

HERITAGE of Care

THE BETHESDA LETTER

BETHESDA HOME...independence, respect, dignity since 1899

Introducing Amanda Church Bethesda's new Director of Nursing

Passion for care, excellence in nursing, and the mission of Bethesda are all things that Amanda Church is committed to.

Growing up in Moundridge and graduating in 2003, Amanda knew she wanted to pursue a career somewhere in medicine. Initially she wanted to be a physician, and began schooling to pursue that desire. She quickly learned that she had a passion for more hands on care and Nursing became the new goal.

After attending Newman for a year, she transferred to Bethel where she graduated in 2008 with her Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree. She was part of Sigma Theta Tau, an international nursing honor society and graduated Cum Laude in her graduating class.

Amanda began working at Newton Medical Center in 2005 and worked on the medical unit there. She eventually became a nurse and worked in Medical Surgery and loved it there. In 2011 she transferred to Case Management and became the Joint Camp Coordinator and worked mainly with the orthopedic and

cardiac patients in that area.

Upon hearing about the position opening up at Bethesda, she became the assistant DON in May of 2013 and ultimately was promoted to DON on April 1, 2014.

"I love what I do here. I love the residents here and have been known to get involved in resident care. Sometimes I come in on night and evening shifts to help out if needed," said Church.

Amanda's mother also works at Bethesda as a CNA,

so it has been good for the two of them to be able to connect a bit more now that Amanda is at Bethesda.

Church lives north of Goessel with her husband, Kelcey and daughter Natalie, 5.

"I am excited for Natalie to start Kindergarten here in Goessel this coming September. We love living here and being a part of this community. We go to church at Tabor Mennonite and have really enjoyed getting plugged in there," said Church.

The best thing about working in the nursing field for Church is that when her staff needs help out on the floor, she is ready and willing to go and help.

"Every day is different. I come here every day with a task list that I plan to either start, work on or finish, but I don't always get too far into that list. Sometimes residents have needs that need to be addressed and that is the primary priority for me in this position," said Church.

This attitude is a good one because it fits perfectly with Bethesda's mission of seeking to be a community formed by the spirit of Jesus Christ to fulfill the lives of adults with special needs in a place that is home.

"This is their home," said Church. "We want them to feel that it is their home. If they want a snack or need to visit, or call their families, it doesn't matter if I'm in the middle of a State report, if the resident needs something that's what I do. I work for these residents and make it my priority to see that they feel at home and get the care and amenities that they need."

There are many things that the staff at Bethesda will do to make sure that the residents get what they need.



Amanda Church, RN, BSN, Director of Nursing, started in this position on April 1, 2014. She has been known to pitch in on the floor helping with nursing duties in addition to her administrative responsibilities.



Pete Flaming and Amanda Church are working together to promote Bethesda's many strengths and generate support through prayer and giving.

"Church" continued on pg. 3

From the CEO

Greetings from Bethesda Home!

Thank you to each of you for your connection to Bethesda, and taking the time to read through our summer newsletter. We are really excited about all the positive things happening at Bethesda. Hopefully you have heard that Bethesda was recently awarded a 5-star rating from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services (CMS). This speaks volumes of our wonderful caregivers who take their jobs seriously and treat each resident like family.

In this issue you will be introduced, or re-introduced, to Pete Flaming who is returning to Bethesda as our Director of Development. You will also get a chance to meet Amanda Church our new Director of Nursing. We are excited to have them on board, as well as all the staff who make Bethesda special.

We also want to focus on our volunteers. Bethesda is truly

blessed by so many of you who take time to provide for our residents with your visits, gardening, singing, and praying.

This past week we had a consulting firm come to Bethesda to look at our operations and provide an outside perspective. They were extremely impressed with our facility, that we are debt free and especially with the quality of care we provide. They were also impressed with our attractive facilities on a very “lean” budget. This is again a testament to each of you and your support of this ministry.

As always, feel free to stop by and visit. We are grateful for your connection to Bethesda, and the many ways that you help to enhance the lives of our residents.

Blessings,



Eric Schrag, CEO

For a current mission update, we invite you to attend the Annual Meeting on Thursday May 22nd at 7:00 p.m. in the Bethesda Chapel.

Volunteer Focus

Volunteering at Bethesda Home is not only about helping Bethesda. When one gives of their time they also receive blessings as it says in Acts. 20:25.

In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’

For Bethesda Home, one of the greatest assets is the support it receives from the Goessel and surrounding communities. One of the most helpful forms of support is volunteerism. Volunteers truly do help to keep Bethesda going strong.

Gayle Voth, Activities Director, has found that having volunteers give of their time on a regular basis can really give residents and staff a boost.

Deloris Schmidt has been a long time volunteer at Bethesda. In fact she has volunteered for 14 years straight.

Deloris grew up south of Hillsboro and has had a long connection to Bethesda. Initially she began volunteering as a way to help out, but also because her mother was living at Bethesda.

“It was so that I would have a reason to come and visit her every week, but it also was a great way to contribute to Bethesda Home. It gives me a way to get out and interact with others,” said Schmidt.

Her main volunteer position these days is to read a story in the lounge area of Butterfly Lane on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. She has been reading the Grace Livingston Hill books.

“All of the residents seem to enjoy that,” she said.

“I read for half an hour and I have a faithful core group that comes out for this,” said Schmidt.

“I first started serving the ladies tea, then it was the ladies tea and the men’s coffee but then that changed to story time because Carolyn Aerosmith asked if I could do the story time.”

Deloris has also helped out with some administrative tasks such as labeling among other things.

“There is a good core group of about 20 volunteers that help out on a semi-regular basis. There are many people who give of their time and the frequency varies from person to person,” said Voth.

There are many openings for new volunteers. Some of them are: feeding the birds, doing a craft with residents, visiting, reading to a resident, taking a wheel chair bound resident for a ride through the butterfly garden, helping weed the flower beds, painting for maintenance, filing reports, helping residents use the computer, playing games with residents, entertaining residents with special talents, sharing a collection of stamps, coins, dolls, butterflies, seashells etc., playing piano for memorial services, showing your classic car or motorcycle to residents, or sharing a



Deloris Schmidt has been volunteering for 14 years straight at Bethesda Home. Her main volunteer position is to do a story reading time on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.

It's Good To Be Back Home

It was an honor and a joy for me to have served this committed Bethesda community of supporters from September 1996 to September 2006 and I am grateful it has been offered to me again after retiring from Everence in February 2014. I



Pete Flaming was the Director of Development at Bethesda Home from 1996 to 2006. After retiring from Everence, Pete is back at Bethesda and excited about the future.

look forward to walking with each of you on your journey of being a good steward of what God has given you. My major focus in the next few years will be providing educational resources for planning ahead on issues like advanced directives, wills, trusts, gift annuities, leaving a legacy through an estate plan, etc.

It has been heartwarming for me to learn upon my return that there are 34 current donors who have contributed

EVERY YEAR to Bethesda over the past 18 years (and some possibly longer, but it is since then that a data base has been used to record such information). Additionally, there have been 35 more who have contributed for 10 – 16 consecutive years to Bethesda's ministry.

Fourteen of the top 75 donors who contributed over \$468,285 over the past 18 years have deceased. This presents a challenge for each of us to become one of those top donors to support this important ministry – not only to our local community members, but Bethesda also often provides services to those who need care that other retirement communities have rejected.

Through future newsletters my hope is to tell the story of Bethesda's rich history, spanning over 115 years, of the commitment to providing excellent care and completing major capital projects debt free in a competitive retirement community market. These stories will come from donors, board members, staff, family members of residents, etc. We have a LOT to be thankful for!

We are very grateful for contributions through memorial gifts, cash gifts, regular monthly giving gifts (checks and ACH), bequest gifts, gift annuities, volunteer time, etc. that we have received.

“Church” continued from pg. 1

“Just last week a resident came in and said they wanted to go to Wal-Mart. I said, ‘OK let's go get that scheduled’ and one of the transport drivers was available to drive her the next day,” said Church.

The next day another resident wanted to take a trip to eat at a favorite Chinese restaurant in McPherson. That was arranged as well.

The assisted living unit wanted an outdoor bar-b-que and that was taking place the same day.

The residents enjoy many amenities, and also get top notch medical care at Bethesda. Such a high level of care comes from some of the top physicians in central Kansas. Dr. Jon Casimir is the medical director for Bethesda Home. He works out of Newton with Via Christi. He is always a phone call away, and does rounds every second and third Thursday of the month. Some of the other physicians that are on call are Dr. Tim Wiens, Dr. Donna Ewy, Laveta Woodson-Jarrett, APRN, all from Via Christi in Newton. Dr. Don Hodson of Marion is also another

contracted professional.

Church tries very hard to be sure that the nursing staff at Bethesda are happy and excited to put forth as much effort as is possible to provide the best level of care to the residents. This became evident when a family member of a resident who recently passed away named the CNA's at Bethesda “Certified Nurse Angels.”

“They really are angels,” said Church. “They are the glue that holds this place together.”

“I am very blessed to be working in this position here at Bethesda and want to thank the Bethesda community for their continued faith and support in my endeavors here. I'd ask for continued prayers for all of our residents and staff as we continue to pour out love and care to them. Pray that we are able to live out the mission of Bethesda now and always. We are very grateful for the support we receive from the community of Goessel and beyond.”

P.O.P. Quiz

(Pete's Opportunity for Philanthropy)

- Revenue to Bethesda generated by individuals using Keith's Foods and Dillon's grocery certificates over the years is:
 - \$30,244
 - \$15,280
 - \$50,820
 - \$25,122
 - \$38,920
- Lost gift cards are like throwing away cash, they cannot be recovered.

True False

(see page 5 for answers)

Will & Trust Reminders

Your will or trust is one of the most important documents you will ever sign. Here are five of the more important things to remember:

1. Do it NOW!

The worst thing you can do in creating a will or trust is to procrastinate. A will delayed is a will not done. For your sake, and the sake of your loved ones, do your will NOW. Don't be like 55% of Americans who rely on the State in which they reside to provide your will. Don't be one of the 92% of those under 35 years of age without a will.

2. Use a trusted qualified estate-planning attorney.

Saving a few bucks by writing your own will, or using a mass-produced generic form for wills and trusts, will not provide the level of inner peace and confidence you and your family deserve. Seek out a qualified estate-planning attorney who asks the right questions and who knows how to draft a will that meets the specific requirements of your state of residence. We can help you with this.

3. Make sure that advanced directives and insurance beneficiaries are correct.

Your will or trust needs to be considered along with other transfer documents, such as life insurance policies, joint-ownership accounts and retirement accounts. Other estate-planning documents might include: power of attorney, appropriate health care provisions, and a living will. Again, a good attorney can help you coordinate your planning and provide added assurance that everything you need is prepared legally and according to your wishes.

4. Review your will annually and update it every 5 years.

Things change. Children grow up. New laws are passed affecting estate planning. New developments occur regarding health issues, land values, and financial resources. An outdated will or trust could create more problems than it solves. It's a good idea to get out your will every year and review it with a financial advisor.

5. Know where your will is and communicate content with family members.

A will or a trust is worthless unless it can be located and duly recorded at your death. Be sure to put it in a safe place, but also let someone else know where it is. Tell one or more loved ones, or a trusted friend. It is also good to share the content of your will with your children.

We at Bethesda Home want you and your loved ones to be protected with a good, up-to-date estate plan. If you need help in finding a qualified attorney, we will try to assist you in any way we can.

We also want to remind you that an estate gift to Bethesda Home can make a positive statement to your family and friends regarding your priorities, as well as make a tremendous difference in our future work. Thank you for remembering Bethesda Home as you plan or update your will or trust.

We have access to some excellent resources about wills, trusts and estate planning. **Let us know how we can help by using the handy response form below**, or contact our Director of Development, Pete Flaming, at 620-367-2291, or e-mail pflaming@bethesdahome.org.

Plan ahead!

It wasn't raining

when Noah built the ark.



Response Form

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

I would like to receive information about:

Estate giving to Bethesda

Setting up my will

Charitable trusts

Other: _____

P.O.P Quiz Answers (from pg. 3)

1) C - Grocery Gift Cards have generated over \$50,820.00 to Bethesda over the years. Thanks to all of you who use them and support Bethesda in this way. Please contact Bethesda (620-367-2291) for more information. You are enabling Dillon's and Keith's Foods to be philanthropists.

2) False - Though cards from Dillons and Keith's Foods do say "treat these cards like cash" and a lost card can result in lost money. If proper steps are taken there IS a way to recover the full balance on your card if you notice that you have lost your card before anyone uses it.

To recover funds on a Dillons Gift Card:

- Keep a record of the nineteen digit Gift Card # in another safe location. (The first 10 digits connect you to the Bethesda account and the last 9 digits are the number of your specific card.)
- For best results, call the Hutchinson office – Dillons gift services department – 620-669-3252 (Karen) or 866-345-5664 (instead of the number on the card) and report your lost card. They will freeze further use of the card.
- Purchase a new refillable card from Bethesda, Citizens State Bank, or Crossroads Credit Union (i.e. a \$50 card) then call the Hutchinson office again to ask them to transfer the remaining balance that is on record of the lost card to your new card number.
- Record the complete number of the new card in a safe place.

Procedure for lost cards from Keith's Foods is similar, but even simpler!

- Record the last 4 digits of the long number on the card.
- Call Keith (620-367-2203) and he will freeze further transactions on that card and transfer the remaining balance to a new card purchased at Bethesda, Crossroads Credit Union or the Citizens State Bank.

Reminder – Purchase one refillable Dillon's card (we are phasing out the one-time use cards). Instead of needing to remember to buy a new card each time it is used up, the refillable card is more convenient, saves time and plastic cards, and often generates more money for Bethesda. Just ask any of the store registers to add additional value to your card before they begin to ring up your new purchases. The card can be used for goods and fuel purchased at any Dillons, Kroger, Kwik Shop, King Supers stores and more.

In Memory

James Goudy, January 19, 2014

John Bestvater, January 26, 2014

Martha Hiebert, March 4, 2014

Viola T. Ratzlaff, March 27, 2014

Agnes Goossen, April 14, 2014

Dieter to a friend:

“They told me to wear loose clothing to my new exercise class, but I told them that if I had any loose clothing I wouldn't need the class.”

Warning:

Exposure to the Sun may prevent burning.

“Volunteer” continued from pg. 2

slideshow or photos with residents. Voth said that they are open to other options that people want to do as well.

“We are also looking for people to make wooden bird houses. We have a resident who loves to paint wooden bird houses,” said Voth.

If you are interested in helping out as a volunteer at Bethesda, contact Gayle Voth, or go to our website, www.bethesdahome.org.

and click on the “Get Involved” tab and fill out an application. There will be a small orientation process to be sure that both the volunteer and Bethesda are striving to achieve the same goals.

“A volunteer gets just as much joy from helping as they might give away. Volunteering is vital to the whole community. It is worthy for people to take a personal interest in volunteering at Bethesda,” said Voth.



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Did You Know?

Some impressive facts that you might not know about Bethesda Home

- ❑ Did you know that Bethesda provides a chapel service of singing and a short meditation for staff and residents Wednesday mornings at 9 a.m.? – AND community members are invited to attend. Stop by Lincoln Perk first for a cup of coffee and then join us in the chapel next door!
- ❑ Did you know that Bethesda offers therapy 5 days a week along with 24 hour nursing services to assist you in the transition from hospital to your home following major surgeries like hip, knee, and cardiac rehab? Therapists, nurses and Social workers will assist in making your transition to your home seamless and enjoyable.
- ❑ Did you know that Bethesda Home, along with 6 other homes in the 3 county area received a top (#5) ranking for nursing homes by the U.S. News and World Report Best Nursing Homes 2014. Rankings are based on how well the home performs in health inspections, nurse staffing and level of quality care conducted by survey teams across the state. More information can be received at usnews.com/nursinghomes.

www.bethesdahome.org

**To enable us to communicate more efficiently in this electronic world,
please send your current email address to pflaming@bethesdahome.org**