



Assisted living & memory support

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Set on 12 beautifully landscaped acres with over 68,000 square feet of living and common spaces, Bell Tower is a friendly assisted living community where residents feel at home and live life well with purpose and dignity. We offer private apartments, religious services, activities, outings, delicious home-cooked meals and our caring and compassionate staff are always nearby to help.

For more information or to schedule a tour, please reach out to our Admissions Coordinator, Mikaela Meier.

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Life

DECEMBER 2023
A NEWSLETTER FOR RESIDENTS AND FRIENDS
at BELL TOWER RESIDENCE

Celebrating December

6th-
St. Nicholas Day

13th-
Hot Cocoa Day

15th-
Ugly Sweater Day

20th-
Christmas
Caroler Day

21st-
Crossword Puzzle
Day

24th-
Christmas Eve

25th-
Christmas Day

31st-
New Years Eve

The Season of Joy

Celebrate!

Where has the time gone! Already we are greeting December, and the holidays will soon be here. Bell Tower Residence looks forward to celebrating the holidays with all of our residents, families and staff. Celebrating the holidays can bring a mixture of emotions for our older loved ones. Joining together, there are ways we can help make the holidays joyful for everyone.

It helps to acknowledge that the holidays may be difficult. People may feel more lonely as they miss loved ones who have passed or are unable to be with them. Sharing warm memories of laughter and tears from the past keeps memories real and alive. Modern technology allows visits through video chats and helps families celebrate "face-to-face" even though they may be miles apart.

Bring the holiday here! Bell Tower Residence has special spaces that families may reserve. Bring the party, the gifts, the grandchildren and celebrate together.

Start new traditions, or find ways to modify existing traditions. Whether it's a meal, a gift exchange, a family game, or Christmas caroling there are many opportunities to have holiday traditions in assisted living. Traditions don't have to end—they can change, and the new tradition may be as special as the old ones.

Holidays are still special occasions, even when you move more slowly, don't hear as well, or have trouble remembering names. By making small adjustments the joy of the holidays can still make a difference in the lives of those we love.

We thank everyone in our Bell Tower Residence family for being part of something very special, and look forward to celebrating the holidays with you.

-Kris McGarigle

Staff Birthdays

1st– Grace L.
2nd– Destinee R.
3rd– Mary J.
12th– Ashley C.
15th– Mayleen D.
17th– Adeline H.
20th– Tina L.
29th– Grace E.
30th– Amanda F.

Staff Anniversaries

14 years– Melissa K.
11 years– Nelimi J.
11 years– Mayleen D.
7 years– Mikaela M.
6 years– Morgan W.
6 years– Janie A.
6 years– John B.
3 years– Eleanor H.
1 year– Geralen F.

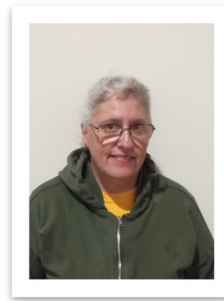
Resident Birthdays

15th– Janet H.
20th– Harriet T.
21st– Carol H.
28th– Judy A.

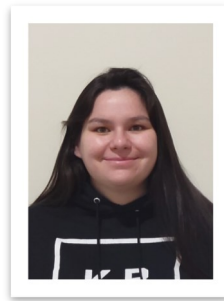
Resident Anniversaries

7 years– John S.
3 years– Allen K.
2 years– Arliss K.
2 years– Nancy C.
2 years– Judy A.
1 year– Lorena S.
1 year– John Marie S.

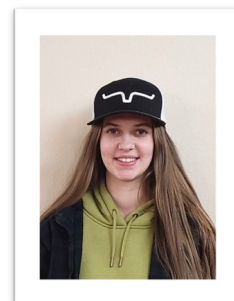
Welcome to Bell Tower!



Cheryl Runkel
Dietary Aid



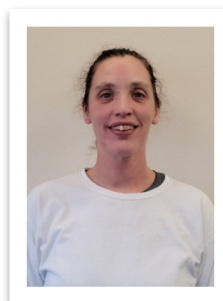
Merrilee
Maulson-Karmolinski
CNA



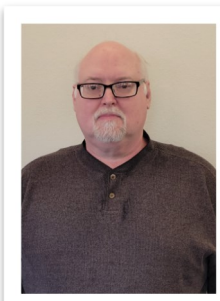
Jessica Bailey
PCW



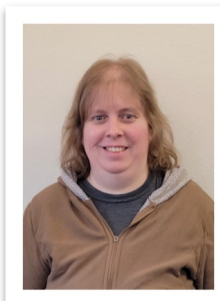
Alexis Erickson
CNA



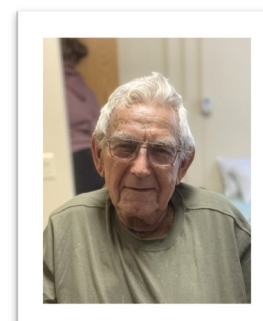
Rebecca Schroeder
PCW



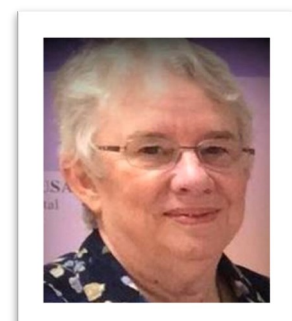
Marvin Lockhart
Cook



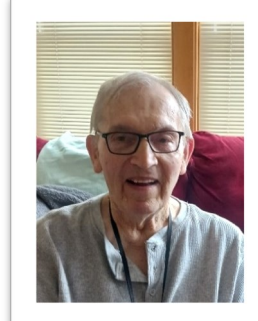
Darlene Lockhart
Dietary Aid



Elgart Thurs



Sister Carol Crosby



Bill Luterbach



Assisted living & memory support

Chaplains Corner

Joy to the World, the Lord is come! It is a well-loved hymn, but have you ever dug deeper into who wrote it?

This is the first line of a well-known hymn that many will sing this month. We may hear well-known artists sing this hymn on the radio as some radio stations changed to Christmas music up until the 25th of December. We may sing it in our churches at least once in the month of December. The first word that will come out of our mouths will be, Joy!

Of course, the Gospel, the good news, will have us focused on the birth of Jesus and what a treasure that is to hear from the Gospels again. The last words of the hymn bring the good news in full circle, “And wonders of his love.”

I believe that the joy that comes into the world will make us wonder and watch for how Jesus’ love in the world takes shape in us and all around us. It truly is a joy.

The hymn is actually a poem by Isaac Watts. Surprisingly, this hymn was not written for Christmas. Rather, Isaac Watts wrote the hymn as a paraphrase of the last five verses in Psalm 98 for his 1719 publication, The Psalms of David Imitated. In this hymnal, Watts rewrites many of the psalms using a Christological lens. His versification of Psalm 98 is no different. Verse nine of the psalm reads, “...let them sing before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity.

” Watts unapologetically interprets this as a reference to Christ.

I would encourage you to read Psalm 98 and the verses from the hymn, “Joy to the World,” and get a sense of how the psalm inspired Watts.

The tune of the hymn is also iconic. The tune’s name is, “Antioch,” and is attributed to Lowell Mason who many say that he is the arranger of the music. Others say that some of the note clusters are either the same or similar to that of George Fredric Handel’s classical piece, “Messiah” All in all, this classic hymn is music to many ears and hearts this time of year and when we look back to the writer of the hymn, we take time to ponder the generations upon generations in which the awe and wonder of the birth of the Messiah has brought to this world.

My hope is that when you sing this hymn in December that you sing out as loud as you can and marvel at the love that God has given us through Jesus. May the world be truly blessed and awake to the joy that Jesus gives. Blessed Advent and Merry Christmas! Joy to the world indeed!

Chaplain Phyllis Smoot