, doing good even when I can't see it.*

Lowell Froese  
Chaplain

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In December, Reverend Cathrin van Sintern-Dick officially announced that she would be leaving her position as Chaplain at our Home, her last day being December 31<sup>st</sup>. We are grateful for the time and effort that Cathrin has put into providing our residents with spiritual guidance over the course of the six years that she has spent here. Of course, we wish her well in the next phase of her life.



# Meet your Neighbors

## Long Term Care

Maria Amelia



Maria was born in 1925 in Sao Miguel Acores, Portugal. She immigrated to Canada in her late sixties and had three brothers and three sisters in her family. She married her husband in 1943 and he passed away in 1983. Maria worked as a maid, as a seamstress, and for many years she worked at the tea and beer brewery on the island where she was raised. She loves knitting, crocheting, sewing, completing crosswords, and attending social events. She enjoys all church functions in any language.

Her favourite thing is to be surrounded by family and friends and she enjoys Portuguese music of any kind. Maria has four daughters, one son, and many grandchildren and great grandchildren. She moved into our Home from her Pickwick Apartment in April 2010

## Retirement Residence

Marina was born August 15<sup>th</sup>, 1936 in Drake, Saskatchewan to Isaac and Annie Dyck. She was her mom's number one helper as five younger siblings came along and she was her father's "right hand man" on the family farm, often driving the grain truck and tractor.

Marina married Henry Lepp on June 24<sup>th</sup>, 1961, and they settled into their home on the Lepp family farm in Harrow, which they eventually purchased along with Henry's brother and sister-in-law. Henry and Marina raised three children: David, Gerald, and Sharon. It wasn't until her children were finishing high school that Marina went back to school to pursue her career goal in Nursing, graduating with her RNA Diploma in 1983. Marina worked in several Nursing Homes in Essex County before retiring.

After being married for 40 years, Henry and Marina moved off the family farm. About ten years later, they moved into Leamington Mennonite Home, where Henry passed away in 2016. He is greatly missed, but Marina is very loved by her three children their spouses, twelve grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren.

Marina Lepp







# LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE

## ??? Well, Why Not? ???

After Sunday school, a mother told her small daughter that the Bible says Jesus will return to the earth someday.

"When is He coming back?" the daughter asked.

"I don't know," the mother replied.

"Can't you look it up on the Internet?" the girl asked.

Jeff Totten

## Tough Love

A little girl wrote to God: "Dear God, is it hard to love everybody in the whole world? There are only five people in my family, and it's hard to always love them."

Lilli Vorse  
Council Bluffs, Iowa



## Grandma's Fun

At the funeral of a grandmother, family members were asked to place something of sentimental value inside the casket. A little girl wrote this note in the casket: "Dear Grandma, I hope you're having a lot of fun in heaven with God."

Pastor Dick Dinges



## You Asked for It!

On Easter Sunday, Rev. Karl R. Kraft of the First United Methodist Church of Mantua, New Jersey, walked through the congregation giving them an Easter "pep talk."

The pastor invited the congregation to sing and shout out whatever they felt would make them joyful on Easter, such as "Praise the Lord!" or "Thanks be to God!"

A small preschool boy shouted: "I want to go home!"



## Science Exam



Actual answer on a children's science exam:

Question: How do you keep milk from turning sour?

Answer: Keep it in the cow.



Submitted by Gert Wiens (RR)



## *Life Begins at 90*

Life really gets going at 90!

I have good news for you - the first 90 years are the hardest, and the second 90 are a succession of birthday parties. Once you reach 90, everyone wants to carry your baggage and help you up the steps. If you forget your name or anybody else's name, or an appointment, or your own telephone number, or promise to be three places at the same time, or can't remember how many grandchildren you have, you need only to explain that you are 90.

Being 90 is a lot better than being 80. At 80, people are mad at you for everything. At 90, you have a perfect excuse, no matter what you do. If you act foolishly, it's your second childhood. Everybody is looking for symptoms of softening of the brain. Being 80 is no fun at all. At that age, they expect you to retire in Arizona or Palm Springs, to have a house in Florida and complain about your arthritis (they used to call it lumbago), and you ask everyone to stop mumbling because you can't understand them (actually your hearing is about 50% gone).

If you survive until you are 90, everybody is surprised that you are still alive. They treat you with respect just for having lived so long. Actually they seem surprised that you can walk and talk sensibly. So please folks, try to make it to 90. It's the best time of your life, people forgive you for everything.

If you ask me, life begins at 90!

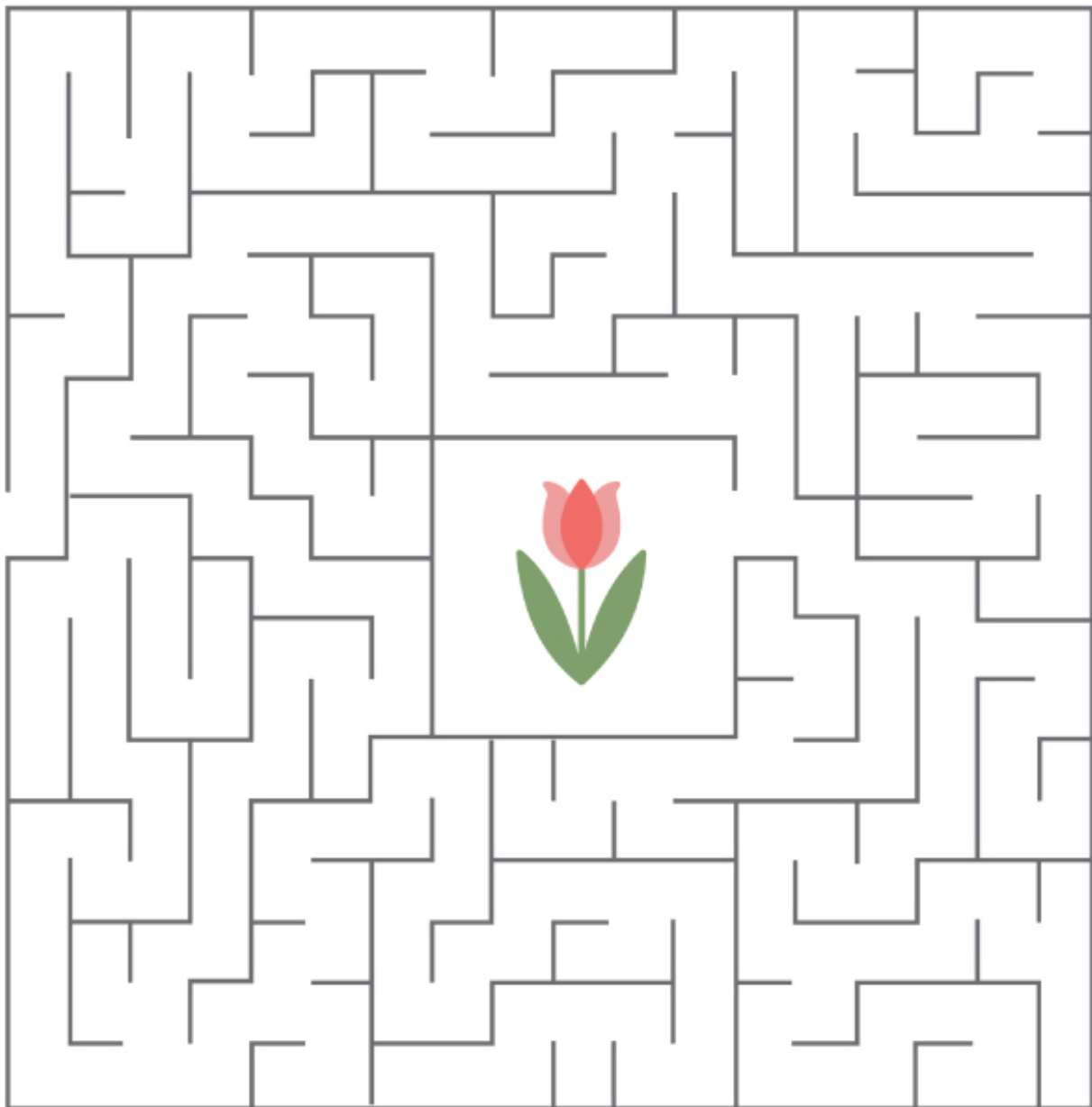
Submitted by Carolyn Coad (RR)

# SPRING MAZE

Find your way through the maze to reach  
the flower in the center.

*Happy Spring!*

START HERE





# SPRING



## Word Search

Search for the twelve Spring themed words below.

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

APRIL  
BIRDS  
BLOOM  
BUNNY

BUTTERFLY  
FLOWERS  
GARDEN  
MAY

RAINBOW  
SPRING  
SUNSHINE  
WARM