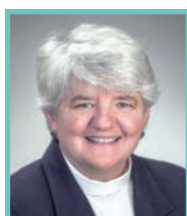


## UMH Remains Committed to their Mission and Faith-Based Heritage

United Methodist Homes, in addition to five-star quality care and non-profit status, remains committed to raising the bar in senior living options that incorporate a holistic approach to care. When we look at the well-being of an individual, we must consider the entire person, physically, psychologically, and spiritually. Aligned with their faith-based heritage and belief in caring for the whole person, three of the four campuses within the organization have a full-time dedicated chaplain and a part-time chaplain for their smallest campus. The chaplains serve a very crucial role in leading and coordinating a multi-denominational program open to all faiths as well as providing individual counseling and support to residents, their families, as well as employees.

"We believe it is imperative to offer seniors the opportunity to continue to exercise their faith. Having a full-time chaplain in a senior living community is a great resource. Essentially, it provides another

level and dimension to our care, providing residents with virtually, an on-call type service," stated Ron Patti, Hilltop Executive Director. Many residents are contending with illness and loss in their lives... loss of abilities, loss of a spouse. Therefore, grief counseling services on campus is a crucial resource providing a support system for the residents. In addition to regular services, residents have access to all of the special services throughout the holidays. Reverend Janet Abel remarked, "Lent is a very busy time at Elizabeth Church and St. Louise Manor. Receiving ashes on Ash Wednesday is extremely important to most of our residents. We do weekly Lenten study to observe Stations of the Cross each Friday. On Palm Sunday, I stop by every room in the nursing home, as many cannot get out to receive palm. After five Holy Week services, we gather to celebrate Easter with great joy. It's a holy and meaningful time."



Rev. Janet Abel



Rev. Lea Harding

(continued on page 7)

# The Safety and Well-Being of our Residents and Staff Remains our Utmost Concern and Priority



While this is not the message I intended to write, I feel I must address the current public health emergency posed by the COVID-19 pandemic along with our efforts to prevent the spread to our campuses. I would like to commend our leadership, management and all staff on their prompt response and actions taken to ensure that our residents, staff, and communities remain safe.

On all of our campuses, we have been proactive in implementing every necessary guideline often before mandated. Visitor restrictions, employee screenings, canceled group activities and communal dining are some of the preventative measures that have been implemented to ensure the safety of our residents. Senior adults are one of the most vulnerable populations and we take our responsibility for their care very seriously.

We came into this situation as a strong organization with solid Board support, dedicated leadership, and amazingly resilient staff. I believe we see people's true character under pressure and the character of our staff is proving beyond impressive. They are working tirelessly to care for our residents, not only to meet their physical needs, but their spiritual and social needs. Now more than ever, they play a vital role in fulfilling the residents' need to feel connected to others. With this type of teamwork and unity, I'm confident we'll not only get through this, but come out even stronger.

The safety and well-being of our residents and staff remains our utmost concern and priority. Our task force is talking daily and reviewing guidelines and recommendations set forth by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services (CMS), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC), and federal, state and local health departments. We are staying ahead of this to reach our ultimate goal—reduce the potential for the virus entering our buildings. As soon as we are safely able to lift visitation restrictions and resume normal activities, we will do so. In the meantime, we will continue to update our website with the most up-to-date information regarding each campus's restrictions: [www.unitedmethodisthomes.org](http://www.unitedmethodisthomes.org).

I would like to thank our Board, staff, residents, and families for their overwhelming support and understanding during these times. I look forward to the time that we can all gather again. Until then, thank you for your continued support, understanding, and cooperation.

Brian Picchini, President and CEO

## Recurring Gift Program

New for 2020, donors can now make an ongoing monthly donation through our Recurring Gift Program. This is an easy and affordable way to continually make a positive impact on the lives of our residents. Amazing things happen when we join our resources!

For more information or to enroll in the program, contact **Heather Murphy** at the Foundation at **(607) 775-6400 x1281** or [hmurphy@umhwc.org](mailto:hmurphy@umhwc.org).

*"I don't know of any other organization like this that supports their residents the way you do. That's one reason we chose to move here. We wish more people that could give, would. The need is only going to grow in the future."*

**- Dan & Bette Knight,**  
Donors & Residents

# Brooks Estates Clubhouse Re-Opens Following A Complete Renovation

Located on the Wesley Village Campus, the Irene Raeder Community Center—named in honor of a former resident of Brooks Estates whose generous endowment made the center possible—underwent a complete renovation and re-opened this past November. Residents of Brooks Estates have been enjoying the newly appointed space with a plethora of activities occurring daily.

Focus groups were held with the residents in establishing the re-design. The community center now boasts a large and multi-functional community room, social hall and bar area, reading nook with a small library, fitness center equipped with treadmills, recumbent bikes, weight bench, and dumbbells. The space serves as a central hub drawing residents daily for regular activities as well as independent leisure



pursuits. It provides the perfect gathering area for special events in which catering options are

also available to residents and staff. Some of the favorite pastimes include shuffleboard, “move and groove” exercise class, party on the patio, card games, scheduled excursions, and more! There is never a dull

moment and residents can be as social or as private as they care to be.

Throughout our entire organization and for all campuses, offering the “live-better lifestyle” remains a focus and central to the overall

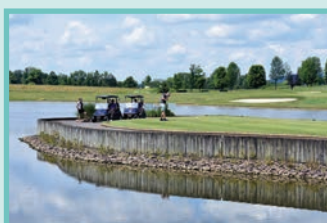
resident experience. Residents can appreciate peace of mind with 24 hours a day, seven days a week maintenance and security, lawn care and snow removal. This is what draws most seniors to the community—the pursuit of a worry-free, maintenance-free lifestyle with amenities at their fingertips and the burdens of home maintenance and upkeep a distant memory. Additionally, access to care when care is needed is also a critical draw and focal point for prospective residents.



## UMH Foundation 4th Annual Golf Tournament

After careful consideration, the 4th Annual United Methodist Homes Foundation Golf Tournament will be cancelled for 2020. Due to hardships related to the COVID-19 pandemic, we feel it's best for our sponsors and golfers to take this year and recuperate - both financially and in health.

All funds raised from the tournament directly benefit our Resident Assistance Program. This critical program provides continuity of care for residents that have



exhausted their financial resources. Your support gives them peace of mind that cannot be measured in dollars. In lieu of golf registration or sponsorship, those who wish may continue to support this program by donating at [unitedmethodisthomes.org/giving](http://unitedmethodisthomes.org/giving) or by returning the enclosed envelope.

**We hope that you and your families stay well and look forward to seeing you on the course next year! You can follow golf updates at [unitedmethodisthomes.org/golf](http://unitedmethodisthomes.org/golf).**



# Activity Highlights

## Tunkhannock

Hands & Clay program with local artist Ellen Jamiolkowski is back at Tunkhannock Manor! Last year, the program



sponsored by the PA Council of the Arts was a big success and the inspiration for the

Grandparent's Day Pop-Up Art Show and Open House. Tunkhannock hosted local artist, Ellen Jamiolkowski for a residency focused on clay and ceramics. Ellen worked with the residents to create a collaborative piece that was unveiled at the Grandparent's Day event and now hangs at the campus for all to enjoy for years to come. The program's success inspired an anonymous donation, allowing the program to run twice a week for 12 weeks.

## Elizabeth Church

The Elizabeth Church Campus was full of love in February! Elizabeth Church Manor residents and their family members enjoyed a Kings and Queens Valentine's Day party. The staff voted on a Valentine's King and Queen for each floor, then crowned the winners at the party. Saint Louise Manor residents attended Valentine's Traditional Tea,



complete with vintage tea sets. "One of our favorite events at Elizabeth Church is the King & Queen of Hearts party, our staff loves participating and voting for their choice of king & queen. Our residents are always so surprised when they win. The families enjoy seeing this special moment for their loved one. It is a great time had by all!" - Kathy Micha, Activities Director



## Hilltop

In February, 30 students from the Cosmetology program at Broome-Tioga Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) made a special visit to the Hilltop Campus to treat residents to a Spa Day. The Spa Day Menu included hair styling, makeup, and manicures. Residents also enjoyed time in the massage chairs while sipping mimosas. "This event was positive for both the residents and students. The students joined us for 2 hours, and they were busy the entire time. The interaction between our

residents and the students was delightful, and the smiles were

never-ending. This event was so successful we are planning a repeat event in May." - Faye Clark, Campus Life Director



## Wesley Village

Marti Calpin, a teacher at Wyoming New Story, reached out to Rachel Loefflad, Recreation Coordinator for Anderson and Myers Manor, about starting a volunteer program with her students. New Story is a private licensed academic school that provides special education and behavioral health services to children up to age 21. Since January, the students have visited the campus monthly for Word Games, Pokemo, and Ukulele Class.



The students also led Bingo and an arts & crafts activity.

"Volunteering has allowed our students to practice and develop their social skills, step outside of comfort zones, and connect with others. I can tell that the partnership between New Story and the Activities Department at Wesley Village has benefited the students just as much as the residents." - Marti Calpin

# Memory Makers Project is Expanding

Last year, Hilltop Campus experienced becoming a Memory Maker Community in partnership with the local nonprofit; the Memory Maker's Project. This 10-month collaboration offered on-site programming with residents and their families in the Sun and Star memory units. Activities included using various art mediums, poetry, and meditation resulting in beautiful keepsakes and two public art exhibits. During one session, a participating resident was asked what a candle reminded him of. He responded with a vivid memory of home and his wife lighting candles



at night. This same resident often struggled with simple tasks such as putting on shoes or completing a sentence.

Meaningful engagement in the arts reduces anxiety, depression, and apathy—all symptoms associated with memory loss—while increasing confidence and the quality of a person's life. Staff, residents,

and families all saw the benefits of implementing the Memory Maker programs. Because of this,

Hilltop & Memory Maker staff approached the UMH Foundation to renew and expand this program throughout United Methodist Homes. Recognizing the critical impact of this program, the Board unanimously approved the request.

We are pleased to announce that Memory Makers will not only be returning to Hilltop but also expanding to the memory units at Elizabeth

Church Manor and Wesley Village in

2020. "We are very excited to be working with the Memory Maker Project at Elizabeth Church Manor. I know our residents will benefit from the creative activities that Christina provides. The ability this

program has to get our residents to express themselves and come out of their shell through art is outstanding."

- Kathy Micha; Activities Director & Volunteer Coordinator, Elizabeth Church Manor



**"The ability this program has to get our residents to express themselves and come out of their shell through art is outstanding."**



# Celebrating Longevity on our Campuses: Growing Strong Roots

An enhanced service awards program has been implemented throughout the organization to honor employees with anniversaries ranging from 5 to 40 years of service. We remain grateful to our employees for all of their hard work and continued commitment and dedication to the mission, vision, and values of our organization. We are blessed with a dedicated workforce that continually strives for excellence which positively impacts residents and their families. Every role, from direct care to management is crucial to the overall experience of our residents. Longevity amongst our staff also provides us with the ability to grow strong roots and expand our reach in the communities we serve. Not only does it impact the overall consistency and quality of our care, but it affects the overall employee experience. Many of our long-time employees take on roles of mentoring which helps newer staff to acclimate, adjust, and ultimately become part of the UMH family.

We extend our sincere appreciation and would like to congratulate all of our employees on their accomplishments!

## CORPORATE

**Brian Picchini** 10 Years  
**Gary Gardner** 20 Years

## ELIZABETH CHURCH

**Kimberly Sherman** 5 Years  
**Nicole Sherman** 5 Years  
**Gordon Gardner** 5 Years  
**Patty Kendrick** 5 Years  
**Jessica Sloan** 5 Years  
**Ketia Jonathas** 5 Years  
**Thomas Rinker** 5 Years  
**Carol Ann Heller** 5 Years  
**Katie Angeline** 5 Years  
**Luann Snover** 5 Years  
**Lauren Lobez** 5 Years  
**Nicholas Gianakos** 5 Years  
**Amanda Szczepanski** 5 Years  
**Emily Parrish** 5 Years  
**Faith Brown** 10 Years  
**Diane Soutanis** 10 Years  
**Breon Wilson** 10 Years  
**Timnit Yishak** 10 Years  
**Jasmin Reyes** 10 Years  
**Agnes Lado** 15 Years  
**Christina Wallan** 15 Years  
**Eileen Elsworth** 15 Years  
**Patricia Gregg** 20 Years

**Emily Hall** 20 Years  
**Cindy Ardis** 20 Years  
**Lee Hettig** 20 Years  
**Jackalyn Morrison** 25 Years  
**Tisha Brigham** 30 Years

## HILLTOP

**Ashley Gillmer** 5 Years  
**Kimberly Bernthon** 5 Years  
**Trudy Sherman** 5 Years  
**Karen Weeks** 5 Years  
**Shannon Hayes** 5 Years  
**Shantale Harris** 5 Years  
**Kayla Spaulding** 5 Years  
**Kathleen Gates** 5 Years  
**Vanessa McCall** 5 Years  
**Lisa Wagner** 5 Years  
**Rebecca Jones** 5 Years  
**Laura Sayers** 5 Years  
**Autum MacDonald** 5 Years  
**Lexa Chanthavong** 5 Years  
**Michael Perkins** 5 Years  
**Alicia Benjamin** 5 Years  
**Edwidge Saintsume** 10 Years  
**Stacianne Taylor** 10 Years  
**Teresa Tompkins** 15 Years  
**Katherine McHugh** 15 Years  
**Angela Payzant** 15 Years  
**Stacy Snyder** 15 Years  
**Randy Rudock** 15 Years  
**Jennine Best-baker** 15 Years

**Karie Smith** 15 Years  
**Linda Utyro** 15 Years  
**Joseph Drum** 15 Years  
**John Vankuren** 20 Years  
**Lisa Smith** 20 Years  
**Lea Harding** 20 Years  
**Johanna Tower** 20 Years  
**Colleen Ashworth** 20 Years  
**Kathleen Scherhauser** 20 Years  
**Ida Sargeant** 20 Years  
**Jocelynn Ramey** 20 Years  
**Jacqueline Lindsley** 25 Years  
**Ronald Netherton** 25 Years  
**Teresa Felter** 25 Years  
**Louise Hawley** 30 Years  
**Sandra Lane** 35 Years  
**Paul Pado** 35 Years

## WESLEY VILLAGE

**Margaret Coolbaugh** 5 Years  
**Tina Drake** 5 Years  
**Samantha Crablo** 5 Years  
**Ann Hughes** 5 Years  
**Jessica Dulney** 5 Years  
**Matthew Gardner** 5 Years  
**Paige Norton** 5 Years  
**Anna Stewart** 5 Years  
**Jack Hapersberger** 5 Years  
**Susan Lanning** 5 Years  
**William Sweeney** 5 Years  
**Sara Lyback** 5 Years  
**Sharon Stehle** 5 Years

**Jodie Miscavage** 5 Years  
**Lisa Ferry** 10 Years  
**Lori Stillarty** 10 Years  
**Eleanor Magowan** 10 Years  
**Gina Pahler** 10 Years  
**Lori Long** 10 Years  
**Terry Skladzien** 10 Years  
**Richard Beresovoy, Jr.** 10 Years  
**Jane Lasecki** 10 Years  
**Lindsey Maslar** 10 Years  
**Amber Radocesky** 10 Years  
**James Cortegerone** 10 Years  
**Mary Battista** 10 Years  
**Heather Shabazz** 10 Years  
**Joseph Maslar** 15 Years  
**Christine Zeller** 15 Years  
**Denise Davailus** 15 Years  
**Kelli Kowalczyk** 20 Years  
**Mary Krutulis** 20 Years  
**Andrew Balent** 20 Years  
**Ann Imes** 25 Years  
**Linda Matello** 25 Years  
**Jeffrey Ross** 25 Years  
**James Costantini** 25 Years  
**Darlene Kamage** 25 Years  
**Joann Lopresto** 30 Years  
**Kimberly Tunila** 30 Years  
**Elizabeth Richards** 30 Years  
**Cheryl Connors** 40 Years

## TUNKHANNOCK

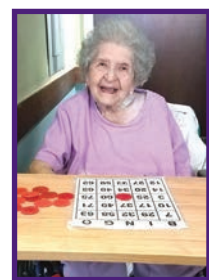
**Amanda Myers** 5 Years



# United Methodist Homes Gets Creative with Social Distancing

As a premier healthcare provider in Pennsylvania and New York, United Methodist Homes has been taking a proactive approach to keep our communities safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our staff have risen to the occasion and quickly adapted to changes and restrictions, making sure that safety

and comfort are number one. We're beyond grateful for their unwavering commitment to quality care during a time when attention to detail is critical. Residents, along with staff, are making

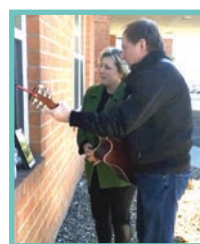


the best of their new situation. With social distancing requirements, they have been

getting creative in order to stay connected with family and friends. Staff are ensuring residents

have everything they need to stay engaged. Many special projects and messages are being featured on the UMH social media pages. The Foundation is

working closely with staff to provide support with items like additional iPads, craft supplies,



streaming services, music and audio books, games, and so much more. You can support the Activities Initiative by donating online or returning the enclosed envelope.



## UMH Remains Committed to their Mission (from front cover)

"Our organization recognizes that spirituality is an integral part of an individual's makeup and their ability to cope with life's challenges. As such, we know that it plays a pivotal role in maximizing the quality of life of our elderly residents, whose physical and psycho-social capacities are limited, but whose spirituality is strong. We have seen that if one's spiritual needs are being met, they can best deal with their diminished physical and psycho-social capacities and improve their quality of life. We try to fulfill our residents' spiritual needs by conducting weekly worship services, bi-weekly Bible studies, and one-on-one pastoral care visits. Additionally, a resident's failing health has a significant impact on their family members. Therefore, we also offer pastoral care to families to

offer support in coping with their loved one's end of life experience," stated Pastor Eugene Sperazza, Chaplain, Wesley Village Campus.



Pastor Gene Sperazza

Anyone who would like to learn more about our chaplaincy programs is encouraged to contact the campus chaplains. **Their biographies and contact information can be found on our website at [unitedmethodisthomes.org](http://unitedmethodisthomes.org).**



Pastor Carl Folk

Currently, all formal gatherings for spiritual services are suspended in response to COVID-19 precautions. However, the chaplains remain available to residents to provide individual counseling and support while practicing social distancing, as well as coordinating live-streaming of spiritual services in resident rooms.



Caring. Connecting. *Community.*

10 Acre Place  
Binghamton, NY 13904

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



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Hoping everyone had a  
**HAPPY & HEALTHY** Easter.

## News & Announcements

Our events to report and promote are light this issue as many programs had to be canceled or postponed.

As many of you are aware, in the early part of March, all of our campuses were and continue to be heavily involved in preparation and response to the ever-evolving public health emergency as a result of the presence and spread of COVID-19 across our country. As an organization, we took prompt and aggressive action to prevent the spread to our campuses and communities. We followed recommendations set forth by all governing agencies including the Centers for Disease Control and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). We implemented policies that affected visitation to our campuses increasing restrictions to a "No Visitation" policy for all of our campuses. Our top priority is the safety, health, and well-being of our residents and staff. We hope that these temporary measures, along with all those imposed country-wide,

will do what it's intended to do—prevent the spread throughout our country and communities.

When these restrictions can safely be lifted, and activities and events resume, we will be notifying all staff, residents, families, friends, and board of directors.

Wesley Village's Annual Spring Brunch is canceled due to COVID-19 restrictions on visitors and large gatherings.

**For an updated list of our upcoming events, visit [UnitedMethodistHomes.org/news-events](http://UnitedMethodistHomes.org/news-events)**

### Staff Updates

**Hilltop: Nicole Policare** is the new RN Staff Development Coordinator at JGJ.

**Wesley Village: Selina Shotwell** is the new Admissions Director at Partridge Tippet.

**Corporate Office: Rachel Rubitski** is our new IT Technician. **Renee DePrato** is our new Marketing & Fundraising Specialist.

**Connections** is published three times per year. It is designed for easier readability. Contact Abbie Evans at [abevans@umhwc.org](mailto:abevans@umhwc.org) or 607.775.6400 x246. Like us on Facebook at UnitedMH and visit our website at [unitedmethodisthomes.org](http://unitedmethodisthomes.org)

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607.798.7818

#### Tunkhannock Campus

Tunkhannock, PA  
570.836.2983

#### Wesley Village Campus

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570.655.2891