



CONGREGATIONAL HOME

RESIDENTS' MONTHLY NEWS

Volume 183

Brookfield, Wisconsin

December 2017

Welcome to our new Social Services Director . . . Gina Osell!

Gina joined our Congregational Home team on Tuesday, November 21.

In addition to leading the Social Services Department, Gina will dedicate herself to working with all of our Assisted and Independent Living Residents.

Gina brings extensive experience with her, including previous work history with Assisted and Independent Communities, Skilled Care, and the Aurora Geriatrics Institute. Gina is best described as a caring, patient, and kind person that anyone would chose as a friend! She always lends an ear, and is known for her sound advice and strong work ethic! I am certain you will all find Gina to be a great fit for our Congregational Home community!

Gina's office is in the existing Social Services office near the entrance to Betty's Garden, and I know she is looking forward to meeting you all!!

Merry Christmas

Bahama Bob Christmas Music

Wednesday, December 20

11:00 a.m.

Chapel

Christmas Parties

2:30 p.m.	Assisted Living	Chapel
2:30 p.m.	SNF-1	Chapel
4:00 p.m.	MCU	MCU Fireside
4:30 p.m.	Rehab	Rehab Lounge
4:30 p.m.	Apartments	Commons

New Year's Eve Party

Entertainment by Mark Grzanna

Friday, December 29

2:30 p.m.

Chapel Dining Room



Poinsettias

If you'd like to contribute money toward poinsettias for our chapel, please contact Pastor Joe Phillips, Director of Spiritual Services and Philanthropy, at 262-781-0550 by Friday, December 8. We're grateful to all who help make our chapel a beautiful sanctuary during the holiday season.

Christmas is right around the corner!

Christmas decorations containing pine boughs, and trees, wreaths, or any other items with pine pitch constitute a fire hazard and are prohibited from our building by law. Thank you for your cooperation.

Food Gifts

The Christmas season is fast approaching, and often family members enjoy thanking our staff by bringing in treats. While we greatly appreciate your kindness and generosity, we ask that food products not be brought to the facility. Issues include providing equity among the many staff and shifts, and most importantly, concerns focused on infection control. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Employee Appreciation Fund

As Christmastime draws near, we are often moved to show our appreciation to those who care for us or our loved ones. If you wish to show your appreciation this holiday season, a donation box will be provided at the main reception desk. All donations are distributed fairly to the staff to make their new year a little brighter and warmer. The staff of Congregational Home wishes you all a very Merry Christmas and all of God's blessings in the year ahead. If you have any questions about our Employee Appreciation Fund, please contact Mike Kurtz, Director of Finance, at 262-781-0550.

Feeding the Hungry This Holiday Season

Many families in our community don't have enough to eat. It's the season of giving, so at Congregational Home, we'd like to share our blessings with those who are less fortunate through our annual holiday food drive. A collection bin has been placed in our Family Entrance Lobby for the donation of canned goods and nonperishables. All items will be donated to the Hunger Task Force in Milwaukee.

Preferred items include:

- Fruits canned in their own juice, like peaches or pears, and 100% fruit juice
- Vegetables canned and low in sodium, like corn and green beans
- Grains that are whole, like brown rice, oatmeal, and no sugar added cereal
- Protein that is lean, like canned chicken, beans, and peanut butter
- Dairy that is boxed and low-fat, like skim milk and almond milk
- Snacks like breakfast bars, granola bars, and nuts

If you have any questions about our food drive, please contact Pastor Joe Phillips, Director of Spiritual Services and Philanthropy, at 262-781-0550.

Christmas Craft Fair, Bake Sale, and Crechè Display

Friday, December 8

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Chapel



Baked Goods

Ceramics

Dog Blankets

Dog Treats

Holiday Gifts

Raffle Baskets

Snack Mixes



December Events / Entertainment

Dec. 01	Friday	10:30 a.m.	Hug-a-Pup ~ Activity Center
Dec. 02	Saturday	2:00 p.m.	Winter Recital ~ Chapel
Dec. 03	Sunday	2:00 p.m.	Christmas Recital ~ Chapel
Dec. 04	Monday	10:15 a.m.	Christmas Sing-Along with Marj ~ Chapel
Dec. 05	Tuesday	2:30 p.m.	Bunco ~ Activity Center
Dec. 06	Wednesday	2:30 p.m.	Brookfield Christian School Visits ~ Activity Center
Dec. 07	Thursday	10:15 a.m. 3:15 p.m.	Devotions with Pastor Joe/Hymn Sing with Marj ~ Chapel Girl Scouts Christmas Caroling ~ SNF-1 Fireside
Dec. 08	Friday	2:00 p.m.	Christmas Craft Fair, Bake Sale, and Creché Display ~ Chapel
Dec. 12	Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Brookfield Chorus Christmas Concert ~ Chapel
Dec. 13	Wednesday	2:00 p.m.	Christmas Music with Chuck and Greg ~ Chapel
Dec. 14	Thursday	10:15 a.m. 4:00 p.m.	Devotions with Pastor Joe/Hymn Sing ~ Chapel Meet-and-Greet with Gina Osell ~ Chapel
Dec. 15	Friday	11:15 a.m.	Pam's Family Child Care Visits ~ Chapel
Dec. 16	Saturday	10:00 a.m.	Steps of Grace Ballet School ~ Chapel
Dec. 18	Monday	3:45 p.m.	Whitman Middle School Visits ~ Activity Center
Dec. 19	Tuesday	2:00 p.m.	Brookfield Christian School Instrumental Program ~ Chapel
Dec. 20	Wednesday	11:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. 2:30 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 4:30 p.m.	Bahama Bob Christmas Music ~ Chapel Brookfield Christian School Instrumental Program ~ Chapel Assisted Living/SNF-1 Christmas Party ~ Chapel MCU Christmas Party ~ MCU Fireside Rehab Christmas Party ~ Rehab Lounge
Dec. 21	Thursday	10:15 a.m.	Devotions with Pastor Joe/Hymn Sing ~ Chapel
Dec. 24	Sunday	11:00 a.m.	Christmas Eve Worship Service ~ Chapel
Dec. 28	Thursday	10:15 a.m.	Devotions with Pastor Joe/Hymn Sing ~ Chapel
Dec. 29	Friday	2:30 p.m.	New Year's Eve Party with Music by Mark Grzanna ~ Chapel Area



December Outings

Dec. 01	Friday	2:00 p.m.	Grocery Shopping at Whole Foods Market
Dec. 04	Monday	2:00 p.m. 6:15 p.m.	Grocery Shopping at Pick 'n Save SNF-1 Christmas Lights Ride
Dec. 11	Monday	6:15 p.m.	Abundant Life Christmas Lights Ride
Dec. 13	Wednesday	6:15 p.m.	MCU Christmas Lights Ride
Dec. 18	Monday	2:00 p.m. 6:15 p.m.	Grocery Shopping at Pick 'n Save Assisted Living Christmas Lights Ride

“O Come... O come... Emmanuel”

As we enter the Advent season, we begin our preparations for Christmas. But what is it we are preparing and how do we prepare for it?

We preparing for Christ to appear.

The world is not the way it's supposed to be. We all know that. It's obvious with the news and rumors of war. Violence on a daily level is recounted. Famine, brutality and suffering are too common. It is estimated there are more slaves today in the world than at any other time in history. We hear about how sexism, racism and other forms of bigoted ideology impact the lives of people. All of creation is crying out, “come Lord Jesus and heal this land”. “O come... O come... Emmanuel.”

The Christian hope is that Jesus will come again, and put an end to all the suffering that is caused by human sin. Jesus will come to judge the nations, to teach people the way of peace and love. Jesus will heal the brokenness and fractures in the world. Advent is about us being ready for that future?

But how do we prepare? We have to recognize the ways in which we are complicit in the sin and suffering of the world. We are not just waiting for Jesus to appear in the future, we are cultivating lives in which Jesus can appear to us...right now. We sing *O Come Emmanuel*, that Jesus would cultivate greater virtue in our own lives. Because the truth is that if Jesus is going to make the world right when he comes again, he has to set our hearts right to be ready.

Advent is than a microcosm of the journey of our life. Whatever the end (the end of our life, the end of the world), it ends with Jesus. It ends with the light of Christ appearing and shining the light of truth and love on all that has been created. So we prepare, by cultivating faithfulness, hope, joy and love in our lives, so that our own lives might be the appearing of Christ to others.

Advent is about preparing our lives to receive the very presence of God made human. May this journey enlighten you and bring your closer to the God who comes close.

O come Emmanuel.

I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.” He who was seated on the throne said,

“I am making everything new!”

– Revelation 21:3-5

Pastor Joe Phillips
Chaplain, Congregational Home

Hand Hygiene: 20 Seconds Can Make a Difference for You and Others

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) hand hygiene is the #1 way to prevent the spread of infection in healthcare settings. During the upcoming cold and flu season proper handwashing techniques are vital for reducing the spread of harmful germs.

Twenty seconds, not 10 seconds or five seconds, but twenty seconds is the CDC recommendation for effective hand washing that eliminates harmful bacteria and viruses from your hands. The emphasis is on reaching a full 20 seconds of lathering and scrubbing with soap and clean water before you reach for the towel. If you sing "Happy Birthday" to yourself while washing your hands this will take you about 20 seconds. You are putting yourself and others at risk if your hand washing routine only takes a couple seconds or if it lacks the vigor of a thorough cleansing.

When you stop and think about the numerous things you touch throughout your day, the possibilities are endless for contaminating your hands with germs. Hands routinely touch light switches, doorknob, pets, trash, keys, cell phones, electronic devices, credit cards, and at some point food items. Hopefully it is your natural routine to wash your hands before you eat or after using the toilet but recognize that bacteria lurk everywhere. One of the best healthy habits you can implement is thorough hand washing throughout your day. Maintaining this healthy habit may take continued awareness and dedication but it is a lifelong habit that will serve you well.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Anmarie Kehoss RN
Infection Control Nurse, Congregational Home

Source: Center for Disease Control and Prevention

The Apartment Page

December Events / Entertainment

Dec. 01	Friday	10:30 a.m.	Hug-a-Pup ~ Activity Center
Dec. 02	Saturday	2:00 p.m.	Winter Recital ~ Chapel
Dec. 03	Sunday	2:00 p.m.	Christmas Recital ~ Chapel
Dec. 04	Monday	10:15 a.m.	Christmas Sing-Along with Marj ~ Chapel
Dec. 05	Tuesday	2:30 p.m.	Bunco ~ Activity Center
Dec. 06	Wednesday	2:30 p.m. 4:30 p.m.	Brookfield Christian School Visits ~ Activity Center Apartment Social with Cindy ~ Commons
Dec. 07	Thursday	10:15 a.m. 3:15 p.m.	Devotions with Pastor Joe/Hymn Sing with Marj ~ Chapel Girl Scouts Christmas Caroling ~ SNF-1 Fireside
Dec. 08	Friday	2:00 p.m.	Christmas Craft Fair, Bake Sale, and Creche Display ~ Chapel
Dec. 11	Monday	10:45 a.m.	Christmas Lunch Outing ~ Eddie Martini's
Dec. 12	Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Brookfield Chorus Christmas Concert ~ Chapel
Dec. 13	Wednesday	2:00 p.m. 4:30 p.m.	Christmas Music with Chuck and Greg ~ Chapel Apartment Social with Cindy ~ Commons
Dec. 14	Thursday	10:15 a.m. 4:00 p.m.	Devotions with Pastor Joe/Hymn Sing ~ Chapel Meet-and-Greet with Gina Osell ~ Chapel
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Dec. 18	Monday	3:45 p.m.	Whitman Middle School Visits ~ Activity Center
Dec. 19	Tuesday	2:00 p.m.	Brookfield Christian School Instrumental Program ~ Chapel
Dec. 20	Wednesday	11:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. 4:30 p.m.	Bahama Bob Christmas Music ~ Chapel Brookfield Christian School Instrumental Program ~ Chapel Apartment Christmas Party ~ Commons
Dec. 21	Thursday	10:15 a.m.	Devotions with Pastor Joe/Hymn Sing ~ Chapel
Dec. 24	Sunday	11:00 a.m.	Christmas Eve Worship Service ~ Chapel
Dec. 27	Wednesday	4:30 p.m.	Apartment Wine Social with Lori ~ Commons
Dec. 28	Thursday	10:15 a.m.	Devotions with Pastor Joe/Hymn Sing ~ Chapel
Dec. 29	Friday	2:30 p.m.	New Year's Eve Party & Music by Mark Grzanna ~ Chapel Area



Activity	Day	Date	Time	Location
Games with DdG	Monday	Dec. 4, 11, 18	2:00 p.m.	Commons
*****Grocery Shopping*****	*Monday*	*****Dec. 4, 18*****	2:00 p.m.	Pick 'n Save
Yoga with Molly	Tuesday	Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26		
Pray for America	Tuesday	Dec. 12, 26	1:45 p.m.	Commons
Lifelong Learning Study Group	Wednesday	Dec. 6, 13, 20	2:00 p.m.	Commons
Grocery Shopping	Friday	Dec. 1	2:00 p.m.	Whole Foods Market
Strength and Balance (Exercise)	M/W/F	Dec. 4, 6, 8, 11, 13, 18, 20, 22, 27, 29	10:30 a.m.	Commons