



Methodist Homes of Alabama &  
Northwest Florida  
1520 Cooper Hill Road  
Birmingham, AL 35210  
(205) 951-2442

[www.methodisthomes.org](http://www.methodisthomes.org)

# Methodist Homes News

A Publication of Methodist Homes of Alabama & Northwest Florida

## Methodist Homes Communities

### Housing & Health Services

#### Fair Haven

Birmingham, AL (205) 956-4150

#### Wesley Place on Honeysuckle

Dothan, AL (334) 792-0921

#### Wesley Gardens

Montgomery, AL (334) 272-7917

#### Mathison Retirement Community

Panama City, FL (850) 215-4663

#### Wesley Haven Villa

Pensacola, FL (850) 434-1035

#### Haven Our Lady of Peace\*

Pensacola, FL (850) 436-5900

### Affordable Housing

(Section 8 / Tax Credit)

#### Wesley Acres & Wesley Acres II

Decatur, AL (256) 355-8281

#### Wesley Apartments

Anniston, AL (256) 237-4371

#### The Epworth House

Selma, AL (334) 875-6450

#### Wesley Glen

Decatur, AL (256) 355-8281

#### Wesley Park Apartments

Anniston, AL (256) 741-8666

#### Wesley Scott Place

Pensacola, FL (850) 437-1400

\*Joint venture operated by Sacred Heart Health System / Ascension Health.

[methodisthomes.org](http://methodisthomes.org)



Facebook.com/FairHavenBirmingham  
Facebook.com/WesleyPlaceDothan  
Facebook.com/WesleyHavenVilla  
Facebook.com/Wesley-Gardens-Retirement-Community  
Facebook.com/MathisonPanamaCity

## DOTHAN

### Letter To Grandma

"A life so long, so full."

A grandson named Neal living in a different state from his "Grandma" sent her a touching note opening his heart, describing memories, and reminiscing about the influence she has had in his life. A pillar in her family, Jean Ray celebrated her 103rd birthday this summer at Wesley Place on Honeysuckle (Dothan), and passed away on Oct. 27, about a week after receiving this letter. The letter is pictured at right, and what follows is the text of Neal's beautiful prose within. We hope you find this timely tribute as moving as we do.

GRANDMA  
(Jean C. Ray)

A life so long, so full.

A century of personal history that skipped along to the extremes of the world around you. One astonishing story after another. And my fondest memories of you came when my youth had me ignorant of it all. I just knew you, as grandma.

You had me riveted to your every word. Advice. Stories. Instruction. My summers in Lake Geneva passed in slow motion. Until I went to 'Gram's', and I would lose track of time. Treasuring the economy of all, relics with stories, harvest bounty, recycled magic. The creative spirit and gusto that spot-lights the joy of life is a gift few experience. But I expected such with every arrival at 'Gram's'.



Jean C. Ray in photo of original letter.

I am sorry I have dropped away with time, as many in your life have. Life is cruel that way. But you are with me, in me. I have so many fond memories. You were my lighthouse so often in my youth. I owe you forever love.

I have photos that are slices of your life, unstaged, in action. My favorite kind. All the life you kindle, your beauty, inside and out, on display. I am so proud to be a part of your heritage. I feel part of your lineage. You have always taken great pride in your family.

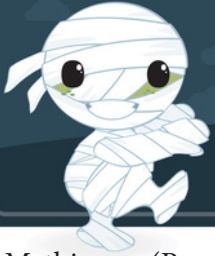
Everybody has a grandma. Everybody loves their grandma, and they should. But you are a sacred treasure that has stirred the soul of those of us who follow. Thank you for that. Thank you for you.

May the blessings of God's love lead you to peace and eternal gratitude. - Neal





## PANAMA CITY



## A Spoooooooktacular Halloween Party

Mathison (Panama City) residents enjoyed games and door prizes at their Halloween Party! There were 60 kindergartners who came through the hallways to trick or treat! Pictured: **Deck Hull** showed us that he was not frightened at all by the inflatable haunted house, and **Betty Day** tried on a new candy 'eye'.



## MONTGOMERY



## IRON BOWL '22

No matter who won the game, the residents at Wesley Gardens (Montgomery) are winners in our book! The Iron Bowl Tailgate Party was full of spirit, snacks and great door prizes! Pictured left are **Rev. Leonard Schultz** and **Mary Jo Barnes**.

## PENSACOLA

## Giving Thanks

Wesley Haven Villa (Pensacola) welcomed family members and friends for our annual Family Thanksgiving Dinner.



We also welcomed and gave thanks for our new administrator **Tess Helton**, who joined our team following the retirement of **Jennifer Colley**. Pictured above with her granddaughter, Tess began her career in 2005 in Ocean Springs, Mississippi, where she fell in love with older adults. She progressed through the ranks, and became a licensed assisted living administrator in 2012. Tess's last assignment before joining our team was leadership of a 96-unit memory care community. She is thrilled to be working on the independent and assisted living side of senior living once again.





## DOTHAN

## A Brave Adventure

Residents from Wesley Place on Honeysuckle (Dothan) visited Landmark Park in November and took in an immersive movie in the planetarium. In *Dynamic Earth*, the audience rides along on swirling oceans and wind currents, dives into the heart of a monster hurricane, comes face-to-face with sharks and gigantic whales, and flies into roiling volcanos! Pictured left to right: **Cindy Johnson, Bernard Dobson, Carolyn Godwin, Kay Brown, and Kitty Brasell.**



## SELMA

## Thanksgiving With Our “Family”

The Epworth House (Selma) family was happy to spend time together for Thanksgiving enjoying turkey, dressing, and all the trimmings. Pictured left to right: **Linda Sanders, Ronald Dixon and Earl Evans, and Ilean Ward with Gloria Varner.**



## PENSACOLA

## Local High School Brings Early Christmas



Members of Pensacola's Catholic High School Chorus visited Wesley Scott Place (Pensacola) to sing Christmas carols for and with the residents on December 5th.

## BIRMINGHAM

## Annual Tree Lighting



The Christmas Tree Lighting is a warm tradition at Fair Haven (Birmingham). The **Surprise Package Quartet**, a part of Harmony Hills Chorus Sweet Adelines, brought the sweet sounds of Christmas. Residential Administrator **Earnestine Thompson** spoke about the history of the tree lighting, and **Chaplain John Garwick** read the Christmas Story. Residents enjoyed the winter drinks of egg nog and cider with their cookies, cheese straws and chocolate-covered strawberries.

## Fair Haven Gift Shop



If you're in the Birmingham area, make the Fair Haven Gift Shop a part of your shopping stops! The gift shop is run by volunteers, and is open from 1:00-3:00 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.



Our heartfelt thanks to all  
of our donors and friends.  
*Gifts received through  
Dec. 13, 2022*



### CHURCHES & CHURCH AFFILIATES

Alabama-West Florida Conference  
Alabama-West Florida Foundation  
Altha UMC *Altha*  
Broadhead-Cloud - Frazer Free MC  
Central UMC *Decatur*  
Covenant Class - Canterbury UMC  
North Alabama Conference  
Pollard UMC *Flomaton*  
Red Ridge UM Women *Dadeville*  
Rescue UMC *Union Grove*  
Skipperville UMC *Skipperville*  
Society Hill UMC *Notasulga*  
Stewart UMC *Moundville*

### INDIVIDUALS and ORGANIZATIONS

ALL OUR FAMILIES and RESIDENTS  
for their ASSOCIATE CHRISTMAS and  
HOLIDAY FUND DONATIONS

W. Bruce Akins  
Jerri Blumenthal  
Annie R. Beverett Memorial Trust  
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Elizabeth McKee Huber  
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Regina T. Lawler  
Martin #2 Trust  
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Doug & Carol Taylor  
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Judith Wilks-May  
William H. Wood, Jr.  
Faye Wynn

### Tribute Gifts IN HONOR OF

Elizabeth McKee Huber  
By Frances Huber & Little Farm  
Foundation  
Robert L. McKee, III  
By Frances Huber & Little Farm  
Foundation  
Margaret Smith  
By Robert Daniel

### Tribute Gifts IN MEMORY OF

Frances Agee  
By James Agee  
Merle Bare  
By George A. Boyce  
Anthony F. Bonderer  
By M/M Clifford Lee Lipford, Jr.  
Brenda Smith Englebert  
By Barbara B. Anders  
Sarah K. Fulmer  
By Virginia A. Boone  
By Church of God *Helena*  
By Lynda Kenney  
By Rev. Fred B. Lunsford  
By Beverly S. Lunsford  
By Dan G. Lunsford  
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By James & Betty Salter  
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By Mike Giles  
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By Robert L. McKee, III & Methodist  
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Clyde "Bud" Precise  
By Robert L. McKee, III  
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By Chaplain Lindy L. Seals  
Mary Margaret Tomlin  
By W. Bruce Akins  
By Jerri L. Blumenthal  
By Richard & Devonne Ellis  
By Fair Haven Auxiliary Gift Shop  
By Mark & Julie Fly  
By Ann & Jordan Gervin  
By Randy Hill  
By Roger Hill  
By Shirley & Jerry Leader  
By Robert L. McKee, III & Methodist  
Homes Board of Trustees

Mary Margaret Tomlin (*con't*)  
By Robert L. McKee, III  
By Laura & Scott Russell  
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By Tommie Thompson  
By Sam Williamson

\*\*\*

## YEAR-END GIVING

Please make Methodist Homes a  
part of your year-end giving plan. Mail  
gifts to [Methodist Home for the Aging](#),  
1520 Cooper Hill Rd, Birmingham,  
AL 35210. Or scan the QR CODE to  
give securely online. Thank you!



## LEGACY GIVING

In addition to the valuable support  
of our donors to the *Fountain of Love*,  
and to other projects and programs  
at Methodist Homes, Legacy Giving  
is another way to make a significant  
difference. Let your estate planner  
know how much you would like to give,  
and direct that the gift will be made  
to [Methodist Home for the Aging](#),  
1520 Cooper Hill Rd, Birmingham,  
AL 35210. For more info, call Sherri,  
Director of PR at 205-951-2442.





## ANNUAL REPORT

The *Fountain of Love Fund* was the primary recipient of your generous donations to Methodist Homes during the fiscal year of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. The Fountain of Love supports residents whose own resources become exhausted and they now need help meeting their monthly obligations. Other gifts were provided to various activity funds and to the Associate Christmas

Fund at each community. Our mission would not be complete without your support. We hope that you will keep Methodist Homes in your prayers and in your giving plans during the current fiscal year and beyond. Through the strength of your giving, ministry is possible.

**Fountain of Love Receipts Fiscal Year 2021-2022**

Fair Haven \$92,023.70  
 Mathison \$825.00  
 Wesley Gardens \$34,818.02  
 Wesley Haven Villa \$11,771.19  
 Wesley Place on Honeysuckle \$83,400.00

**Number of People Served & Total Assistance Provided**

Fair Haven - 5 people - \$131,836.77  
 Wesley Gardens - 5 people - \$98,200.49  
 Wesley Haven Villa - 3 people - \$67,464.00  
 Wesley Place on Honeysuckle - 10 people - \$81,448.65

**FOL Gift Sources & Amount Given**

Alabama-West Florida Conf. Apportionment \$37,992.99  
 North Alabama Conference Apportionment \$14,408.73  
 Churches & Church Affiliates \$69,853.65  
 Other Sources (memorials, donations, etc.) \$57,562.72  
 Jewell D. Dennison FOL Endowment Fund \$269,384.99

**TOTAL Fountain of Love Gifts FY 21-22: \$449,203.08**

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Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett	Birmingham, AL
Bishop's Representative:	
Rev. Ron Schultz	Birmingham, AL

**YES - I WANT TO HELP YOUR MINISTRY**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ General Contribution (undesignated)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Redefining Home (capital fund raising campaign)

For: Fair Haven (B'ham) / Wesley Place on Honeysuckle (Dothan)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ The *Fountain of Love* (provides help to residents)

Designate for: Where most needed / Fair Haven (B'ham)  
 Wesley Gardens (Mtg) / Wesley Place on Honeysuckle (Dothan)  
 Mathison Center (PC, FL) / Wesley Haven Villa (Pns, FL)

\_\_\_\_ My gift is in Honor of / in Memory of:

Please notify (name & address): \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail To: Methodist Homes of Alabama & Northwest Florida  
 1520 Cooper Hill Road, Birmingham, AL 35210

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**METHODIST HOMES**  
*of Alabama & Northwest Florida*

Methodist Home for the Aging Corp.  
1520 Cooper Hill Road  
Birmingham, AL 35210-2303  
(205) 951-2442  
[www.methodisthomes.org](http://www.methodisthomes.org)

#### OUR MISSION

To enrich the lives of older adults and all those who serve them in faith-based communities, where life is celebrated, relationships are valued, teamwork is embraced, service excellence is expected, and the touch of God's love is ever-present and ageless.

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*Merry Christmas  
and Happy New Year*

From Your Friends at Methodist Homes.

Featuring the beautiful Peggy Holley,  
who turned 100 years young this month at Wesley Gardens!