

# SAMARITAN'S CHRONICLE



### Mission

As an expression of God's love, Samaritan's Carriage tailor's experiences and personal encounters that affirm, bless, and bring joy into the lives of persons having limited mobility.



We're missing our guests.



### Board Members

Bill Botts – President  
 Mark Greidanus  
 Abbie Holt  
 Barry Meerman – Secretary  
 Ruth Schoon  
 Doug Sieplinga – Treasurer  
 Mary VanWingerden  
 Karen Weaver  
 Sara Buchholz – Executive Director  
 616-633-9548  
[sarabuchholz50@gmail.com](mailto:sarabuchholz50@gmail.com)  
 2431 Paris Ave SE  
 Grand Rapids MI 49507

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTE

### Anticipation

What are you looking forward to? It's a simple question with a multitude of answers. I love having something planned that I can look forward to. The anticipation adds to the excitement of the event. Merriam-Webster defines anticipation as an emotion involving pleasure or anxiety in considering or awaiting an expected event. **My hope is that the guests of Samaritan's Carriage experience good feelings when they are anticipating their next adventure with Samaritan's Carriage.**

The human brain thrives on anticipation. When we look forward to something, our brain releases dopamine, often referred to as the "feel-good" hormone which can enhance our mood and energy levels. Imagine yourself living in a retirement home or an assisted living home. You've spent the past months observing the bitter cold weather of winter through the window in your room. You've seen the snow piles from the parking lot piled up higher and higher. Will they be gone by spring? **When will you be able to go back outside and feel the warmth of the sun on your skin?**

When I think about our Samaritan's Carriage guests, I can imagine them having some of these thoughts. Wondering when is Samaritan's Carriage starting up again? How much longer is the wait? Well, schedules are ready, reservations are confirmed at our favorite locations, and the volunteers are good to go. Our first outing is Tuesday, March 24 with a trip to Meijer Gardens to witness the beauty of butterflies from around the world. **So let the anticipation grow, we're coming!** The anticipation of seeing our friends again, interacting with them on a shared adventure and the camaraderie of eating a meal together is **PURE JOY.**

*Article written by Sara Buchholz*





### Welcome to Mark Greidanus, Board Member

Mark was born and raised in West Michigan, and he lives on the Southeast side of Grand Rapids with his wife and two children. Mark grew up attending First CRC, and he has a variety of connections to Samaritan’s Carriage. His grandpa volunteered for many years and his in-laws have served as caregivers for a person who participated in Samaritan’s Carriage trips. Mark is an Attorney practicing law at Nicewander, Berens, and DeVries, in Jenison. Mark handles matters involving business, real estate, and estate planning. Mark has joined the board because he knows the impact its work has on the quality of the guests’ lives, and he hopes he can contribute to its work using his legal expertise.

## SAMARITAN’S CARRIAGE VOLUNTEERS

### Who are they? Maybe you?

They are friends from church or work, people who observe Samaritan’s Carriage in action and want to join in the fun. It’s a five hour commitment once a month, includes new friends, entrance to museums, a variety of excursions to new places, lunch and the chance to observe delight as it unfolds.

Over the past year and during the winter months 8 of our wonderful volunteers have had to resign due to significant health situations.

If you are recently retired or just looking for a way to add blessings to your own life and as a bonus someone else’s life, PLEASE contact Samaritan’s Carriage via our website. [samaritanscarriage.org](http://samaritanscarriage.org)



### From a volunteer’s perspective:

“God has given my husband, Lee, and myself a love for serving with Samaritan Carriage because we love to listen to the life stories our special friends share. Their eyes light up when they remember fondly and as they reminisce - lovingly telling their story. Many of them have traveled or served in other countries. I love to hear their faith stories. It’s important to let them know they are special and that we are so thankful they have shared their stories with us. In God’s service,” Jean DeVries

### 2025 Memorial Gifts:

In memory of Richard Cunningham  
Sue Saucier

In memory of Harv and Gloria Gerrits  
Kevin Egan

In memory of Gary Ruitter  
John and Drenda Thoen

Donations to Samaritan’s Carriage Annual Fund  
can be mailed to:

Samaritan’s Carriage C/O Sara Buchholz  
2431 Paris Ave SE, Grand Rapids MI 494507

or you may give via the website at [www.samaritanscarriage.org](http://www.samaritanscarriage.org)  
Monthly donors, Required Minimum Distribution and Legacy Gifts

are all deeply appreciated.

Charitable Giving Number: 30-0065870

## SAMARITAN'S CARRIAGE 2025 DONORS

Thank you for your continued generosity. Samaritan's Carriage is financially stable due to your faithful commitment. We will continue to celebrate life through stories, laughter and a sense of wonder, understanding that Christian caring and fellowship can heal, encourage and ease the effects of loneliness.

Donna Adams	Morrie and Mary Dieleman	David and Jane Lautenbach	Jack and Jan Sytsma
Henry and Marlys Admiraal	Denny Duimstra	Bob and Carol Lautenbach	Pat and Jim Talen
Dan and Jo Bajema	Nettie Dykhouse	Dan and Helen Lautenbach	Larry and Marianne Tanis
Henry and Ruth Baron	Kevin Egan	Ken Lobbes	Alida Terpstra
Beckwith Hills CRC	Donald Ekdom	Diane Lobbestael	Bob and Marjorie Terpstra
Fernando and Laurie Bedevia	John and Elaine Ekdom	Barry and Judi Meerman	Ken Terpstra
Marvin Beelen	Ruth Posthumus and Marlin Feyen	Larry and Ruth Meringa	Bud and Judi Terpstra
Sue and Bob Beelen	First Church of Grand Rapids	Marianne and Don Morell	Sherri and Ron Thenn
Bill and Anita Beem	Ken and Betty Frieswyk	Neland Avenue Church	John and Drenda Thoen
Henry and Mary Lou Bierling	Harvis and Eunice Gemmen	Tom and Marcia Nobel	Ken and Mary Jane Timmer
Len and Carrie Blauwkamp	Elizabeth Greidanus	Douglas and Elizabeth Notman	Barb and Steve Timmermans
William and LaVerne Blickley	Sid and Marie Greidanus	Cornelia Olson	Nick and Nancy Tuit
Warren Boer	Nelson and Nancy Greidanus	Charles and Mary Oostindie	Gary and Dianne Vaandrager
Rod and Lois Boerman	Rick and Ellen Hamilton	Mark and Kathy Oostindie	Scott and Kelli Van Drunen
Rob and Gayle Bosscher	James Hatfield	Marcia Osterink	Nancy Van Woerkom
Bill and Catherine Botts	Dan and Kate Hawkins	Ralph and Nancy Overzet	Ruth and Duke VanDenBerg
James and Judith Botts	Pat Hazenberg	Kathleen Pasma	Mike and Loni VanDenend
Raymond and Geraldine Breen	Sharon and Sharol Hiemstra	Ann Peters	Carl and Jane VandePol
Steve and Rhonda Brink	Alyce Hole	Marlowe Pranger	Harry and Shirley VanderBrug
Lois Brink	Robert and Betty Hough	Kim and Jim Primus	Dick and Ruth VanderKamp
Sara and Don Buchholz	William and Linda Huizinga	Todd and Marie Pryor	Dan and Beth VanderPloeg
Buist Electric Inc.	Gerald and Mary Hunsburger	Suzanne and Dennis Reenders	Dorothy VanderTil
Dave and Sandy Buter	Wilma and Marv Ilbrink	Barry and Sandi Ruiten	Pat VanderWeide
Randall and Debra Buursma	Innogroup Foundation Inc.	Joel and Kathy Ruiten	Scott and Sue VanDyken
Mary and Peter Cagle	Herbert and Barbara Jager	Sue Saucier	Mark VanEizenga
Marlene Cook	Mike Jennings	Susan and James Schipper	Lewis and Norma VanKuiken
Marlene and Richard Corey	Ken Jeurink	Ruth Schoon	Jim and Mary VanWingerden
Wanda Cowan	Dan and Bernie Jonker	Annette Shaver	Renz and Jeni Verbeek
Don and Anne Crans	Cheryl and Jim Kampfschulte	Sheldon Meadows Living Center	Esther Voss
Henry and Ina De Moor	Linda and Bryan Kamps	Doug and Donna Sieplinga	Karen and Tom Weaver
Roberta Deaton	Harvey Kiekoover	Daryl and Marie Sieplinga	Westend CRC
Mary DeBoer	John and Donna Klein	Kristi and Steven Slotsema	Nancy Westra
Pamela DeBruyn	Donald and Bonnie Klop	Carla Smith	Gladys Wierenga
Art and Lisa DeGroot	Jay Koets	Dawn Smits	Phyllis Witte
Lee and Jean DeVries	Andries and Barb Koning	South Grandville CRC	Thressa Witte
Betty DeVries	Lois Konyndyk	Nancy Spiering	Herm and Laurie Witte
Phil and Gayle DeVries	Jim and Tammy Koop	Jim and Esther Stoel	Paul Witte
Herman DeVries Sr	Flo Koster	Don and Marilyn Strobel	Mary Worst
Robert and Mary Lou DeYoung	Brenda Langeland	Martha and Philip Sweedyk	
	Pete and Jan Lanser	Don and Mary Swierenga	

First Last  
Address  
City State Zip

# Samaritan's Carriage

## Prayer Requests:

- **Volunteers** – Prayers for the volunteers who stepped away because of health situations.
- **Safety** – Prayers for a safe year of outings and for drivers to be confident and careful driving our precious cargo.
- **Outings** – Prayers for JOY and the alleviation of loneliness for our guests.
- **Guests** – Prayers for joy and fun on every outing and no cancelations.
- **Homes we visit** – Prayers for the Life Enrichment Coordinators and the aides that join us on the adventures.
- **Donors** – Prayers for their continued commitment to Samaritan's Carriage and its mission.
- **The World** – Prayers of Mercy and Hope

