

Residents share in holiday spirit

As the holidays draw near, some residents at Good Samaritan Society–Olathe have a special way of sharing and giving to others. For Rachel Drake, Christmas means wearing her Mrs. Claus costume and passing out candy canes. She started dressing up as Mrs. Claus about six years ago.

“It keeps me busy, and it makes people smile,” Rachel says. “I am out checking to see if everyone has been good while Mr. Santa is at the North Pole making toys.”

Margaret Reimer, another Good Samaritan Society–Olathe resident, loves to quilt and sew. Around the holidays, she makes things to give away or

sell, including crocheted pot holders and doilies, knitted scarves and baby items like bibs and sheets. Margaret has made countless baby quilts for newborns at the hospital. This Christmas, she is working with other residents at Good Samaritan Society–Olathe to make 10 quilts to give to children at the Bridge of Hope Community Church.

Recently, Margaret was watching Martha Stewart on television and noticed she was using a towel instead of a hot pad when carrying a hot dish. So, Margaret sent Martha a pair of crocheted hot pads that she had made. Martha wrote her a letter of thanks. †

Right: Good Samaritan Society–Olathe resident Rachel Drake dresses as Mrs. Claus to spread Christmas cheer.

Far right: Resident Margaret Reimer makes hot pads and gives them as gifts. She even sent a pair to Martha Stewart.



A publication of
**Good Samaritan
Society–Communities
of Olathe**
Olathe, Kan.

pg. 2

**From the executive
director**

Grace notes

pg. 3

Save the date

*Join residents and staff members
for holiday celebrations*

Campus updates

pg. 4-5

**Make a difference
this holiday season**

pg. 6

**Residents, staff are
lifelong learners**

pg. 7

**Executives take part in
anniversary celebration**

**Hoeger House helps
prepare for home**

 **Good Samaritan
Society®**
COMMUNITIES OF OLATHE



Joanna Randall

God is in the details of this work

By Joanna Randall

At the Good Samaritan Society's Annual Meeting this summer, I was moved by the presentation given by Nicole Johnson titled "Hope for the Daily Grind." Nicole, who is known for her work with Women of Faith, spoke about how life's challenges can also be among life's greatest rewards.

Nicole described how people can often feel invisible and unappreciated as individuals. They go about their daily tasks. Yet, no matter how important those tasks are, nobody seems to notice or care. But when there is a relationship with God, these people aren't invisible, Nicole told the group. God sees every joy and disap-

pointment, and notices the smallest detail about everyone.

Nicole compared those who do "invisible work" with the builders of the great cathedrals of Europe. These builders, Nicole said, worked for God, not for recognition. They trusted that God would see everything, so it did not matter if they did not get personal credit.

People who work at jobs that don't get broad attention are much like those builders, Nicole said. They work for an audience greater than those around them. They work for God and understand He is using them for a purpose beyond themselves.

I see a similar pattern every day in the work of staff members at Good

Samaritan Society—Communities of Olathe. These staff members—many of whom provide the daily care for our residents—do so without accolades or sometimes even notice. But God notices. He notices, and He rewards them deeply with the knowledge that they are making a difference.

But it never hurts if they receive a little human acknowledgement, too. Next time you notice a staff member making a positive difference in the life of someone you love and care about, take a minute to say thank you. Let them know their hard work and care is not invisible to you. †



Rev. Robert Tinch

Grace notes

Christ is our eternal weight of glory

For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

—2 Corinthians 4:17 (NKJV)

By Rev. Robert Tinch
Chaplain

Even today, the world grapples with social, economic, political, and ecological unrest, burdening the minds and hearts of humanity. There is fear and anxiety surrounding these

perplexities because they almost seem insurmountable. However, in the midst of these happenings beyond human control, God has intervened and worked out a plan of salvation to give us redemption through His unfailing love by sending us His Son, Jesus Christ—our eternal weight of glory.

Not only is there salvation, but there is also redemption through the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. "He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours, but also for the sins of the whole world" (1 John 2:2 NIV).

Despite the world's challenges and affliction, hope is alive through

Christ, who gave His life so that every believer through Him should have eternal life. The hardships we experience are temporary; there is an age yet to come when suffering will be nonexistent.

We experience many challenges and tests, but God is still in control. When we miss loved ones, when we have to move because we can no longer care for ourselves, or when we have to give up possessions that give us feelings of nostalgia—God has given us the gift of His Son who brings salvation, provides redemption and gives us hope through His unfailing love. †

Save the date & campus updates

Mark your calendar for these holiday events:

Friday, Dec. 2

Good Samaritan Society – Olathe Christmas Store, 9 a.m.

For more information, see the story at right.

Thursday, Dec. 8

Good Samaritan Society – Olathe resident and family Christmas celebration, 7–8 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 15

Cedar Lake Village resident Christmas party, 6–9 p.m.

From our home to yours

The residents and staff at Good Samaritan Society – Communities of Olathe wish you and yours a very merry Christmas.



Four new villas on the Cedar Lake Village campus are designed for a single person or a couple.

Villas complete at Cedar Lake Village

Move in by Christmas

Four new villas opened on the Cedar Lake Village campus this fall. Two feature a new, smaller floor plan with 960 square feet. The smaller floor plan has two bedrooms with one and a half bathrooms and a one-stall garage. It is designed to be a home for a single person or a couple.

For more information about the villas at Cedar Lake Village, contact Tracey Torola, senior living director, at (913) 780-9916.

Services at Cedar Lake Village include assisted living, housing with services, adult day services, respite care and Senior College. To learn more, visit www.good-sam.com and type “Cedar Lake Village” in the search box.

Volunteer opportunities at Cedar Lake Village

Piano player for the 9:30 a.m. Sunday worship service

Ice cream server in the snack shop from 3 to 4 p.m. any day

Donations help buy new van for campus

Donations to Good Samaritan Society – Communities of Olathe helped purchase a new, smaller van. The vehicle will bring residents at Cedar Lake Village to appointments. It will be available as a back-up for transportation needs at Good Samaritan Society – Olathe.

Cedar Lake Village bus driver Donna Valizan says residents love the new van because it is so easy to get on and off.

“It is as easy as pushing a button for the lift,” she says. “The smaller size allows me to get right up to the door, and we get better gas mileage. It also frees up the bus for the activities department to use for holiday shopping and activities.”

Items needed for annual Christmas Store by Dec. 1

On Dec. 2, Good Samaritan Society – Olathe’s annual Christmas Store will give residents the opportunity to enjoy a shopping experience and get gifts for loved ones. The center is asking for donations of the following items:

- Jewelry
- Scarves and hats
- Lotion
- Diabetic socks
- Chocolate
- Large-print word puzzles
- Children’s gifts
- Pins
- Lap robes
- Handkerchiefs
- Christmas-themed gifts

Please bring items to the activity center no later than Dec. 1. Thank you for your generosity! Proceeds will benefit the mayor’s Christmas Tree Fund.



You can make a difference

The mission of
The Evangelical Lutheran
Good Samaritan Society is to
share God's love in word and
deed by providing shelter and
supportive services to older
persons and others in need,
believing that

*"In Christ's Love,
Everyone Is Someone."*

Make a donation to honor loved ones

Memorial and honorary gifts are a great way to remember a special person in your life around the holidays. Consider making a donation to Good Samaritan Society—Communities of Olathe to remember a family member or dear friend. It is a perfect gift of love to show how much you care.

As part of a not-for-profit organization, all gifts to the campus are tax-deductible within IRS regulations. And 100 percent of every gift stays in Olathe and goes to the project you designate.

For more information about making a gift to Good Samaritan Society—Communities of Olathe, contact Vivian Crosby,

director of public relations and resource development, at (913) 324-2235. †

Wish list

- Sidewalk around the building
- Remodel beauty shop
- Flat-screen TVs for resident rooms
- Percussion instruments for residents
- Respite DVDs for residents with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias
- Camera for activities

A donor story

Cliff and Elaine Tatham made a \$10,000 pledge as a founding gift for the Resident Assistance Endowment at Good Samaritan Society—Communities of Olathe. The endowment helps residents fulfill basic needs.

Cliff supports the endowment because he believes it is important to help others when possible. Elaine's personal experience as a caregiver for her aunt, Helnora, who lived in a care center in Minnesota, made her realize the importance of an endowment for residents.

Elaine explains, "She lived to be almost 100, and by that time, she had depleted her assets. I visited her, took her shopping and bought her ice cream. Some seniors don't have family, and this endowment can be used to help them and bring a little pleasure to their lives." †

Thrivent Financial offers new choice

Thrivent Choice offers eligible Thrivent members the opportunity to make a gift to the charity of their choice.

Members can choose to direct their Financial Choice Dollars to Good Samaritan Society—Olathe to benefit others in your community. Thrivent will designate Choice Dollars monthly, quarterly or annually,

depending on the products members own.

If you are an eligible member, go online or call the Thrivent service center to direct your Choice Dollars to Good Samaritan Society—Olathe. Thrivent will deposit charitable funds into Good Samaritan Society—Olathe's account via electronic funds transfer. †

Free newsletter provides investing tips

The Good Samaritan Foundation offers a variety of information for investors and donors, including a free electronic newsletter.

This weekly publication features articles on Social Security, healthcare, events

in Washington, D.C., and other timely information. You may receive it at no cost or obligation.

To be placed on the mailing list, please visit <http://good-sam.giftlegacy.com> and click "Donor eNewsletter." †



Elaine and Cliff Tatham



The difference you make when you give touches one person after another. You are connected to each life with blessings until the circle of God's love is complete. Thank you, each and every one.

Your gifts change lives

Annuity provides long-term benefits for center, donor

A gift annuity to Good Samaritan Society—Olathe has a variety of benefits for both the donor and the center. Here are some of the ways a gift annuity provides benefits.

1. Attractive rates. When you compare our gift annuity rates with what you might receive from a certificate of deposit, you will likely be pleasantly surprised. For example, the rate for an individual 70 years old is 5.8 percent. At age 80, the rate is 7.2 percent, and if you are 90 or older, you would receive 9.5 percent. A \$100,000 gift annuity would provide an 80-year-old person \$7,200 every year.

2. Regular payments. When you establish your gift annuity, you decide how often you want to receive your payments. While most annuitants receive their checks or direct deposits every quarter, some choose annual, semi-annual or monthly payments.

3. Fixed income. Your payment rate will be locked when you obtain your gift annuity. It will not rise or fall with the economy. Instead, it will be the same amount every year—and that can mean a lot in uncertain times.

4. Lifetime benefit. Gift annuities are for life. No matter what your age or how long you live, your payments will continue for your lifetime. And, if you have two life gift

annuities, the survivor will continue to receive the same amount for the rest of his or her lifetime.

5. Dependable source. The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society stands behind all its gift annuities. A reserve fund is set aside to meet the obligations. Annuity obligations are backed by the full financial assets of the organization. Staff members want you to feel safe and secure, and to have confidence that your payments will continue without fail.

6. Relief from taxes. Since part of your contribution for a gift annuity is considered a charitable gift by the IRS, you will receive an income-tax charitable deduction. Another very attractive tax benefit is the tax-free portion of your gift annuity payment.

7. Wonderful gift. The real “gift” in gift annuities is that they make you a partner in changing lives for the better. After receiving your lifetime income, your gift annuity begins enriching the lives of Good Samaritan Society residents.

8. Simple process. Obtaining a gift annuity from the Good Samaritan Society is easier than most people think. You will receive a personalized illustration showing the amount of your annual gift annuity payment, the amount of the payment that is tax-free and the amount of your charitable income-tax deduction.

To learn more or to arrange a customized look at giving opportunities, please call Vivian Crosby, director of public relations and resource development, at (913) 324-2235. †

Yes, I can make a difference

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____

Please use my gift for: Where it is needed most
 This project: _____

100% of gift will be applied to the project you designate. All gifts are tax-deductible within IRS regulations.

In memory of _____
 In honor of _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Good Samaritan Society— Communities of Olathe

Lifelong learning

Olathe Towers residents study the Bible

Every Tuesday afternoon, a group of residents at Olathe Towers gets together for a learning experience. Armed with the best-selling book in the world, the Bible, they gather to study the Word.

For the last several years, resident Edna Whited has led the group. She was a preacher's wife and led children's Bible study for many years. Edna explains, "I try to relate the Scripture to our personal lives today, and teach at a level that is easy to understand."

Resident Sherryl Lipsey is a regular at the Bible study. "Every time I come, I learn something," she says.

Norma Bollan isn't a resident at Olathe Towers, but she likes to attend.

"Our study puts everything in the Bible in a new light."



Regulars at Olathe Towers' Bible study are: (seated) Edna Whited, and Sherryl Lipsey; and (standing) Joan Danneman, Wanda Ross and Norma Bollan.

Cedar Lake Village residents learn more about holidays

Learning doesn't always mean sticking your nose in a book. Residents at Cedar Lake Village are learning by watching a DVD offered through the Good Samaritan Society's Senior College. The program offers four six-week courses on a variety of topics in the fall and spring. The courses are interactive, and instructors are available to answer questions via e-mail.

One of the courses offered this fall is "The History of Holidays." During the course, residents Grace Moody and Phyllis Danielson sat in the front row, so they could hear every word. It was Grace's first course, and Phyllis' fourth.

Soon, some residents at Good Samaritan Society—Olathe will participate in Senior College for the first time. Senior College courses are free of charge and open to members of the Olathe community.



From left, Director of Nursing Samantha Bowlin, RN; Director of Human Resources Corrine Gay, RN; and Stephanie Strickland, LPN; have all used the Good Samaritan Society's Learning Center to stay abreast in their specialty areas.

Staff members advance education

Healthcare is always changing, and healthcare professionals must stay abreast of these changes through ongoing recertification. For example, a licensed practical nurse must earn 30 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) every year to stay licensed.

Staff members use the Good Samaritan Society's Learning Center to take online courses for training. Courses offered through the Learning Center are available 24/7, and cover an ever-growing number of topics.

Through the Learning Center, every staff member has training available for his or her specialty. Advantages of online training are consistent content, active learning validation and flexible delivery.

Another function of the Learning Center is to track renewal of licensure and certification, which includes a complete training transcript. Stephanie Strickland, LPN, benefits from using the Learning Center.

"I love it," Stephanie says. "I'm hoping to get all of my CEU training through the Learning Center. It's more convenient and cheaper to do it that way."

Anniversary celebration: 105 years of serving others

Sept. 23 marked the anniversary celebration for a total of 105 years for the four Good Samaritan Society centers that comprise Good Samaritan Society—Communities of Olathe.

On that day, the Society's director of operations for Texas and Kansas, Randy Fitzgerald, presented President and CEO of Olathe Health Systems Frank Devocelle with a statue for his anniversary. Devocelle is celebrating 40 years of service with Olathe Health Systems.

Over the past years, the hospital and Good Samaritan Society—Communities of Olathe have partnered to care for people in the Olathe community, most recently, with the joint ownership of Cedar Lake Village Inc. Good Samaritan Society President and CEO David J. Horazdovsky shared in the presentation. †



Above right: From left, Good Samaritan Society Director of Operations for Kansas and Texas Randy Fitzgerald, and Good Samaritan Society President and CEO David J. Horazdovsky (center) present Frank Devocelle, president and CEO of Olathe Health Systems, with a statue to commemorate his 40th anniversary.

Right: Ruth Ann Hackler (left) and Jill Johnson (center) launch balloons with staff members in the courtyard at Good Samaritan Society—Olathe to commemorate its anniversary.



Therapy at Hoeger House gets residents ready for home

Shawn Coates, a registered occupational therapist at Hoeger House, says occupational therapy can help restore abilities for anything that occupies your time. Shawn works with residents as they acquire the skills needed to safely live on their own again.

He begins by helping residents with the basics of dressing, grooming and showering. Then, he helps them tackle preparing simple meals and cleaning. Eventually, they advance to more difficult tasks such as vacuuming, washing dishes and even gardening.

"One resident was worried about being able to tend her garden when she went back home, so we had her practice planting tomatoes at Hoeger House," Shawn says. "Living on your own again,



Keith Vanaman was anxious to take his wife, Karen, home after she received therapy at Hoeger House.

without the support of a caregiver, involves work. Some residents have a difficult time performing everyday tasks, whether it's due to weakness or a

surgery, like a hip replacement."

After her hip replacement, Karen Vanaman went to Hoeger House. She was able to go home after three weeks.

"I had been in bed for several weeks even before I went to the hospital for my surgery," Karen says. "I couldn't walk when I came. Even putting on my shoes and socks was a challenge. Now, I can do just about everything."

One day while at Hoeger House, the staff let her prepare nachos.

"It sounds like a simple thing to do, but getting all the supplies out of drawers, standing and stirring, and then cleaning up afterwards was hard," Karen says. "My experience at Hoeger House was very good. The nurses are all wonderful." †

ur mission

The mission of The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society is to share God's love in word and deed by providing shelter and supportive services to older persons and others in need, believing that

*In Christ's Love,
Everyone Is Someone.*

Good Samaritan Society— Olathe

20705 W. 151st St.
Olathe, KS 66061
(913) 782-1372

Rehabilitation and skilled care
Special care unit | Adult day services

Olathe Towers and College Way Village

1425 E. College Way
Olathe, KS 66062
(913) 782-6131

Affordable housing

Hoeger House

20911 W. 153rd St.
Olathe, KS 66061
(913) 397-2900

Rehabilitation

Cedar Lake Village

15325 S. Lone Elm Road
Olathe, KS 66061
(913) 780-9916

Assisted living | Senior living
Apartments and villas

Keep us informed

If you have an address change, or if you know someone who would like to be added to the mailing list, please call Vivian Crosby at (913) 324-2235.



For more information, visit
www.good-sam.com
and type "Olathe"
in the search box.



Good Samaritan Society— Communities of Olathe

20705 W 151st St
Olathe KS 66061

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
THE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN GOOD
SAMARITAN SOCIETY

Leadership team

Executive Director—Communities of Olathe

Joanna Randall (913) 780-9916

Human Resources Director— Communities of Olathe

Corrine Gay (913) 324-2243

Public Relations and Resource Development—Communities of Olathe

Vivian Crosby (913) 324-2235

Chaplain—Communities of Olathe

Rev. Robert Tinch (913) 782-1372

Administrator— Good Samaritan Society—Olathe

Bryan Pippitt (913) 782-1372

Manager—Olathe Towers and College Way Village

Terry Parker (913) 782-6131

Senior Living Director—Cedar Lake Village

Tracey Torola (913) 780-9916

Administrator—Hoeger House

Rachel Storm (913) 397-2900



Shawn Coates, a registered occupational therapist with Summit, helps Hoeger House resident Wanda Garwood on a visuomotor training device to improve her reaction time. The device also tests peripheral vision and color recognition, which are sometimes impaired by a stroke. Read more about therapy at Hoeger House on page 7.



The Good Samaritan Society—Communities of Olathe are not-for-profit organizations owned and/or managed by The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society and/or Cedar Lake Village Inc. They closely follow the Good Samaritan Society's standards of excellence, Christ-centered mission and philosophy of caring for the whole person, body and soul. The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society provides housing and services to qualified individuals without regard to race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, national origin or other protected statuses according to applicable federal, state or local laws. All faiths or beliefs welcome. © 2011 The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society. All rights reserved. **Volume 8/Number 4**