



RESIDENTS:

ALWAYS SOMETHING TO BE THANKFUL FOR

*“But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.”
(1 Timothy 6:6-8).*

News headlines remind us each day about troubling realities, much of it seemingly beyond our control. The Bible reveals that loss, pain, and sickness touch every life. But God sticks with us, even understanding when we complain. Meet three residents who have learned the discipline of godly contentment.

Ralph Koll has lived at Edison Christian Independent Living longer than any current resident has. “But I know at least three residents who are older. I’ll be 95 in September, if the Lord gives me that gift,” he says.

Ralph moved here in August 2006, three months after his beloved wife, Jean, unexpectedly died. He was already acquainted with loss. “My father left our family during the Depression. I grew up with my grandma, mom, and younger brother, Hank, in a little house near Briggs Park in northeast Grand Rapids,” he says. His grandma, who immigrated from the Netherlands in the 1890s, never learned English. Her husband, a furniture factory supervisor, died suddenly.

“My grandma was left alone with her four children but was always sweet and content. That rubbed off on my mom and three uncles. My wife and I lived that way too. The way I see it, complain if you want to, but then see if there’s a blessing to counteract your complaint. You’ll soon realize that God keeps showering blessings,” Ralph says.

He always enjoyed reading and writing but knew that college wasn’t in the family finances, so he chose the commercial track at Grand Rapids Christian High. He survived combat in the army infantry during World War II.

“When I was on occupation duty in the Philippines, kids would stand at the fence around our mess tent, begging for table scraps. So when I think about that, how could I possibly have something to complain about?” he asks.

Ralph’s brother, Hank, drove the church Sunday school bus. He died at age 40 of a massive heart attack during a Sunday nap in his recliner. “He’d never had any indication of heart trouble. He and Dorothy—who was my wife’s younger sister—had six

kids by then. They are all so good to Dorothy. My kids and hers grew up more like siblings than cousins. With all these modern electronics, they always know what’s going on in each other’s lives.”

Ralph now has 12 grandchildren, 18 great-grands, and three great-great-grands. “That’s a tribe!” he says. The family recently got him a Portal by Facebook. Electronics make Ralph nervous, but they insisted. “It’s a screen. They input family members’ phone numbers, and I just say, ‘Hey, Portal, call whoever.’ And you can see the people when you talk with them. It’s an easy way to see David and Sally (Koll) in Anaheim and Carol and Ren (Vandesteeg) in San Antonio. Ren is a retired Air Force chaplain.

“Jean and I visited them on every base, but I never talked much about combat. My only daughter can get things out, though. When they lived in Germany, Carol would call and ask about places I’d been. We visited them in 1995 in Stuttgart, Germany, and Carol laid out a map of where I’d been in Germany during the war. She convinced us to retrace my steps. Then she convinced me to write down my memories for our kids, grandkids, and their kids. Carol is a writer and editor, and she also talked me into letting her edit and publish my memoir, *One Soldier’s War*. Both printings sold out quickly,” he says.



Ralph Koll

(continued on page 4)



FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR



Our summer newsletter features life stories of residents within our continuum of care. Their testimonies of faith encourage us in our daily walk with God. We are thankful to be part of their lives.

The Women's Service Board thanks those who collectively gave over \$5,000 during their recent "Bakeless Bake Sale." The service board's recent gifts to the home include specialty chairs for residents, digital thermometers, oxygen concentrators, and cable television programming. The board also covers ongoing expenses for our bird aviary. We thank the service board members for providing so many items to improve our residents' quality of life.

Thank you for your gifts in response to our May appeal for over \$70,000 of unbudgeted expenses through mid-April in the Health Center for elevator and emergency generator repairs along with expenses related to COVID-19. We are also working with government funding opportunities to help cover the ongoing financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our facilities. Your support has helped us protect the health and safety of our residents and staff.

In June, the State Licensing and Regulatory Affairs department conducted a survey focused on COVID-19 infection control. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services directed them to survey all nursing homes by July 31, 2020. We passed the survey without any deficiencies and were complimented on doing a good job.

Since March, we have devoted much time and energy to protect our residents and staff from the pandemic's health and safety threats. In late May, after months of testing many residents and staff with any COVID-19 symptom, a staff member at the Health Center tested positive. In response, as directed by the Kent County Health Department, we tested all Health Center residents and staff, which revealed a few asymptomatic residents and staff. We are happy to report the individuals affected are doing well at this time. Throughout this ordeal, we have taken quick and specific mitigating actions to prevent and reduce transmission risk.

As this column is being written in June, all three of our facilities are still under a no-visitation order. We expect to reopen in stages that vary by care level. Staff help with video calls, phone calls, and window visits to the extent possible. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services ordered that all nursing home residents and staff be tested for COVID-19 by July 3rd. This is part of CMS's recommendations to be able to move towards reopening facilities, which we all agree is extremely important. The requirement states that weekly staff and resident testing must be conducted and must continue until all residents and staff are negative for 14 days. It also states that weekly staff testing must continue until our local region's risk level is at a low level. Consequently, plans are in place to conduct this testing. Government and regulatory agencies issue many—and constantly changing—directives. We are thankful for our residents' and staff's overall health and safety as we deal with this unusual challenge.

Please keep praying for God's blessing upon our ministry. We appreciate your faithful support!

—Todd Nyeholt

ARE YOU MAKING THIS MISTAKE WITH YOUR LIFE?

We know of a couple in their early 90s who had not changed their will since their sons were teenagers. But if you haven't taken care of your estate plan, you can probably relate to that couple. After all, talking about wills means facing the fact that you won't live here forever.

The idea of putting together—or changing—a will sounds complicated, doesn't it? In fact, some people find thinking about wills so scary that they put it off.

Fortunately, Barnabas Foundation offers **free, no-obligation help** for making a will and doing estate and tax planning. Because Edison Christian Foundation is a member of Barnabas Foundation, you are entitled to this confidential help and information.

More than 7,000 people have already accepted the Barnabas Foundation offer to help work out a plan to provide for loved ones and give to Christian causes they love. You can read more about their experiences at www.barnabasfoundation.com.

Attorneys Steve Baker and Amy Bakker Baty, the local Barnabas Foundation representatives, have practiced law in business and estate planning. Typically, they need to meet with you just once, for only 60 to 90 minutes, to develop a free written analysis for you to bring to an attorney. They can even

recommend attorneys who know how to include charity in wills and estate plans.

One of the easiest ways to remember us in your will is to make a bequest to Edison Christian Life Services (ECLS) or Edison Christian Foundation. All you do is include our name and address and specify the bequest—a dollar amount or percentage of your estate—in your will. There's no need to tell us. We don't find out about a bequest till after a death, when an executor or lawyer contacts us. And bequests generally escape inheritance taxes.

The number and total of bequests vary greatly from year to year. From June 2019 through May 2020, wills and bequest to ECLS and the foundation totaled \$13,729. Whatever size of planned gift you can give will make an important difference.

Simply phone (888) 448-3040 and ask to speak with Steve Baker or Amy Bakker Baty. Their email addresses are sbake@barnabasfoundation.com and abaty@barnabasfoundation.com. Their office is at 601 3 Mile Road NW, Suite 200, Grand Rapids, MI 49544. For free, confidential advice on estate planning, you may also phone Todd Nyeholt at (616) 453-2475.

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

March 2020 - June 2020

Randy Alberda

Donald & Maxine Alberda
Donald & Maxine Alberda *

Sarah Andrews

Janice Strodtbeck
Janice Strodtbeck *

Althea Anema

Mr. Charles Smoes

Lavina Baas

Gary & Esther Baas

Gwenlynn Bos

Wendy Bos

Barbara Boyce

Robert Boyce *

Marjorie Bueche

Arlene Platte
Ron & Jane Wood

Dennis & Alice Byle

Mrs. Ruth Visser

Madeline Bylsma

Mr. & Mrs. Gord Bylsma

Lucille Coon

Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Coon

Harold Cooper

Bob & Chris Cooper
Bob & Chris Cooper *
Mrs. Harold R. Cooper *

Jay & Martina DeBoe

Beth DeBoe *

James & Kathryn DeMeester

Marilyn DeMeester *

Melvin DeStigter

Mr. & Mrs. Samuel A. Alward

Kay DeVoogd

Mr. Charles Smoes

Alberta DeVries

Mr. & Mrs. Mike Matthyse

Henry & Anne DeVries

Mr. & Mrs. Bill VanderVennen *
Mr. & Mrs. Renz Verbeek *

Norma Dice

Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Dice

Jean Dreyer

Dale & Willa Verburg

Madeline Eyster

Charles Eyster

Gordon & Mildred Feenstra

Ruth Watzel

Bob Feringa

Mrs. Donna Feringa
Mr. & Mrs. Russell Feringa
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Kragt
Moreen Mink
Remembrance Church Seniors
Marylin DeGroot *

David Fuhrmann Sr.

Nancy Fuhrmann

Marvin Gerritsen

Mrs. Verna Gerritsen

Evelyn Gillis

Mr. & Mrs. Victor Gillis *

Laura Gravelin

Fred & Laurie Lindberg *
Jeffrey & Brenda Lindberg *

Mary Groendyk

Wes & Christina Mepians *

Evelyn Groters

Brian Start
Marylin DeGroot *

Dr. Clinton Harris

Jim & Mary Veldkamp
Mr. & Mrs. Peter VanderStel *

Ruth Rodenhouse Herring

Linda Olsen

Ann Hoedeman

Nancy Johnson-Stream

Donald & Hilda Hoek

John & Gloria Rottenberg

Harvey Hoekzema

Arlene Nesselroad

Jennie Hoekzema

Mr. & Mrs. Albert Hoekzema

Fred & Dorothy Hollebeek

Mr. & Mrs. Gord Bylsma *

Martin & Cora Hoogerhyde

Mrs. Doris Matcheck
Mrs. Doris Matcheck *

Martin Horjus

Mrs. Ella Horjus
Mr. & Mrs. James Horjus *

Shirley Idema

John & Janice Gritter

Judy Ilbrink

Mr. Harold J. Ilbrink *

Josie Jansen

Brian Start

Gordon Jelsma

Bill & Char Bylsma
Mr. Charles Smoes

Ev & Jean Katerberg

Dave VanderBee *

Jean Katerberg

J. Marc DeKorte
Pamela Beck *
Audrey Gezon *
Peter Gianakura *
Mr. & Mrs. John Hulsing *
Mr. & Mrs. Gary A. Kwekel *
Audrey Nietering *

Dee Kik

Mrs. Linda L. Webster

Gezina S. Kingma

Mrs. Susan J. Griffioen

Arthur & Betty Klaasen

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Klaasen

Barbara Kober

Joanne Hoebeke *

Ann Kolkman

Daniel Kolkman *

Jean Koll

Mr. Ralph Koll *

Marinus & Cornelia Kosten

Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Adamski

Eugene & Jeanette Kragt

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Kragt
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Kragt *

Allen & Agnes Kuieck

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Kuieck

Betty Kuiper

James & Arlynn Kuiper

Winifred Kuiper

Mrs. Janet Kilgore

Laddie LeBlond

Esther LeBlond

Paul Longberg

Harriet Longberg

Hubert & Barbara Luyk

Tom & Mary Anne Culbertson

* Gifts designated for Edison Christian Foundation

(continued on page 5)

Ralph has led the weekly Men's Life Bible study (September through April) at West Leonard Christian Reformed Church since 1992. He's prepared to do another year. Before COVID-19, he led Bible study twice a month in Edison Christian Independent Living but had dropped the one he'd been leading at Edison Christian Assisted Living.

He likes playing Wii golf and bowling, which the coronavirus shut down. The library is still available, so he reads a lot. "They bring our meals to us. We have to wear a mask outside our rooms and can't go in anyone else's rooms. But I'm okay. I've seen harder times than this. All these policies protect us from getting infected. And in June we were allowed to have friends and family meet us outdoors in the gazebo, socially distanced, of course.

"I can't say enough about the staff or the cooking here. A few years ago, I said to someone, 'Vivian, you do such a nice job of helping everyone.' She said, 'I look on all the residents as being my grandpas and grandmas, and I want to treat them right.' I said to another, 'This seems like more than just a job to you.' She said, 'I feel like the hands and feet of Jesus.' What wonderful testimonies!"

Ralph has been losing mobility. He gave up his driver's license and uses a walker all the time, even in his room. He fell this spring while doing laundry. "But it worked out good because now my daughter-in-law Kim does it. She'd been offering to do it for years.

"Before COVID-19, I'd get rides to church, and my sons in town—Ken, Gordon, and Richard—are always eager to drive me wherever. Since the lockdown, I've been listening to four great preachers every Sunday."

"I look in the mirror and can't believe how old I am!" says **Eva (Thompson) Gordon**, who turned 91 in June. When 2020 dawned, she was still living in her own home, and her vivid memories go back to her childhood on a farm near Cedar Springs.

"I drove a John Deere tractor at age 12. We had dairy and beef cattle, pigs,

chickens, a huge garden, and did lots of canning. So we were poor but very well-fed. When we sold the farm and moved into Cedar Springs, my father went to work as a forest fire spotter. His tower was 110 feet high, and I used to climb up like it was nothing," Eva recalls.

She enjoyed learning and graduated as salutatorian at Cedar Springs High School. "One of my teachers was the aunt of Garth Gordon, which is how I met him," Eva says. Like Eva, Garth grew up in a United Methodist family that deeply valued education. After high school, Eva earned an RN degree and Garth earned an associate degree in business. The high school sweethearts married in 1950.

"Garth had multiple health problems, so didn't go into the armed services. Then he got polio. It was scary. Two months later a vaccine was announced. The polio left him with weakness in his legs and a bent spine. I'm sure he had pain, but he never complained. He was determined to work hard as an automotive industry inspector at Grand Rapids Metalcraft," she says.

The Gordons raised two sons and a daughter on Larkspur Avenue, near their church, Faith United Methodist—and near Eva's current room at Edison Christian Health Center (ECHC). Their first child, James, had birth injuries that caused intellectual disability. When their youngest child, Sharon, was six, Eva went to work as a claims processor



Eva Gordon

EDISON CHRISTIAN HEALTH CENTER

provides rehabilitation, long term and dementia care within the nursing facility.

For more information, call Linda Elders, Director of Admissions, at (616) 453-2475

or e-mail

lolders@edisonchristian.org

for Aetna Life and Casualty. Later she worked as an RN at Ferguson Hospital in outpatient care, intensive care, and as a charge nurse.

"Garth and I worked as a team. I worked days, and he worked afternoons. I remember Sharon asking, 'Mom? Or are you Dad?'" Eva says. Sharon became an elementary teacher and married an Air Force major. Their three children and grandson live in Ohio. Bob, Eva's younger son, became an analytic chemist, and his wife, Sjana, runs a wildlife rescue center in Lowell, Michigan. "Jim was so proud to get his diploma from Lincoln School," Eva says.

Garth lived at ECHC (then Christian Rest Home) for his final 31 months. He died in 2017. "I used to visit him all the time, and now here I am. I loved our house and getting Meals on Wheels. We had the best neighborhood. My neighbors helped mow and snowplow, and Bob kept up the house. But in February 2020, I fell out of bed at 11:30 p.m. It took me till 3:30 a.m. to crawl to the phone. That's why I moved here," she explains.

Eva quickly made friends with her roommate, Bertha Grzybowski. "The food is fabulous, and I liked playing

(continued on page 6)

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS *(continued from page 3)*

Pearl Mallekoote
Mr. & Mrs. Casey Mallekoote *

Carl & Emily Malmberg
Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Malmberg *

Amy Martin
Robert Martin

Gloria Meyer
Mr. & Mrs. George Berends

Joy Mol
Ben Mol
Mary J. Worst

Lambert & Nell Morsink
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Hoekzema
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Hoekzema *

Bobby Mulder
Shirlee Olree

Bobby & Tara Mulder
Robert J. Mulder

Dolores Mulder
Robert J. Mulder

Tara Mulder
Shirlee Olree

Bob & Jean Myers
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Myers

Wilma Nanninga
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Nanninga *

Genevieve Nederveld
Mr. Robert Nederveld *

Jerry Palma
Esther Palma

Jay & Irene Rademaker
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Carlson

James Ritzema
James & Mary VanderWerp

Bev Roedema
Ellen Pawloski *

Barbara Jean Rosendall
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel A. Alward
Mr. Fred Rosendall
Mr. Fred Rosendall *

Henry & Freda Rosendall
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel A. Alward
Mr. Fred Rosendall *

Peter & Ruth Roskam
James Roskam

Jane Schelhaas
David & Joy Koning

Clarence & Beth Schuiling
Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Grit

Yvonne Sharporn
Denise Przybylski
Judith Bosscher *
Phyllis DeSmit *
Nancy Hallack *
Stan & Karol Keen *
Mrs. Marlene Vermaire *

Lyle Shaw
Mrs. June Shaw

James & Viola Slabbekoorn
Mrs. Verna Gerritsen

Violet Smalt
Carolee Zoerhoff

Helen Smits
Rev. & Mrs. Gene Pearson

Howard & Anita Snodgrass
Marti Duryea

Dick Spaans
Madelyn Spaans & Family

Donna Spruit
Marisa Fahnenstiel & Richard Spruit
Marisa Fahnenstiel & Richard Spruit *

Jean Stevens
Barry Stevens *

Mike Stolk
Mrs. Peggy Stolk
Mrs. Peggy Stolk *

Joan Sturuss
Mr. William Sturuss *

Peter & Mary Sturuss
Mr. & Mrs. Frits Kloppert

William & Agnes Sturuss
Mr. & Mrs. Frits Kloppert *

Peter Sturuss Jr.
Mr. William Sturuss *

Rena Sweeney
Mrs. James Felty *

Bea Toebes
James & Judy Sterling

Raymond & Loretta VandenBerg
Dan & Wanda VandenBerg
Roger & Faith VandenBerg

George VanderWerp
James & Mary VanderWerp

Anne VanDommelen
Robert J. Mulder
Shirlee Olree

Jasper & Anne VanDyke
Mr. & Mrs. Carl DeBruine

Phyllis A. VanHeest
Mr. Philip VanHeest *

Neil & Lillian VanHoute
David & Jane Gillis *

Dorothy VanSolkema
Robert & Cheryl VandenBerg *

Art VanVels
Mr. & Mrs. Al VanVels

Lou VanVels
J. Marc DeKorte

Jim Veenstra
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Coon

Al & Margaret Vegter
Ms. Gretchen Bush
Ms. Gretchen Bush *

Linda Verhey
Mr. David Verhey *

Robert & Gertrude Verhey
David & Mary Bazen

Bob Vermaire
Mrs. Marlene Vermaire *

Karl Waivio
Mary Waivio

Tom & Bernice Wierenga
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Kragt
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Kragt *

Jack Henry Witt
Nancy Jones
Jack Witt

LaVerne Woldyk
James & Arlynn Kuiper
Mrs. Doris Matcheck

Charles Yff
Gloria Yff

Peter & Margaret Zaboukos
Mr. William Sturuss *

Carolyn Zylstra
Mr. & Mrs. David Zylstra

Total Memorial Gifts ... \$18,747

** Gifts designated for Edison Christian Foundation*

bingo, even though I'm not good at it. I need a walker, and the therapists helped me learn exercises so my muscles don't atrophy. I'm hard of hearing but only need glasses to read and watch the news. I'm fortunate that way. I loved when we could gather at 2 p.m. for Sunday worship and sing together, especially 'How Great Thou Art,'" she says.

But within two months, the coronavirus lockdown began and Eva's son-in-law, Travis Weeks, died unexpectedly. Now she sees Jim, who lives in a nearby adult foster home, only through her window. On Sundays, she watches Rev. Charles Stanley on TV and mass on TV with Bertha, who is Catholic. She wears a mask to stand in her doorway and talk to her neighbor, Ed Glynn, a retired Grand Rapids Police Department captain.

"If it's not one thing, it's another. We're managing pretty well. These restrictions protect us from infection. I see my kids, grandkids, and great-grandson, Ryan, on Portal by Facebook. Ryan is two-and-a-half, so sweet and handsome. I like to read Reader's Digest and the AARP magazine. I have a comfy bed to lay my head, so I'm fortunate," Eva says.

Charles "Chuck" Jaquith lives by his mother's motto: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15, KJV). Born in 1931 in Jackson, Michigan, Chuck and his three siblings grew up on a small farm. His mom taught in rural schools in Jackson County, and his dad worked in a factory.

"Our family life revolved around the Baptist church where my parents led activities. I remember my mom instructing kids to speak up when reciting. During one Christmas program, my brother Philip finished his line and asked, 'Was that loud enough, Mom?'" Chuck recalls.

He enjoyed church youth group and Boy Scouts. His high school biology teacher got him into birdwatching with the Audubon Club. Chuck won a tuition scholarship to University of

ABOUT OUR RESIDENTS

- 115 residents receive nursing care in Edison Christian Health Center.
- 32 residents receive assisted care in Edison Christian Assisted Living.
- 40 residents live independently in Edison Christian Independent Living.
- 72% of our residents are women.
- Our youngest resident is 55. Our oldest residents are two women aged 100 or older.
- The average resident age is 86.
- Our residents come from 64 churches.
- 77% of our nursing residents receive Medicaid assistance.

Michigan, where he majored in biology and social science. He worked as a short order cook to earn room and board. Health problems prevented him from enlisting in the armed services.

At U of M, he began dating a high school classmate, Mary Detwyler. "Mary was there to become an elementary school music teacher. Her mom, like mine, was a wonderful teacher. After graduation, we got teaching jobs, married, and moved to Saline, Michigan. It was a small town where everybody knew and cared about each other," he says.

From Saline, Chuck and Mary moved with young Steve to Mojave, California, where both taught. Many school parents worked at the U.S. Borax mine or Edwards Air Force Base. "Our first night out there, we heard a tremendous rumbling and felt the earth shake. None of our neighbors seemed

concerned. It turned out a rocket engine was being tested. Sonic booms would regularly crack school windows. We'd tell the principal, who'd call in a technician to repair the window within hours," he says.

After Chuck's dad and Mary's mom had heart attacks, the Jaquiths returned to Michigan. Their family grew to include Don and Cheryl. Chuck became a junior high principal in Port Huron and took summer courses at U of M to earn an MA in school administration and PhD in curriculum instruction. While serving as a principal in Kenosha, Wisconsin, Chuck experienced what he describes as the highlight of his career. "I was able to supervise a \$1 million bond issue. The architect kept asking, 'What is the function you want this space to perform?'"

Chuck spent 22 years as a professor of teacher education at Central Michigan University (CMU). "I was not happy with the job that colleges were doing preparing middle school teachers. I wanted them to recognize children as individuals who don't all grow at the same rate, mentally or physically. It's important to take time to listen to each student. I worked with state legislators and departments of education to rewrite school regulations," he says.

During Chuck's CMU years, the family lived in Shepherd, Michigan, where they volunteered with Shepherd United Methodist Church and civic organizations. Their children married,



Chuck Jaquith

(continued on page 7)

had children, and enjoyed the family cottage. “I taught our seven grandkids anatomy through catching, scaling, and filleting fish. Now one is a veterinarian and another is a dentist. Our children live near Harbor Springs and Lansing, but the grands and great-grands are scattered from the U.P. to West Virginia to Idaho,” Chuck says.

Due to his heart, kidney, and other health problems, Chuck and Mary moved to Covenant Village in Grand Rapids. After yet another cardiac surgery in 2017, Chuck rehabbed at ECHC and moved to Edison Christian Assisted Living. “My wife is a wonderful lady. I’ve made very few decisions without consulting her. She and I prayed and agreed that the best place for me is here. I use a walker, no longer drive, and my vision is impaired. My health is like skating on a tightrope. My wife still drives, but not on rainy days. Since COVID-19, I’ve been able to see her only through windows or doors,” he says.

“I wish I didn’t have all these health problems. I wish I could see Mary more often. But I’ve learned to accept things. The Lord is teaching me humility, and I still have gifts to use,” he says.

Chuck likes to watch TV, walk in the halls or outdoors, sit in the sunshine, and keep track of birds. “It’s primarily woodpeckers here. I can identify lots of bird calls but can only do one. I whistle up a cardinal, and it comes.

“My creative outlet is making cards and posters using graphics programs on my computer. I put in a Bible verse and personalize each card. I heard in the hallway that my neighbor just turned 99. On her card cover, I put, ‘Don’t worry about counting the years. We live one day at a time.’ Inside I put a verse about knowing where we’re going.

“My recent posters have sayings like ‘The only people whose troubles are all behind them are school bus drivers,’ ‘Like a parachute, your mind only functions when open,’ and ‘Worrying is like a rocking chair. It doesn’t get you anywhere.’ After they’ve been on my door for a while, I give them to my wife to use at her place,” he says.

IN LOVING MEMORY

March 2020 – June 2020

Marjorie Bueche	March 14	age 81
Robert Leacock	March 15	age 81
Laurabel Gravelin	March 19	age 88
Bessie Mason	March 26	age 97
Ruth Griesmaier	March 28	age 95
Mary Krajewski	April 2	age 94
Geneva Sebright	April 4	age 94
Rose Kanoza	April 5	age 105
Helen Logee	April 23	age 101
Barbara Boyce	May 16	age 81
Robert Feringa	May 31	age 92
Joyce Reyna	June 4	age 93
Elsie Wisner	June 25	age 85

EDISON CHRISTIAN INDEPENDENT LIVING

Edison Christian Independent Living provides senior citizen independent living and offers meals, activities, and housekeeping services.

Our residents enjoy secure, homelike comfort and Christian companionship.

For more information, call: (616) 453-0993
edisonchristian.org

ECHC REHAB SERVICES

Edison Christian Health Center provides excellent sub-acute rehabilitation services after surgery, injury or an illness. Our team of nurses and therapists will help you recover and return home as quickly as possible.

RECENT ECLS RETIREE

In honor of your service from the Board of Directors:

Joanne VanderSlik..... 46 years
Beth VanderMeulen 17 years

With our appreciation for your commitment to our residents!

GIFTS RECEIVED IN HONOR OF

March 2020 – June 2020

In honor of... **Margaret Andersen** from Bill Andersen
 In honor of... **Fran Worst** from Jan Camburn
 In honor of... **Harry & Helen Boersma**... from Audrey Gezon
 In honor of... **Tom Huizenga** .. from David & Susan Huizenga
 In honor of... **Linda Allyn & Kerri Deppe**..... from Barbara Koning & Donald Engelsma

CONTRIBUTING CHURCHES

March 2020 – June 2020

Beckwith Hills CRC	First Protestant Ref.
Bethel URC	Free Reformed
Blytheheld CRC	Hope Protestant Ref.



Edison Christian Life Services
1000 Edison Ave. NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
GRAND RAPIDS, MI
Permit #24



EDISON CHRISTIAN
LIFE SERVICES

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2020



Check out our website at:
edisonchristian.org

*LeadingAge*TM
Michigan

Michigan Charitable Contributions Solicitation License Numbers:
Edison Christian Life Services – MICS 6594
Edison Christian Foundation – MICS 8956