

The Meadian



A newsletter published periodically for families, friends and residents of St. Anne's Mead

DECEMBER 15, 2015



THE REASON FOR THE SEASON

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

Luke 2: 2-14

Chanukah Celebrated by Jewish Residents

Rabbi David S. Polter of the Jewish Community Chaplaincy Program in West Bloomfield, presented a special program on Dec. 8, that provided insight into Chanukah, the Festival of Lights. The holiday began this year at sunset on Dec. 6, and it ends on Dec. 14. Rabbi Polter explained that the observance commemorates the victory of the ancient Israelites over the Syrian Greek army and the miracle of the menorah in the Holy Temple in Jerusalem. There was only enough oil for one day yet the lights



Resident George Blostein lights another candle in celebration of the annual Jewish holiday, Hanukkah, also spelled Chanukah.

on the menorah lasted for eight full days. The miracle is celebrated by songs, gifts, and lighting the menorah, adding one candle each night until all are burning. The eight days are filled with playing the dreidel - a toy top of sorts -- and eating foods special to Hanukkah including potato pancakes (latkes), jelly doughnuts and other food deep-fried in oil.

A Year of Setting the Stage for 2016

Reaching, and at times, exceeding our budgeted census goal has been St. Anne's Mead's greatest achievement in 2015, according to Board of Trustees President John Lynch and Executive Director Jane Collins. That success can be attributed to strategic marketing and public relations, along with on-going renovation of the building's interior and the development of outside sources of financial support.

The average monthly census for the past year has been 68, exactly on target, said Collins. Both she and Lynch attributed the gain to the fact that the Marketing team and our friends and families have been spreading the word that this is the place to be for loving and competent care.

"We succeeded because of strategic marketing and public relations that have been focused on enhancing our relationships, building networks and spreading the word about our excellent care," said Collins. "We succeeded because we have an amazing staff that delivers excellent care, driven by respect and affection for "their" residents. We have a leadership team that loves to come to work everyday and helps to make St. Anne's a great place to work."

"But, in order to achieve long-term sustainability, we have to think like a for-profit business especially in light of an increasingly competitive assisted living and nursing care environment," Lynch said. "It is fundamental that if you want to succeed as charitable organization, you have to have people, supporting your mission who are ready and willing to give to the charity," said Lynch.

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“We’ve been focused this year on building a new database of past, present and potential donors. This will allow us to reach outside of operations for sustaining support. The groundwork done in 2015 will continue through 2016, our 50th anniversary year,” Lynch said.

“This will help us and the Episcopal Church fulfill our missions as we continue to provide for the spiritual, physical and social needs of our residents, and to educate and train our staff to meet the changing demands of an aging population,” said Collins.



JERRY NECHAL

New Board President Takes Over in January

Board of Trustees President John Lynch turns the gavel over to Jerry Nechal when Nechal is installed in January 2016. His outlook for the new year will appear in the January 2016 issue of *The Meadian*.”

No Better Time to Give Than the Present

As the holiday season descends upon us here at St. Anne’s, we find ourselves caught up in the excitement and energy that comes with parties, good food and lots of entertainers. Our residents clearly enjoy the decorations and programs which are meant to recall fond memories and to renew a sense of purpose and peace in their lives.

The staff is grateful to all who have helped create and support this wonderful facility which is now called “home” by its residents.

Through the Annual Fund and the Angel Fund, St. Anne’s Mead is able to be of service to our residents in unique ways such as the art in our hallways created by both residents and professionals, and a culture that inspires staff to offer an extra smile and patience.

We would be most grateful if you would support our Annual Fund or Angel Fund this year. Your tax-deductible gift, whether large or small, is very important and means a great deal to all of us. Every gift helps us continue to provide compassionate, faith-based care to those we refer to as the “Greatest Generation.”

For further information, please visit our website at www.stannesmead.org or send your contribution directly to the address in the CONTACT box on the next page.

Ring In the New Year With Resident Artists' Calendar

In time for stuffing stockings or gift exchanges, this beautifully illustrated 8-1/2 x 11, full-color 2016 wall calendar featuring the works of resident artists, is available at the Registration Desk.

A suggested \$10 donation supports our Angel Fund.



Worth Repeating

Here's what they're saying about St. Anne's Mead

"I am amazed at how respectful and accommodating the entire faculty of St. Anne's Mead is toward their dear residents, including the particular preferences of their Jewish population. Bravo!"

-- Rabbi & Chaplain David S. Polter, Jewish Senior Life

STAY CONNECTED



Be sure to check our Facebook page for photos, videos and comments.

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Our Mission

St. Anne's Mead mission is to provide compassionate and professional health care and supportive services to seniors in a safe, secure, and loving home.

In keeping with our faith-based traditions, we endeavor to serve the unique needs of individuals and their families while preserving dignity and enriching lives.