



November/December 2011

Let Us Give Thanks

With Thanksgiving coming up later this month and Christmas right around the corner, we decided to give our staff and residents an opportunity to voice some of the things they're thankful for or special holiday memories they have. Here are some of the responses we received:

"How could anyone live here at Frey Village and not be thankful? After almost seven years, I have found the residents and staff to be friendly and helpful. After several operations and recovering here at Frey and a couple weeks in rehab with their help, I am back on my feet and working in my church again. I wouldn't want to live any place else. Thank you."—Jay Stouffer, IL resident

"Every year at Thanksgiving, it was a tradition to attend the John Harris-William Penn football game. Afterward, my husband and I would go back to my mother-in-law's for a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner. Usually John Harris would win too. Ha. Ha."—Ruth Shaffer, IL resident

And here's a collection of quotes from our nursing care residents:

- "I'm thankful for my little family."
- "I'm thankful for the ladies that help me and for my family."
- "I'm thankful for my family, my home here at Frey Village, the family of God, and that I'm able to walk and talk."
- "I'm thankful for activities, family, and for my children, who do a lot for me."
- "I'm thankful for my nurse and activities assistants, and for the attention I receive here at Frey Village."
- "I'm thankful for the people who work here. They are nice."
- "I'm thankful for my understanding family. They care about me."

And with Veteran's Day coming soon, here's a special response from resident Emmett Kaylor: "After combat in the Philippines in 1945, and after the atomic bomb was dropped, we were to go into Japan to fight. Thank God the war ended. Being in the Airborne, we would have been the first to land in Japan. In September 1945, we were

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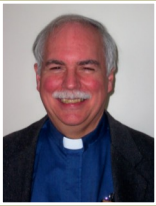
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MISSION

In response to God's love in Jesus Christ, Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries will demonstrate God's command to love the neighbor through acts of service.





**Pastor Art
Sonnenberg**

**Frey
Village
Chaplain**

Service Schedule

(begins at 3 p.m. unless otherwise indicated)

Nov. 6

**Rev. Arthur F.
Sonnenberg**

Chaplain at Frey Village

Nov. 13

TBA

Nov. 20

Rev. Wayne Moritz
Zion Lutheran Church,
Hummelstown

Nov. 27

TBA

December 4

**Rev. Arthur F.
Sonnenberg**

December 11

TBA

December 18

Rev. James Dawes
Retired UMC pastor,
Hummelstown

December 24

Christmas Eve, 6 p.m.
Rev. Arthur Sonnenberg

December 25

Christmas Day, 10 a.m.
Rev. Arthur Sonnenberg

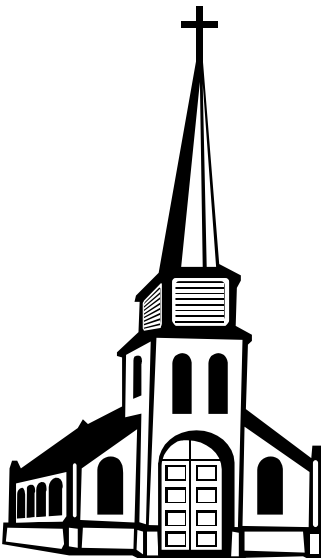
From the Chaplain's Desk

Perhaps you've heard the story of the little boy who was having trouble with one of his playmates, as sometimes happens. The Sunday before he had heard Jesus' teaching about forgiveness from Matthew 18:21-22. With that lesson in mind, he told his playmate, with just a hint of irritation in his voice, that he would forgive him 77 times, but after that he'd better watch out!

Well, you've got to give the young lad credit—he tried. But in his literalistic understanding of the parable, he missed the point Jesus was trying to make. For, by saying to Peter that one should forgive not seven times but 77 times, Jesus was *really* saying in a typical oriental fashion that our forgiveness should know no bounds. Perhaps the old Revised Standard Version captures the exaggeration even better when it translates Jesus' words as "not seven, but seventy times seven." However it is said, our Lord's teaching is clear: forgiveness without limits is the way to which he calls us.

Why is forgiveness so important? One reason—not mentioned in the Bible that I know of, but still relevant—is that it is good for your physical and mental well-being. Carrying a grudge or wallowing in anger or in an attitude of non-forgiveness saps us of a great deal of energy, wastes an amazing amount of time, and captivates us quite thoroughly. We end up remaining in a psychological prison of our own making, and that is not a pleasant place to be.

But there are other reasons to forgive, and these are biblically based. One of them is simply that this is the example that Jesus himself showed us. Jesus did not just *talk* about forgiveness; it was not just a theoretical discussion for him, nor was it something that he felt was good for his followers but which he himself was above. Our Lord was not into the "do as I say, not as I do" way of teaching. And so, we see the example par excellence of forgiveness as Jesus hangs dying on the cross. He could have called upon legions of angels to rescue him. He could have called down lightning bolts to get rid of his enemies. He could have made Pontius Pilate, Caiaphas, and even the emperor in Rome cringe in abject terror. Instead, he said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." (Luke 23:34)



That image is one that has inspired followers of Jesus right from the beginning. Indeed, the first Christian martyr, Stephen, as he was being stoned by

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What is an Abider?

The question has been asked several times: *What is an Abider?* In our Ministry Statement it says, "Abiders are a group of volunteers associated with Frey Village who serve the dying resident, especially when there are no available family or friends to be present near the time of death. Abiders are always aware that their Mission and Ministry to our dying residents is guided and strengthened by our faith. Our strength and our guidance come from our Lord."

For our residents of faith, dying is a spiritual time, when they are ending their human life and going to heaven to spend eternity with their God. And for some, it may mean the end of all time to them. As Abiders, we offer companionship, support, and reassurance out of our spiritual caring. It is a deeply spiritual and emotional experience.

Abiding with someone who is dying is a very special ministry. We bring to the bedside all our love, caring, and concern. We provide a gentle presence in the hope that this will give comfort to the resident as this earthly life comes to an end.

When we are able to sit with a dying resident, it puts our busy lives into better perspective. We are able to take the time to set aside the issues that concern us and focus on the deeper values of life. It is a peaceful time; a time to pray, to hold a hand, and to give comfort in any way that seems appropriate. We put all our concerns about abiding in the Lord's hands because as we do, He will take us and use us.

At the present time we are in the process of re-organizing the Abiding Ministry Program. Please pray for all who are involved. Pray for those residents who are in the last days of their lives, and pray for our 14 Abiders, who provide love and care to the dying. – **Anna Herr, Abider**

Any questions or concerns regarding the Abider's Ministry may be directed to Chaplain Art Sonnenberg at 930-1244 or Anna Herr at 944-3505.

Frey Village would like to thank...

**Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church
Lawton, PA**



for hosting the November
Residents Birthday Party

**Trinity Lutheran
Church
Hershey, PA**

for hosting the December
Residents Birthday Party



Thank you so much for serving the residents of Frey Village!

November/December 2011

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...the Jews, followed the way of his master by praying, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” (Acts 6:60) It is an image that still inspires us today.

But forgiveness is not just the *example* that Jesus gave, as powerful as that example is. Forgiveness is the very means by which we are saved. You will remember that Jesus himself said, “...the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.” 1 Peter 2:24 tells us, “He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.” And Ephesians 5:1-2 reminds us, “Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.”

And bear in mind that the debt of sin that God forgives each of us is vastly more than the debt we are called upon to forgive others. This is borne out in Jesus’ parable of the unforgiving servant in Matthew 18:23-35. The amount that that servant owed his master was absolutely astronomical. He says to his master, “Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.” But even as he speaks those words, the reader instinctively knows that there is no way that he is even going to *begin* to pay it back. After all, we’re talking about a sum of what would be around ten million dollars in our currency.

In comparison, the amount of money owed to the unforgiving servant by his fellow slave is about 20 dollars. In telling things this way, Jesus is clearly underscoring that the forgiveness we are called to bestow on others in no way comes near in quantity to what our heavenly Father must bestow upon each of us.

And that’s something, incidentally, we need to remember as we pray the Lord’s Prayer. One time a woman in a Sunday School class asked what it means when we pray the petition, “And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.” Anxiously, she went on to inquire if it meant that we will be forgiven just like we have forgiven others? She realized that if that were the case, we’d be in big trouble. God’s forgiveness of us, thankfully, is *incomparably* more than our forgiveness of others.

At the same time, if we depend upon God’s forgiveness for our salvation—if it is of ultimate importance to us that we continually receive that forgiveness—how can we deny our forgiveness to others who may have wronged us? How can we be like the unforgiving servant in the parable who, despite his being forgiven a stupendous debt by his master,

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... sent to Japan as occupation troops. I was there from September until December 1945 when I had 55 points to leave for home. We left Japan on Christmas Eve 1945 and went aboard the same ship that we went overseas on—the *U.S.S. Massonia*. We had a Christmas dinner on the ship, arrived at Indiantown Gap in January, and were discharged on January 15, 1946.”

And finally, Sandy Hentz, who manages the beauty shop at Frey Village, contributed this special Christmas memory: “One of my favorite memories of Christmas was when my grandson hurried to open his present of a t-shirt wrapped in Christmas paper. He opened it so fast that paper flew everywhere! Not seeing the present, he ended up throwing the shirt across the room, leaving just the wrapping paper. He looked at the empty paper as if to say, ‘Where’s the gift?!’ Also, when my granddaughter opened her present (a brightly colored, flowered dress), she pulled it out and said, ‘Oh! A curtain!’”

Sandy also added, “One of my most enjoyable moments here at Frey is when I get a resident to smile! Also when I talk to them, and they laugh. It makes me feel content...seeing them in the halls, enjoying the activities and various events Frey offers, and also seeing friends. Those are moments of happiness for me.”



Residents Go Bowling

The Frey Village nursing activities department took a group of residents to ABC Lanes East bowling alley. Catherine Waters had the highest score with 101! Residents had great fun giving their bowling balls a good push down the lane. The group’s mood was full of excitement and proud boasts, especially when a strike or spare was bowled! Everyone agreed they’d like to bowl again. Pictured: (back row, from left) activities staff members Tracy Klein, Aaron Willison, Angelo Evans, Courtney Singelton, (front row) Jim Coughenour, Catherine Waters, Phyllis Spyker, Dorothy Mihalik, and Catherine Matjasic.

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Resident Birthdays

November

- 2 Ruth Shaffer
- 2 Clara Travitz
- 4 Edna Kucinski
- 6 William Grooms
- 7 Edward Bair
- 8 June Knauff
- 9 LaVona Hansen
- 10 Marie Calhoun
- 14 Ruth Dasenburg
- 14 Mary Laubenstein
- 15 Marie Rose
- 16 Mary Manfred
- 16 Willene Snavely
- 18 Pauline Zapcic
- 19 Helen Swetz
- 20 Guillermina Castillo
- 24 Florence Bell
- 26 Bessie Martin
- 28 Judith Gardner
- 30 Betty Dawes

December

- 2 Marlin Bell
- 10 Gail Richards
- 11 JoElla Knight
- 13 Fay Fisher
- 15 B. Scharretts
- 17 Helen Staub
- 17 Elias Zerbe
- 20 Marie Schue
- 21 Beatrice Walters
- 23 Jean Hall

Veteran's Day Service

**Friday, Nov. 11, 2011
beginning at 2 p.m.
in the Chapel at Frey Village**

Residents who served in the military will be recognized. The service will also include patriotic music, and resident Emmett Kaylor, who served in the U.S. Army Airborne, will share memories of his time in the service.

All are welcome to attend.



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...could not find it in his heart to have mercy on his fellow servant who owed him only a miniscule amount?

It is reported that back in the colonial days General James Oglethorpe, the founder of the Georgia Colony, once remarked to John Wesley, "I never forgive and I never forget." To this, Wesley replied, "Then, sir, I hope you never sin." Wesley was right, for if one does not think that it is necessary to forgive others, then it would seem that such a person must also think that there is no need for God to forgive him or her. And that is a terrible assumption to make.

The parable of the unforgiving servant can be seen both as one of judgment and one of grace. How one perceives it largely depends upon where one stands in relation to it. Those who persist in bearing grudges and being unmerciful will see a word of judgment in it. Those who are inspired by God's wondrous forgiveness of them to forgive others will see it as a blessed reminder of the wideness in God's mercy.



In Christ,

Rev. Arthur Sonnenberg, Chaplain

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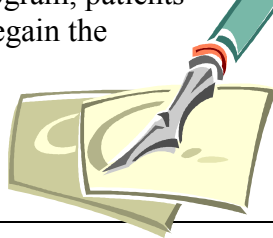


Resident's Artwork Selected

Frey Village resident Loretta Amspacher has had a piece of artwork, titled "My Inspiration," chosen to be part of the Memories in the Making (MIM) Event's 2012 calendar. The art pieces which were selected will be exhibited in the East Wing Rotunda of the Capitol in Harrisburg from Monday, Nov. 14, through Friday, Nov. 18.

The contest included 12 selections for use in the calendar and five pieces which will be used for note cards. The printed materials will be available for purchase at the beginning of November. A limited number of calendars and note cards will be available at Frey Village. If requested, additional copies can be ordered through Wendy in the admin office at Frey Village by calling 930-1215 or emailing stiversw@diakon.org.

Memories in the Making is a fine arts program for people with Alzheimer's. As part of the MIM program, patients with no art background can create art to regain the ability to communicate while boosting self-esteem and opening channels of communication with loved ones.



Staff Birthdays

November

6 Patricia Graham
Barbara Kisiel
8 Barbara Harlacker
Jeannine Smith
9 Tammy Jimenez
10 Tony Stanko
12 Toni Hoover
16 Alyssa Brehm
17 Michael Dudeck
Katrina Hanan
Deanna Rogers
19 Wendy Deimler
Tasha Lyter
20 Nicole Pelesky
21 Lana Weidner
22 Taylor Brnik
Rochelle Grogan
Amy Stoops
26 Dolly Crawford
28 Daryl Kent
29 Katherine Szeles
30 Casandra Hoover

December

1 Amie DeStefano
2 Katrina Weaser
3 Angelo Evans
6 Courtney Singleton
7 Ana Alvarez
10 Althelda Jones
Georgieann Nissley
11 Melinda Celsky
Lisa Fabian
12 Theresa Barnhart
13 Dorothy Brnik
16 Rachel Hengst
18 Cheryl Wertz
21 Melissa Dorm
26 Raeanne Crumlich
29 Ty Blamer
30 Cheryl Murphy
31 Tikeshea Hawkins
Tracy Klein

November-December Variety Program

Nov. 1	Joy Choir
Nov. 8	(no program)
Nov. 15	Special Tea
Nov. 22	Mystery Tunes w/RJS
Nov. 29	Gerry Seiler
Dec. 6	The Sentimentalists
Dec. 13	Pastor Fox w/Felicity
Dec. 20	Ruth Dodson
Dec. 27	The Music Makers

**Diakon Lutheran
Social Ministries**



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Merry Christmas



*from the
directors and staff
at Frey Village*

& Happy New Year

The Frey
Village Voice
newsletter is
issued on a
bi-monthly basis.



For a listing
of scheduled
activities for
Frey Village
residents,
monthly
calendars are
posted on the
Frey Village
Calendar/Event
web page.

[www.diakon.org/
frey](http://www.diakon.org/frey)