

May 2024

From the campus administrator

Hello, please help me in welcoming Jenny Hissam as the newly appointed Campus Administrator for our community.

Ironically, Jenny was part of SWC from the very beginning, serving as the Housing Counselor/Resident Services Director when Chan first opened its doors in 2005. Jenny played an integral role in getting SWC off to a great start. She served our community for several years, then decided to take a job closer to home so that she could have a better work life balance in caring for her twins who were young at the time.



Jenny has a passion for service excellence, advocating on behalf of both residents and staff. Jenny brings a wealth of knowledge and experience that will provide an exceptional experience for all residents who call SWC their home and for each employee who has answered the call to our ministry.

Currently, Jenny is the Campus Administrator at Highland Path, a PHS sister community located in St. Paul. We are working on plans to transition Jenny to our community, while ensuring her current site remains well led. During this time, I will continue to provide interim support on a full-time basis.

Let's all welcome Jenny to our SummerWood family.

Blessings,

Jodi Devick Neal, Interim Campus Administrator

Resident spotlight

Ardis Rafteseth and her husband Walt moved to SummerWood of Chanhassen in March 2020, based on the recommendation of their children. They are pleased they made the move!

Ardis grew up on a farm in Minnesota near the Canadian border. She and Walt met through church at a young age. They married in Fargo, North Dakota over 65 years ago! Walt and Ardis moved to California for a few years before returning to the Twin Cities to raise their family of four children. Today, two of their children live nearby and two of their children live out of state. Ardis shares they remain very close as a family. She and Walt have been blessed with 13 grandchildren, a great-grandchild, and a second great-grandchild is on the way this summer.

Ardis taught elementary school for over 30 years, primarily teaching fifth grade students. She has traveled to all seven continents plus all 50 states! She and her three siblings took many trips and cruises together over the years, along with their spouses. She found beauty in all places she traveled but some that stand out to her are Hawaii, Alaska, Norway, and Australia. She also fondly recalls time spent in Antarctica, which included a visit to the Falkland Islands.

Ardis recently started volunteering as a pianist in The Arbor. She is eager to give back and spend time with residents. We are so glad to have Ardis as part of the SummerWood of Chanhassen community!

*Lisa Stevens,
Human Resources
Manager*



SummerWood News

Pastor's message

"I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe." (Ephesians 1:18-19)

What in your life needs power? Think of all you do each day that depends on power. Your car burns gas to go, your body eats food to function, your appliances need electricity to run. None of these things would work without power. The same is true for our spiritual life — it requires power.

In the Book of Acts, Jesus told his disciples that they would receive *power* when the promised Holy Spirit arrived. And that's exactly what happened on Pentecost! God's Spirit came and empowered his people to be witnesses of Jesus' resurrection throughout the world (Acts 1:8). This is what's unique about faith in Christ. Christianity is not a philosophy to live by, but new life powered by God's transforming presence. That's why Paul prays that the church in Ephesus would know the full scope of God's saving grace, which includes his great power for all who believe.

How much power does God provide? It is *incomparably* great. There is no limit! God provides all the power we need for our spiritual life — the power to live transformed lives that witness to his love, truth, and grace day in and day out.

By Pastor Matt Anderson

Employee spotlight

Jenny Martens started working at SummerWood of Chanhassen (SWC) in 2021. Prior to coming to our community, she served at SummerWood of Plymouth, another PHS community, but took some time off when the COVID-19 pandemic was at its height. She saw an opening through Indeed for a life enrichment assistant at SWC. The position was perfect for Jenny because it was closer to home, part-time, and had a Christian mission. Jenny says the freedom to use her creativity to serve the women and men of SWC makes it a great place to work. She appreciates learning something new from the residents she supports and telling stories from her life.



Outside of work, Jenny enjoys playing pickleball. Her two brothers taught her how to play tennis in grade school. Now, pickleball is a perfect fit! Jenny also trains dogs. She often brings her two dogs, Minnie and Mildred, as therapy dogs to support the residents at SWC. Seeing how people respond positively to Minnie and Mildred is the highlight of her day.

Something you might not know about Jenny is her background in engineering. She majored in Agricultural Engineering from her time in Illinois. She worked with farmers on projects such as pond irrigation. We are thankful for the work Jenny does with our residents and the unique perspective she brings to our community!

By Pastor Matt Anderson

Letter from the Foundation

A Beneficiary with Benefits

Leaving a legacy that extends kindness to your community beyond your lifetime doesn't have to be complicated or require an attorney's involvement. You can make an impact when you designate Presbyterian Homes Foundation or your own community as a beneficiary of one or more of your assets. This is one of the simplest ways you can secure your financial affairs and leave a gift that reflects your values. It expresses deep appreciation for your community and makes a difference in the future of your neighbors.

Naming a beneficiary on a retirement account, life insurance policy, bank account, or other investment ensures that your resources continue to serve the needs of those around you. It's usually as straightforward as completing a form from your insurer/custodian or, if you prefer, you may complete a form online. Please give us a call at (651) 631-6418 or 651-631-6408 if you would like assistance with this.

Did you know that you can name both individuals and charities as beneficiaries on the same accounts? For example, you may choose to give 80% to family members and 20% to charities. It's also possible to specify a certain dollar amount that you would like to leave. And, if a primary beneficiary becomes deceased, a charitable organization could be named as a contingent beneficiary. If you already have a donor-advised fund set up, the distribution of investment funds may also be managed for years to come.

Naming a charity as a beneficiary brings flexibility to your financial plans so that assets are available during your lifetime. It also enables you to sow seeds of kindness and compassion that will bear fruit into the future, demonstrating gratitude for blessings and ongoing care for our loved ones. Thank you for considering taking the step to designate your community or Presbyterian Homes as a beneficiary of one or more of your assets. Your generosity makes a difference!

Welcome Maureen Homa!

Greetings SummerWood of Chanhassen! I am excited to join the Summerwood Community.

I am a long-time employee soon to celebrate my seventeen-year anniversary with Presbyterian Homes. I have worked in a variety of roles and look forward to being your new housing counselor. I have a master's degree in social work and enjoy meeting new people and hearing their life stories. I live in Chanhassen with my husband Ted and two children Quinn (17) and Grace (15) who attend Chanhassen High School. Much of my free time is spent traveling, reading, walking my dog Dennis, and most importantly spending time with my family. I look forward to meeting you all soon!



Maureen Homa, Marketing Counselor

SummerWood Birthdays

5/5 Marian P. 5/15 Janice B.

5/6 John M. 5/16 Bonnie S.

5/11 Lorna M. 5/22 James H.

5/13 Barbara J.



Happy Birthday!

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Presbyterian Homes & Services is a nonprofit organization and an equal opportunity employer serving older adults through community services, housing, and health care.

We are thrilled to announce the brand-new website!

The Presbyterian Homes & Services website is new and improved. Designed specifically with YOU in mind, the redesigned website is easy to use with simple navigation, abundant resources and a fresh look.

- Get news, stories and updates on PHS communities, residents and employees, plus resourceful information on living well!
- Access your community's newsletter, social calendar and dining menus all in one place.
- Explore the many different types of support PHS offers including rehabilitative services, home meal delivery and more.



Visit PresHomes.org today!