

Spring 2020

# THE REPORTER



TURNER RETIREMENT HOMES QUARTERLY



## ***HOPE FOR THE PRESENT***

*Gary Taylor, Administrator of TRH*

The year 2020 started with a great deal of anticipation, hope and new direction in the life of Turner Retirement Homes (TRH). The new year was anticipated by many at TRH as we attempted to lead this great ministry forward. Excitement was in the air as we asked God for new direction and strategies to lead us into this next decade of serving our retired residents.

No sooner had the calendar year begun when unforeseen changes began to occur as sickness, family commitments and other life situations affected members of the Board of Trustees. As a result, the once familiar group changed as we welcomed three new members. The interruptions we face in life are nothing more than opportunities to see God work in the lives of His people in new and unique ways. Our three new Trustees fit seamlessly into the fabric of thought and discussions of the Board. They have brought fresh perspective and critical thinking to our work at TRH.

### **IN THIS ISSUE**

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FEATURED ARTICLE

---

WHAT'S HAPPENING

---

NEW FACES OF TRH

---

FRIENDS TO REMEMBER

---

COVID-19 ARTICLE

---

MEMORIALS & GIFTS

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PRAYER REQUESTS

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January began and we immediately started working on the Strategic Long-Term Plan (STLP). Many of you took up my challenge to pray for the group of Advisors and Trustees who make up this committee. We have made great headway in identifying our roots, mission and vision at TRH. We are committed to the idea of excellence, sustaining the original mission and building toward the next century of service. We have identified assets, focused our vision and are developing dreams that will help us know how to move forward. Recently I met with a team of Christian business professionals from the Salem area that stands ready in the near future to assist us in key areas. God is doing some mighty exciting things indeed!

The atmosphere of anticipating God's plan was before the SLTP committee as we drilled down on our future aspirations. Then, news started coming to all of us about a strange type of new flu virus from a far part of our globe...and it spread to our shores in America. In a similar way, the children of Israel were rejoicing as they marched out of Egypt toward the promised land only to be blocked from forward progress by the Red Sea. Here are some good words written by a missionary who lived in China many years ago:

"Difficulties produce a platform upon which He can show Himself. Without them we could never know how tender, faithful and almighty our God is." (Hudson Taylor)

The COVID-19 virus and the Red Sea have a lot of similarities. Some things as we know them in America have come to a screeching halt because of this deadly virus. People all over the world are ceasing normal activities. God has the attention of many. I wish it were the whole world, but I know He has mine.

King Jehoshaphat confessed in 2 Chronicles 2:15, "We do not know what to do Lord, but our eyes are on you."

During the second week of March, we concentrated on the safety of TRH residents as the virus spread. Forward thinking took a backseat to the pressing needs of the moment at hand.

At TRH we were proactive in efforts to keep the virus from our most vulnerable residents in the Residential Care Facility (RCF). Stringent guidelines were placed on residents, families, visitors, vendors and staff. These are difficult to enforce because it restricts the flow of tender face-to-face interactions for all. We find ourselves today in the sixth week of self-isolation, and your prayers are greatly encouraged for safety, wisdom and protection.

As a church-based mission agency, we rely on revenue from outside of TRH. We are a non-profit organization that is sustained by compassionate sacrificial giving. When revenue drops, the most basic needs of our residents suffer. TRH pays for much of the food, water, electricity and repairs to dwellings of residents here. Your former pastor and his wife, Sunday school teacher, missionary, professor from the Christian college you attended...they may be here! You remember them and fondly recall how they gave of themselves so that you and others could grow in your faith and become the men and women you are in Christ today. These servants came to TRH to live out their days. Please don't forget us at TRH. Have your church place us in their missions list for separate financial gifts and continued monthly giving.

When the children of Israel came to the Red Sea, God had a plan. He has a plan for TRH as well. Our STLP has been paused to concentrate on urgent business before us. We hope, Lord willing, to pick up soon where we left off. Those exciting plans for the future are still to come. In the meantime, once the health threat has passed, I would love to come to your church and share the ministry of TRH with your congregation.

At TRH "We are not stuck at home...we are blessed to have a home!" Your contributions and sacrificial gifts are the means by which the doors stay open for those who have sacrificially served you and God's Church!



# TURNING *the days*

## EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES AT TURNER RETIREMENT HOMES



This season we enjoyed a number of fun activities including holiday festivities, craft making and lots of birthday and anniversary cake! We also were able to enjoy the 20th Annual Corban University Hymn Sing. We are a family here at Turner Retirement Homes!







## Hopping into Spring

Spring brings sun breaks, rainbows, beautiful flowers and lovely smells. While we have been confined to our rooms for the most part, we are still enjoying our walks out in God's incredible creation!



## Happy Holidays

Who doesn't love the smells of turkey & pumpkin pie, the trees & lights and celebrating the birth of our Savior?





# NEW *faces*



## *Melvin (Mel) Metcalf*

Mel was born on April 21, 1940 in Klamath Falls, Oregon and raised in Waterloo, Oregon. He graduated high school at Lebanon High and attended Northwest Christian College for one year before moving on to graduate from Oregon Institute of Technology in 1974 with a degree in Computer Systems Engineering. Mel spent 20 years in Lewiston, Idaho working with computers in a paper mill. He was married to his sweetheart, Betty (Tine Foyil) Metcalf, for 53 years before she went to be with the Lord in April 2019. Mel made the move to Turner Retirement Homes in November of 2019.



## *Rose (Mickey) Richards*

Mickey was born on August 4, 1925 in Los Angeles, California to Myrtle & John Henry Fink. After graduating high school, she attended LA City College for pre-nursing. She then moved to Eden, Oklahoma to attend Phillips University and lived with her brother for one year. After that, she moved to Oregon to attend Northwest Christian College and earned a Bachelor of Theology in 1947. Mickey moved to Portland to begin nurses' training, but put that on pause when she married her husband, Charles, in 1949. They moved into full time ministry in Villah, WA where her husband served as a pastor. During that time they had three children. They then moved to Boise, Idaho so Charles could teach at Boise Bible College. After two years, they moved back to San Jose, California and had their fourth child. Mickey eventually graduated from Pepperdine with a teaching degree and taught for 11 years. They also spent 36 years in the Philippines serving as Bible translators. When they retired in 2010, they moved back to California. In 2014, Mickey wrote a book called *A Joyful Life In God's Hands*. Charles died November 17, 2017, and shortly after, Mickey moved to her current residence at Turner Retirement Homes.

# FRIENDS TO ——— *Remember*

## *Wanetta Jackson (1928 - 2020)*

Wanetta was born on January 16, 1928 in Canute, Oklahoma to W.T. and Maude (Siniard) Thompson. She married her husband, Leslie, in 1946 and started their family. They moved to Oregon in 1954 where they bought a family farm. Wanetta was a hard worker who helped her husband with farm duties along with their four children. She loved being a mother and enjoyed their family hunting, fishing and camping outings. Later in life, she and Leslie enjoyed 15 years of being snowbirds in Arizona during the winter months. For the last 11 years, she lived in the Turner Retirement Homes community where she made many friends. Wanetta passed away on February 7, 2020 at age 92 surrounded by the love of her family.

## *Marlowe Ellsworth Hanson (1933-2019)*

Marlowe was born December 17, 1933 in Pope County, Minnesota to Ferdinand & Hazel Hanson. Raised on a farm, he attended school near his home. He was one of five living children. At age 20 he left Minnesota for the Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas and ended up being stationed at Great Falls Air Force Base in Montana. In 1954 he met Donna Sheeks, and they were married on September 18, 1955. Their daughter Shannon was born the next year. The year after that they moved to Richmond, California where Marlowe began work for DAP and retired 36 years later. He had only three careers: On the farm, with the Air Force and then DAP. In 2002, Marlowe and Donna moved to Turner, Oregon and built a home on Cedar Street. Marlowe loved the outdoors and working with his hands. He was a steady, reliable, hard-working man with simple wants.

## *Lucille Telfer (1938-2020)*

Lucille was born to Earl and Maxine (Inman) Sawyer on March 13, 1938 in Tyrone, Missouri and graduated from Houston High School in 1956. She met Raymond A. Telfer in Houston while he was stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. She moved to Prineville, Oregon by way of the railroad train in 1957. She and Raymond were married on March 17, 1957. The two moved to Turner, Oregon in 2005. Lucille was a very active member of her church: she was a deaconess, Sunday school teacher and loved helping out in the nursery. She enjoyed helping out with the Oregon Christian Convention and the Food Bank. She spent her last days with family by her side. Memorial contributions can be given to Turner Christian Church and/or Turner Retirement Homes.

# Pandemic did not catch TRH by surprise

*Melody Taylor, Resident of Turner Retirement Homes*

It is no mistake that one of the trustees on the TRH Board is a first responder in our community, our administrator was a former hospital chaplain, and our nursing care coordinator has served our residents for 19 years. For times such as these, our wise God placed the very people in leadership who were prepared for the task and listened to His prompting. Putting first the safety of our most vulnerable residents was (and remains) simply, second nature. "Right steps, right now" was our marching cadence before anyone coined the phrase.

"We have been proactive about the severity of this pandemic sweeping across America from the very beginning," noted Gary Taylor, Administrator, in a recent letter to the TRH community.

Early in the battle, safety protocols were set in place. Taylor quickly established contact with local, state and national health authorities in order to make sound decisions and call for the required changes to be put in place. "That's why my nights were so restless," he remembers about the process. Many emails, phone calls and texts passed among Taylor, Trustee Jon Remy and Assistant Administrator Kendra Flora. Times of prayer in the office, in homes and through church fellowship groups were plentiful.

On March 12, just a day after the Coronavirus was declared to be a pandemic, medical screening was required of all visitors to the Residential Care Facility (RCF) and common grounds, including Independent residents doing business or frequenting the dining hall. All calendar activities, including shopping trips, were canceled.

By March 16, lock-down procedures were put in place to protect our RCF residents. No outside visitors were allowed, and employees/volunteers had to be screened before reporting for duty. In addition, the dining hall was closed, requiring meals to be delivered to rooms.

When "30 Days to Slow the Spread" was called for by President Trump and the COVID-19 taskforce of the White House, TRH again responded with additional measures to safeguard residents. As of April 2, only medically screened care staff had access to residents. The TRH administrative office building was closed while staff remained available by phone to coordinate needed services.

Work behaviors and protocols were changing by the day and continue to do so in order to keep our residents safe.

In the midst of it, Misty Struble, Care Coordinator, describes her staff as "fantastic" and goes on to say, "There seem to be changes every day, and they just roll with it—doing the best for themselves, their coworkers and for the residents."

Ruth Wood, RCF resident, is content with her care, even if isolated. "We have good staff that will cover for one another and are very diligent. I am thankful for water and heat and food!"

Shirley Smith, Independent resident, recently called the office to say she's grateful for the directives that have been put in place. As she sees it, "If other places had done the same, they wouldn't be in the trouble they're in!"

Jon Remy, Trustee and Turner Fire Chief as well as a first responder, gives this perspective: "This virus is coming, and it will go. God knows all about this virus...and He is clear with us. We are to fear not. We are treasured, and we will not go home to Heaven until the exact moment that God is ready to receive us."

In the meantime, as the pandemic runs its course, be assured that TRH staff will continue to do our best to take care of all our precious residents. The battle belongs to the Lord, and to Him be the glory!

# MEMORIALS & GIFTS

*In Memory of Neil Ziese*

**GIFTS CONTRIBUTED BY:**

Myrleen Christensen

Veva Hall

*In Memory of Lucille Telfer*

**GIFTS CONTRIBUTED BY:**

Myrleen Christensen

Richard & Diane Hall

Veva Hall

Geraldine Lasniewski

Richard Lundgren

*In Memory of Andy Stedman*

**GIFTS CONTRIBUTED BY:**

Robert & Dorothy Sargent

Shirley Robb

*In Memory of Marlowe Hanson*

**GIFTS CONTRIBUTED BY:**

Dick & Lavonne Lundgren

Shirley Robb

Robert & Dorothy Sargent

*In Memory of Waretta Jackson*

**GIFTS CONTRIBUTED BY:**

Shirley Robb

*In Memory of Judy Ellis*

**GIFTS CONTRIBUTED BY:**

Myrleen Christensen

Audrey Riesland

Shirley Robb

*In Memory of Norlene Payne*

**GIFTS CONTRIBUTED BY:**

M.L. Church

*In Memory of Richard  
& Lorene Halstead*

**GIFTS CONTRIBUTED BY:**

Sherry Purdue

*In Memory of Glen Lyda &*

*In Honor of Elaine Lyda*

**GIFTS CONTRIBUTED BY:**

Joseph & Carolyn Lichlyter

*Donation to Kitchen*

**GIFTS CONTRIBUTED BY:**

Dorothy Blevins

Bryan & Sharon Wilhite

*Donation to Resident Council*

**GIFTS CONTRIBUTED BY:**

Gary & Melody Taylor

Irene Foster



# FINANCIAL NEEDS & PRAYER REQUESTS

## *Financial Needs* **FUNDS NEEDED FOR:**

- Commercial Grade Riding Lawn Mower (Approx. \$4,000)
- Security System Upgrades (Approx. \$6,000)
- Maintenance Vehicle Repairs (Approx. \$5,000)
- Air Compressor (Approx. \$200)
- Budget Deficit Created by Coronavirus (Approx. \$18,000)
- Funding for Activity Department (\$1,000)

## *Prayer Requests*

- Health & wellness for residents
- Financial provision for Strategic Long-Term Plan
- Financial provision for budget gaps due to Coronavirus
- Wisdom and guidance for Administrator, Trustees and STLP Committee regarding the future of Turner Retirement Homes



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## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

### REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

- ☐ Please send information on retirement at TRH
- ☐ Send info regarding ways to support TRH's Benevolence through Wills & Bequests
- ☐ Please add my name and address to your mailing list:  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Please add my name and email address to your email list:  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Remove my name: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ I would like to have someone present TRH to our church or organization



*turner retirement homes*

PROVIDING A CARING COMMUNITY FOR  
CHRISTIANS IN RETIREMENT