

July 2024

## Celebrating milestones: Our anticipated family trip to Italy

As spring blossoms into its full glory, our family is bursting with excitement and anticipation for a vacation that promises to be unforgettable. This summer, we are heading to Italy, a trip that holds special significance as we celebrate the college graduation of our twins, Rachel and Benjamin.



This milestone, marking their hard-earned achievements from the College of St. Benedict and St. John's University, deserves a celebration befitting its importance—and what better place than the enchanting land of Italy? Our adventure will take us to Venice, Murano, Tuscany, Pisa, Florence, and Rome.

This trip is not just a celebration of Rachel and Benjamin's academic accomplishments, but also a testament to the strength and unity of our family. Through their late-night study sessions, exams, and the ups and downs of college life, we have supported each other every step of the way. Now, we get to celebrate these achievements together, creating new memories that will last a lifetime.

As we pack our bags and finalize our plans, our hearts are full of gratitude and excitement. This trip to Italy is more than just a vacation; it's a celebration of family, hard work, and the beautiful journey that life is. We look forward to sharing our adventures and experiences with you upon our return. Arrivederci!

*Jenny Hissam, LALD, LSW – Campus Administrator*



## Resident spotlight

Carol Kramer has lived at SummerWood of Chanhassen for 7.5 years in the Terrace. Carol was born on a farm in Sauk Centre, MN. Carol appreciates the charm and comfort that come with growing up in a tight knit community. She married Jerry Kramer in 1961 and rented a home in St. Louis Park until their home was built in Minnetonka. This is where she lived for 38 years and raised her three children. She has 8 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren. After her favorite job of raising her children was over, she worked at JC Penny's in alterations. She held this occupation for a long time, thoroughly enjoying the task of sewing and making alterations. After retirement she and Jerry moved to Alexandria. There they spent time on Osakis. They wintered in Mesa AZ for 14 years. After losing her spouse of 53 years, she moved to Summerwood to be closer to her two daughters.



Here at SWC, Carol spends her time calling bingo, tending to the herb garden, painting ornamental bird houses, and knitting prayer shawls. She loves to socialize around the puzzles and be with people. Some of her favorite memories of the past were the travels with her family. They had a tent trailer and traveled all over the United States. There were very few states the Kramer family failed to visit. Among some of her favorite places are Yellowstone and the Black Hills. Other travel favorites include Canada and Alaska.

An interesting memory shared, was when Carol was in grade school and terrible weather entered the scene. The windows broke and everyone was very scared. A tornado had hit down in the area and destroyed many barns on the local farms. Thankfully everyone was okay.

Carol shared her motto: An attitude of gratitude is the way to be. Being thankful every day.

*Maureen Homa, Housing Counselor*

# SummerWood News

## Pastor's message

*"For freedom Christ has set us free...."*

(Galatians 5:1)

On July 4, 1776, 13 American colonies declared freedom from British rule. Colonists united under a new charter, which enabled them to live a new way of life. King George III could no longer impose demands on those living in America. They were free! Similarly, Christians celebrate freedom in Jesus Christ.

In the churches of Galatia, the message about Jesus—specifically the gospel truth of grace in Christ—had become distorted on account of contradicting messages. Agitators insisted non-Jewish men be circumcised according to the Mosaic Law to become full members of the Christian community. The Apostle Paul, however, sought to set the record straight. Christ had set the Galatian believers free from "the present evil age" (Galatians 1:4)! The Law served as a "guardian" until Christ (Galatians 3:24).

Freedom from this present age means liberty from the Law and new life by the Spirit. Those who believe are released from sin and the demands of the Law. Much like Independence Day, the Law no longer rules over the lives of Christians. Now, faith in Christ and life by the power of the Spirit define the new charter for living as God's united people. As we celebrate our national independence this month in America, let us consider the freedom to live a new kind of life in Christ Jesus, which includes love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23).

*Pastor Mathew Anderson, Campus Pastor*

## Employee spotlight

Mario Hernandez has been working at SummerWood of Chanhassen since October 2023. He joined the team because he thought it would be a good place to work and liked the idea of helping serve the residents. He said he has really enjoyed his time here so far and said the residents are what make it such a great place to work. He loves the interaction and family-like atmosphere.



Mario isn't native to Chanhassen but both parents are originally from MN. His father was a marine and was based in California at the time of his birth. He and his family lived in California until he was about 8 years old. That's when they packed up and moved across the country. Mario, the youngest of his family, and his four siblings (2 brothers and 2 sisters) spent most of their childhood in Fredericksburg, Virginia until Covid in 2020 when they moved to MN settling in Chanhassen.

In his free time, Mario enjoys playing video games on his PlayStation 5. Though he plays all sorts of games, one of his favorites is Final Fantasy. He shared that he has always enjoyed anime and because most of the game is Japanese based he was intrigued to learn more about the language. He has been teaching himself on and off for five years and can read basic Japanese. He said he would love to visit there one day but has not yet been out of the country.

We are so glad Mario chose to serve with us at SummerWood of Chanhassen. He is a very dedicated, polite, attentive and super helpful.

*Omar Ayala, Nutrition & Culinary Services Director*

## Letter from the Foundation

Having a well-designed estate plan is important for everyone and, with clarity about your wishes, you will reduce the burden for your family. It can also save administrative costs or reduce taxes, preserving more of your estate for your beneficiaries.

Standard wording that might be useful is as follows:

### Gift of Specific Dollar Amount

"I hereby give to Presbyterian Homes Foundation located in Roseville, Minnesota, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_."

### Gift of Specific Percentage of Estate

"I hereby give \_\_\_\_\_ percentage of my estate (or "my trust assets" if using a trust) to Presbyterian Homes Foundation located in Roseville, Minnesota.

### Bequest with Presbyterian Homes Foundation as Contingent Beneficiary

"In the event any of my above-named beneficiaries have not survived me, I hereby direct their shares to be distributed to Presbyterian Homes Foundation located in Roseville, Minnesota."

### **Please tell us how you would like your gift used:**

"This gift is to be used for [name of fund, specific community, or both]."

When you include Presbyterian Homes Foundation in your will, your attorney may need to know the correct address and that Presbyterian Homes Foundation is a 501(c)3. Please provide the following:

Presbyterian Homes Foundation

2845 Hamline Avenue North

Roseville, MN 551113

Clear and precise wording ensures your wishes are honored and the Foundation can better fulfill your objectives. The Presbyterian Homes Foundation welcomes the opportunity to provide you with information about estate planning and answer questions you may have regarding your individual goals. For more information, please contact us at 651-631-6408 or 651-631-6418 or visit

[www.preshomes.planningyourlegacy.org](http://www.preshomes.planningyourlegacy.org).

## SummerWood birthdays



|             |      |
|-------------|------|
| Michael F   | 7/1  |
| Mary Ann C. | 7/1  |
| Carol S.    | 7/2  |
| Delores M.  | 7/4  |
| Shirley E.  | 7/10 |
| Fern K.     | 7/11 |
| Ginny F.    | 7/13 |
| Joan A.     | 7/19 |
| Ned K.      | 7/25 |
| Allan S.    | 7/28 |
| Vi A.       | 7/29 |
| Gleva K.    | 7/29 |



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[www.SummerWoodChanhassen.org](http://www.SummerWoodChanhassen.org)

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

## Nominate a PHS employee for the 2024 CROSS Awards

**N**ominations are now open through July 21 for the 2024 Presbyterian Homes & Services (PHS) CROSS Awards! These awards recognize individual employees who go above and beyond expectations as they embody and extend the five **PHS CROSS Values**:

- ✝ **Christian Ministry**
- ✝ **Ready and Engaged People**
- ✝ **Operational Integrity**
- ✝ **Service Excellence**
- ✝ **Stewardship**

Almost 8,000 employees serve at PHS. They make us proud through the dedication, compassion, and excellence they demonstrate every day. That is why each employee is eligible to be nominated by residents, coworkers, family, or friends.

What employees stands out to you and why? Simply scan the QR code to complete, and submit your nomination online. Or complete the paper nomination form included in this month's newsletter and return to the reception desk. Award recipients will be honored this fall. **Nominations are due by July 21.**

**Nominate electronically  
by scanning the QR code**

