



CONGREGATIONAL HOME

RESIDENTS' MONTHLY NEWS

Volume 179

Brookfield, Wisconsin

August 2017

Congregational Home Blood Drive



Thursday, August 3 12:00 - 5:00 p.m. Chapel

Appointments encouraged. Walk-ins welcome.

Men's Club

Indoor Golf



Monday, August 14
11:00 a.m.
Chapel

Women's Club

Pool Party



Thursday, August 24
2:15 p.m.
Activity Center/Gazebo

Greetings to my new *Congregational Home* family!

As I begin my hopefully long journey here at the *Congregational Home*
I thank you all for your smiles and kindness over my first two weeks!

I am working hard to acclimate myself to the systems and environment,
and have a personal goal to make visits and talk with all of you!

I truly feel blessed to be here and have been
so impressed with the wonderful teamwork and friendliness!

Please know my door is always open to you
and I want you to be continually happy with our care and service!

Yours truly,
Kris Sprtel NHA
President/CEO

Welcome Steve

We are happy to welcome Steve LaMonte as our new Director of Plant Ops.

Steve comes to us from Washington County facilities, with a strong background in long-term care and hospitals.

To keep himself busy when he's not working, Steve and his brother own and race a late model stock car. He must be pretty good at making them go fast, because his team has won three trophies so far this year.

You'll see Steve around the building, so be sure to say hello.

**Learning & Sharing about
Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders
(Alzheimer's Support Group)**

Next Meeting

August 22 ~ 2:00 p.m. ~ Apartment Dining Room

Congregational Home offers a monthly meeting to learn and share about Alzheimer's disease and dementia.

Family and staff, caregivers, friends, and community members are welcome to attend our meetings.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Sarah Calderon, Director of Social Services.

Chair Chi



Mary Hadfield and Mary Murray will be taking a Chair Chi course that will certify them to teach Chair Chi here at Congregational Home.

Pig Roast 2017

We are pleased to report that this year's pig roast was a huge success! More than 150 people attended. The Chapel Dining Room was transformed into a "Western Wonderland" by our staff, and the food was delicious. Residents, guests, and staff dressed in cowboy garb and danced to live music provided by the Jan Leman Band. It was a fantastic evening of family, friends, laughter, and great food!

If you have any comments or suggestions about our events, please contact Cindy Conkey, Director of Activities.

August Events / Entertainment

August 01	Tuesday	2:30 p.m.	Bunco ~ Activity Center
August 03	Thursday	10:15 a.m. 12-5 p.m.	Devotions with Pastor Joe/Hymn Sing with Eva ~ Chapel Congregational Home Blood Drive ~ Chapel
August 07	Monday	10:15 a.m.	Music with Marj ~ Chapel
August 08	Tuesday	6:15 p.m.	Music with Doug Haise ~ Fireside
August 09	Wednesday	2:00 p.m.	State Fair Fun ~ Chapel
August 10	Thursday	10:15 a.m.	Devotions with Pastor Joe/Hymn Sing with Marj ~ Chapel
August 14	Monday	11:00 a.m.	Men's Club Indoor Golf ~ Chapel
August 17	Thursday	10:15 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	Devotions with Pastor Joe/Hymn Sing with Andrea ~ Chapel Watercolor ~ Activity Center
August 18	Friday	10:15 a.m.	Pam's Family Child Care Visits ~ Chapel
August 23	Wednesday	3:45 p.m.	Skilled Resident Meeting ~ First Floor Dining Room
August 24	Thursday	10:15 a.m. 2:15 p.m.	Devotions with Pastor Joe/Hymn Sing with Allison ~ Chapel Women's Club Pool Party ~ Activity Center/Gazebo
August 25	Friday	10:30 a.m.	Hug-a-Pup ~ Activity Center
August 30	Wednesday	11:45 a.m.	Assisted Living Resident Meeting ~ East Suites
August 31	Thursday	10:15 a.m.	Devotions with Pastor Joe ~ Chapel



School Days, School Days Dear old Golden Rule days Reading and writing and 'rithmetic

August Outings

August 07	Monday	2:00 p.m.	MCU Ride
August 11	Friday	2:00 p.m.	Grocery Shopping at Pick 'n Save
August 14	Monday	1:45 p.m.	Assisted Living Outing ~ Nordstrom
August 18	Friday	2:00 p.m.	Grocery Shopping at Whole Foods Market
August 21	Monday	2:00 p.m.	Abundant Life Outing
August 25	Friday	2:00 p.m.	Grocery Shopping at Pick 'n Save
August 28	Monday	2:00 p.m.	SNF-1 Ride

A Good Laugh is Good for the Soul

Perched up on the top of steeples are strange little creatures, called gargoyles. These funny little creature look over humanity and grin. Contrary to the belief that they are somehow demonic, they are an important symbol to remind us of our foibles and shortcomings. As breathtaking and sacred as the great cathedrals are, there is a temptation that man could ever build a tower into the heavens to reach God. Gargoyles remind us of how silly we can be. A steeple without a gargoyle is just another shallow attempt at the tower of Babel. Gargoyles remind us to not take ourselves too serious, to laugh at ourselves.

There is an important connection between humor and hope. Finding humor in the midst of our lives centers us, and helps put everything in perspective. Most comedy is pointing out the absurdity of our actions and thoughts. Humor allows us to take ourselves seriously, but not too seriously. When we can laugh with and at one another, our connections are strengthened. Humor is an invitation to move out of solitude into the clumsy championship of humanity. Without humor we imagine we are removed from the deeply flawed masses.

One of the most important essays I read in seminary was about the spirituality of a TV show, called *The Simpsons*. Yes, I am referring to the cartoon with the funny yellow people, known at one time for its shocking and irreverent humor. The same show that used to draw protests from churches. The same show that is now the most successful TV show in history, currently in its 28th season.

The essay highlighted that way in which *The Simpsons* used humor to highlight the foibles of our everyday life in society. Nothing is beyond scrutiny, by *The Simpsons*, not the church, not even *The Simpsons*. Humor has an important role of being able to help us laugh at our own imperfections. When we can laugh at ourselves, we are open to self-reflection. When we can laugh with each other it opens us up to one another.

Gargoyles are laughing at our preposterous nature, the gap between our aspirations and our performance – the eternal comedy of human life. *The Simpsons* and other satire lampoon us, to help us see we are in this together. Humor helps us unmask the destructive way of self-centeredness, and invites us to reorder our lives and make the necessary adjustments for the inevitable reality changing around us.

I recognize *The Simpsons* is a cartoon, but it highlights that we are in this together. The characters can't get away from each other. As much as their antics get them in trouble, they are in end always together, no matter who they are. In one of my favorite episode after some difficult family dynamics, the family gathers around the dinner table, bow their heads in prayer and Homer prays, "Thank you, Lord, for another crack at togetherness."

*A time to be born and a time to die. A time to plant and a time to harvest.
A time to kill and a time to heal. A time to tear down and a time to build up.
A time to cry and a time to laugh. A time to grieve and a time to dance.*

- Ecclesiastes 3:2-4

Pastor Joe Phillips
Chaplain, Congregational Home

The Apartment Page

August Events / Entertainment

August 01	Tuesday	2:30 p.m.	Bunco ~ Activity Center
August 02	Wednesday	4:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Apartment Social with Cindy ~ Commons Apartment Supper ~ Apartment Dining Room
August 03	Thursday	10:15 a.m. 12 - 5:00	Devotions with Pastor Joe/Hymn Sing with Eva ~ Chapel Congregational Home Blood Drive ~ Chapel
August 04	Friday	11:00 a.m.	Apartment Resident Meeting ~ Commons
August 07	Monday	10:15 a.m.	Music with Marj ~ Chapel
August 08	Tuesday	6:15 p.m.	Music with Doug Haise ~ Fireside
August 09	Wednesday	2:00 p.m. 4:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	State Fair Fun ~ Chapel Apartment Social with Cindy ~ Commons Apartment Supper ~ Apartment Dining Room
August 10	Thursday	10:15 a.m.	Devotions with Pastor Joe/Hymn Sing with Marj ~ Chapel
August 14	Monday	11:00 a.m.	Men's Club Golf ~ Chapel
August 16	Wednesday	4:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Apartment Social BYO ~ Commons Apartment Dinner ~ Apartment Dining Room
August 17	Thursday	10:15 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	Devotions with Pastor Joe/Hymn Sing with Andrea ~ Chapel Watercolor ~ Activity Center
August 18	Friday	10:15 a.m.	Pam's Family Child Care Visits ~ Chapel
August 23	Wednesday	4:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Apartment Social with Cindy ~ Commons Apartment Supper ~ Apartment Dining Room
August 24	Thursday	10:15 a.m. 2:15 p.m.	Devotions with Pastor Joe/Hymn Sing with Allison ~ Chapel Women's Club Pool Party ~ Activity Center/Gazebo
August 25	Friday	10:30 a.m.	Hug-a-Pup ~ Activity Center
August 30	Wednesday	4:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Apartment Social with Cindy ~ Commons Apartment Cookout ~ Apartment Dining Room
August 31	Thursday	10:15 a.m.	Devotions with Pastor Joe ~ Chapel



“Summer afternoon - Summer afternoon . . . the two most beautiful words in the English language.”

Henry James

Activity	Day	Date	Time	Location
Games with DdG	Monday	August 14, 21, 28	2:00 p.m.	Commons
Lifelong Learning Study Group	Wednesday	August 2, 9, 23, 30	2:00 p.m.	Commons
BYO Resident Social Time	Wednesday	August 16	4:30 p.m.	Commons
Grocery Shopping	Friday	August 11, 25	2:00 p.m.	Pick 'n Save
Grocery Shopping	Friday	August 18	2:00 p.m.	Whole Foods Market
Strength and Balance (Exercise)	M/W/F	August 2, 7, 9, 11, 14, 16, 18, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30	10:30 a.m.	Commons
Pray for America	Tuesday	August 8, 22	1:45 p.m.	Commons