



Bethany Life

Newsletter

SPRING/SUMMER 2020

“I Am Bethany...”

Our Mission

Bethany Life’s mission is to help elders thrive in their life journey, living in a Christian environment of hope and compassion.

Our Vision

Bethany Life will become a regionally recognized resource for comprehensive and innovative aging services.

Our Values

Benevolence, Stewardship, Personal Growth, Innovation, Teamwork, & Relationships.



I Am Grateful

Bethany Life is so much for so many people. We have evolved and changed over the years...serving and employing multiple generations of people. Thousands of people have been touched by our mission and many thousand more will be touched. We are always working hard and very busy in our day to day activities, yet it is important to take the time to put our values on display and to remind all of us who we truly are. *I Am Bethany* is a showcase of just that.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve. I am grateful for all who have chosen Bethany Life as their home. I am grateful for our staff and their commitment to our mission. They are truly amazing people. I am grateful to the volunteers and community members which supports us and the faith they have in our work. I can't say "thank you" enough.

Betsy Warburton, CEO, Bethany Life

**Bethany Life provides
the most all-inclusive
aging services continuum
in central Iowa...
LifeChoices® at Bethany
to end of life care.**



I Am Appreciative

I am appreciative for the opportunity to come every day to a job I love. I am empowered with the ability to provide services to our members and clients, keeping them in their homes. This allows them to continue living as independently as possible, and doing the things they love to do. There is no better feeling than knowing you're making a difference in the quality, autonomy, and overall happiness of someone's life.

Austin Mortvedt, Director, LifeChoices® at Bethany



I Am Devoted

We are very blessed at Bethany Life to have a full time Chaplain available to our residents, families and staff. Pastor David makes such a difference in the lives of those he serves. For our residents he brings comfort and the assurance of God's presence in weekly Chapel Services, Bible Studies, and one to one visits. He is available to families as well on their journey with loved ones. Staff also benefit from his support especially in addressing end of life issues and the daily ministry of care giving.

Chaplaincy is indeed a cornerstone for Bethany Life in our history, in the present and in the future. It is who we are. As part of the staff at Bethany Life seeing our mission to help elders thrive in their life journey, living in a Christian environment of hope and compassion is very meaningful.

Cindi Martin, Senior Housing Manager, Timberland Village



I Am Creative

As Dietary Manager I have the opportunity to be creative each day as I plan the daily menus. I enjoy figuring out how to use fresh and healthy ingredients that are pleasing for more than 200 people with different cultures and backgrounds. This is one of the challenges that make my job exciting. Food is so much more than just nourishment – it signifies family, friends, and home. It triggers favorite memories. Seeing our residents, family members, staff and visitors enjoying what we have prepared, for me, is what it's all about.

Patience Gbenyedzi, Dietary Manager

Bethany Life dietary staff serves 15,602 meals every month!



I Am Supportive

My support of the Bethany Life mission is two-fold – one as a member on the Foundation Board, and two as a son of a resident at Bethany Life. I get to see first-hand on an almost daily basis the wonderful care my mother and others receive at Bethany Life. The staff is so supportive, friendly, and professional, with a true interest in each resident's well-being. My role on the Foundation Board gives me the opportunity to give back to these fine staff members, the household residents, and help grow the mission of Bethany Life.

Mark Ullestad, Foundation Board Member



I Am Compassionate

At the front desk we get to know many residents very well. We listen, we help, we give hugs. What we receive in return makes our “work” here more than rewarding... it's a blessing.

Barb Mahan, Front Desk Receptionist at Bethany



I Am Caring

As Director of Nursing I have the pleasure of witnessing first-hand the love, care and compassion our clinical staff has for our residents. Many of us develop a strong bond with our residents and that is demonstrated in the care we give.

Rex Nelson, Director of Nursing at Bethany



I Am Vigilant

As Advocates for our LifeChoices® at Bethany members, we are not only vigilant in responding to our members' individual needs, but it is our mission to support our members in staying happy and healthy as they age in the comfort of their own homes. Our members know we will work hard to give them the resources to sustain this lifestyle. We love this wonderful opportunity to serve.

Kylla Olsen, Paige Healy & Ali Hansen, Advocates, LifeChoices® at Bethany



I Am Welcoming

I have the honor to be one of the first people that prospective residents and their families meet at Bethany Life to discuss moving to The Households of Bethany. I fully understand the many feelings that people experience during these often difficult transitions in life. I listen and assure people that The Households of Bethany is truly committed to compassionate care. Bethany speaks for itself but being the one to tell its story is very rewarding. Thank you for the trust you give Bethany Life!

Morgan Voga, Director of Resident Life Services / Transition Coordinator



I Am An Advocate

For the past 20 years I've had the opportunity to provide phlebotomy services through McFarland Clinic to the residents of Bethany Life. It has been very rewarding to be a part of the medical team that provides quality health care to the residents in this facility they call home.

This year our congregation, Gilbert Lutheran, partnered with Bethany Life to provide Christmas gifts for the residents. It was a wonderful way to show God's love and bring them joy at that special time of year. Our area is so fortunate to have this care facility in Story City. I've been blessed to have the opportunity to get acquainted with the residents and work with the caring staff.

Cindy Kruckenberg, McFarland Clinic



I Am Hopeful

It's special for me to be able to make a difference in someone else's life. We are a compassionate nursing staff here at Bethany and we work together to bring exceptional care to our residents.

Jerry Wagner, Nurse at Bethany



I Am Rewarded

I love working with the residents and staff. I love getting to know the residents and their families and hearing stories about how they grew up and how things have changed. I love the bond I have with my residents. It makes my job so rewarding.

Sheila Benson, CMA at Bethany



I Am Helpful

Bethany Life is special in that we can take care of seniors in all stages of aging. At Timberland Village and Cedar Place, we have residents living independently and in assisted living. At The Households of Bethany we have LifeBridge, our transitional care unit and households focused on long term care and memory care. We have helpful and knowledgeable staff who truly show concern and give assistance to our residents. I like seeing people thrive in their home environment at Bethany and being able to provide services to keep them as active as possible. Our tenants feel like family to our staff.

Kristi Eley, Nurse Manager at Cedar Place



In 2019 our residents took over 125 bus trips! Many of the trips are scenic drives-activities such as this that many of us take for granted.

I Am Inspired

God has called me to work with older adults and this has been evident since I was a child. When I started at Bethany in Social Services over 8 years ago, my focus was primarily on helping residents adjust to their new home.

Since moving into the Life Enrichment department I have been able to tap into interests that the residents have and work with my amazing team to develop a program that is more meaningful and engaging. We have taken a new approach to “activities” at Bethany Life and the focus is on keeping the residents engaged with life and community. Individualizing opportunities for everyone here can be a challenge, but is one that is extremely necessary and important.

I find my inspiration and passion for this calling continues to grow when I see and hear the feedback from the residents, whether it be a trip to a baseball game or completing a special sewing project. I am proud to be an employee at Bethany Life and am so thankful that God has brought me to where I am now!

Laura Severson, Director of Life Enrichment



I Am An Innovator

As the Director of Rehabilitation at Bethany Life, it is one of my core responsibilities to keep up with the changes of healthcare. One of the major changes this past year is to Medicare’s payment system. Making this change across our continuum meant diving in to all parts of patient care to determine the best practices and documentation standards moving forward. Making big changes like this takes innovation and flexibility, the ability to see it the way it’s always been and be able to make changes necessary for improvement, standardization and adaptability.

Science is a beautiful thing, and as therapists, we are lifelong learners, always seeking out better treatment techniques for our residents. This has included intensive focus on incontinence management treatment techniques, new and improved cognitive testing materials, as well as balance training techniques to reduce risk of falls and injury. As a community we focus on areas that are important to our residents and their quality of life as well as maintaining the highest level of functional and cognitive abilities. The services, knowledge and access to state of the art therapy equipment that we offer here at Bethany Life is why we have so much success towards our rehabilitative goals. Innovation moves everyone forward, our staff and our residents.

Erin Hoversten-Majewski, Director of Rehab Services

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I Am Comfortable

I always feel comfortable here at The Households of Bethany. My daughter, Linda and I sit at the Bistro several times a week and many times residents and employees stop to talk. Everyone is so kind. My daughter Janet comes with her family and grandchildren. I'm able to listen to my great granddaughters play on the piano. My daughter, Diane attends chapel with me each Sunday and we always enjoy the message from Pastor Dave. The Households of Bethany is a comfortable, welcoming place for me and I feel blessed to be here.

Lillian Gardner, Resident at The Households of Bethany



I Am Motivated

I started at Bethany Life as a floor technician. Recently I took classes to be a CNA and I'm transitioning into that position. The support of my supervisor, Morgan, has been extraordinary. Bethany has given me the chance to expand my education and increase my income to support our family.

Albert Gwion, CNA at Bethany



I Am Passionate

I have been with Bethany Life for 15 years as a CMA. I'm passionate about our physical therapy program here at Bethany. We truly are patient-focused and help them achieve and maintain their highest quality of life.

Brandi Howerton, CMA at Bethany



I Am Blessed

Since the day I arrived at Bethany Life to serve as Chaplain it has been obvious to me that this place and these people have a blessing upon them. Chaplain Sandy Anenson provided a faithful service that over the years has paid untold benefits to our residents and staff.

All of us have a story to tell. Our stories speak moments of mountain top highs and lows of great struggle. These stories reveal both God's faithfulness and seeming abandonment; often at the same time!

And smack dab in the midst of these stories, God calls me to walk beside these, my brothers and sisters, to journey with them on this last leg of life's adventure. I get to sit at the feet of the saints who go before and I realize how privileged I am to respond to God's call. I do so with humility and awareness that...I AM BLESSED!

David Burling, Bethany Life Chaplain

Twenty-six area churches directly support
the mission of Bethany Life!





I Am Full of Life

I have found a home away from home at Timberland Village. I really feel that the Lord has blessed me and the other people living here. Timberland, and the rest of the staff create a great living environment for me and my fellow residents. It's comforting to be surrounded by people who care.

Faith is an important part of the community here at Timberland. There's chapel, Bible study and a family feeling that we can express ourselves and enjoy each other. There are lots of other activities at Timberland Village. We play games and have a vibrant activities schedule. There are tours, car rides and sightseeing. Many of us have been enjoying going on trips. You like to feel like you're still part of the world, and they make us feel that way here.

June VanLangen, Resident at Timberland Village



I Am An Educator

As Bethany Life's Director of Marketing and Outreach, I have the opportunity to educate individuals and families about the services we offer in a truly unique continuum of care; from in-home preventative and wellness services to rehabilitation care to hospice care. I enjoy telling the stories of the great care and support that is given here at Bethany. I'm proud to represent Bethany Life's mission!

Lisa McIlrath, Director of Marketing and Outreach

I Am Making A Difference

The Bethany Life Foundation's thrift store, Affordables, not only brings much needed resources to Bethany Life, but is also an example of the generosity and heart that makes central Iowa such an amazing place to live. The Affordables volunteers care. They care about the community. They care about Bethany Life. They care about one another. They know the importance of benevolence and good will. We encourage you to get involved anyway you can wherever you are. It can change your life.

The Volunteers of Bethany Life

On June 30th we will celebrate the 15th year anniversary of Affordables! What a journey it has been. Denice Reisetter has been with us from the beginning and she will be retiring in July after 20 years with Bethany Life! Denice's commitment to the store, to the volunteers and to the Bethany Life Foundation is greatly appreciated and has made a huge impact within Bethany Life and our community!



Save the Date Join us at Affordables on June 30th for special discounts, drawings for prizes, treats and fun.

15 YEARS ANNIVERSARY

I Am Thankful

Every day within the Bethany Life Foundation, we endeavor to support the residents, tenants, staff members and volunteers who make up our organization. We see selfless people giving of themselves every day. Some gifts are large and some are small; some are gifts of time and talent and others are financial help. ALL gifts are important to us. These gifts are important, because they tell us that Bethany Life is on the right track, doing good work, caring for those who can no longer care for themselves. Not every community is as giving as ours. It makes us feel humble. Thank you for your gifts, thank you for your time, thank you for your prayers.

Foundation Board Members

Jonathan Cooney
Beth Frandsen

Al Holm
Claudia Pauk

Dave Quam
Mark Ullestad

Tom Walsh
Mary Wynia

HUMANITARIAN

BLF AFFORDABLES
Bethany Manor
Chaplaincy Endowment
BLC Chapel
Claudia Pauk
Glenn & Dr. Arnhild
Hillesland
Jim & Dorothy Christy
Foundation Fund
Sharron Martin
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BENEFACTOR

Alan & Karen Hermanson
Dean Henry
Jay & Betsy Warburton
Northeastern Iowa
Synod-ECLA
Perry & Mary Frey
Roger & Lois Oakland
Story County Community
Foundation

LEADERSHIP

Ann Thompson
Bergen Lutheran Church-
WELCA
Bethany Lutheran Church,
Kelley
Bethesda Lutheran Church,
Ames
Betty Gordon
BLF Golf Registrations
& Games
Dan Lundy
David & Susan Amensen
Elim Lutheran Church

Gilbert Lutheran Church
Greg & Patricia Sindt
Immanuel Lutheran
Church
Kristi & Dwight Eley
Loren & Mary Jo
Tungesvik
Peter & Janet Hermanson
Pr. Tom & Sandy Hunt
Robert & Maripat Higgins
Robin Wisner
Roy & Patricia Hougen
Trinity Lutheran Church

Save the Dates

MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Celebration of Life Ceremony on May 3rd for those who have lost loved ones in the last year. This event will be held in the Chapel.

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Foundation Golf Tournament on June 19th at RiverBend Golf Course and Affordables 15th Anniversary event on June 30th.



STEWARDSHIP

Absolute Concrete
Allen & Wanda Holm
American Packaging Flexo Division
Ames Golf & Country Club
Arloene Brinkmeyer
BOS Outdoor Solutions
Cindi Martin
Continuum Health Care Services
Country Financial -
Joe Leto Insurance
Country Landscapes
Dave & Kathy Quam
Exchange State Bank
Foundation Events BLF
Hospice of the Midwest
Larry & Kathaleen Elphic
Lee Agency, Inc.

Norsemen Realty
Pastor Dave Nerdig
Poindexter Flooring
Reliance State Bank
Ryun, Givens & Co., P.L.C.
Soderstrum Funeral Homes
Story Construction Company
Tom & Judy Jackson

FRIEND OF BETHANY

A. James & Jo M. Shold
Access Systems
Alert Media Inc.
American Business Phones
Arthur & Margie Oldehoeft
B. Stauffer & J. Molde-Stauffer
Bank of America Charitable
Foundation
Beth Isvik
Bethel Lutheran Church
Black Hills Iowa Gas Utility Co
Blackhawk Automatic Sprinklers Inc.
Brekken, Wynia & Hyland, PC
Brian & Elaine Anderson
Brian Moraes
Brown Winick Attorneys at Law
Burnell Hill
Casey's General Store
Central States Roofing Co
Choice Medical
Christopher & Carol LeForge
Combustion Control Co.
Compass Business Solutions/Record
Printing Co.
Connie & Ben Demuth
Curtiss Ostrem
Darlene Patterson
David & Betsy Schoeller
David & Camille Kundert
David & Christine Burling
Dean A. & Judith K. Sampson
Dennis & Ginny Michel
Derral & Anna Tressler
Don Rhead
Donald Weiland
Donna Starck
Doris Mathre
Douglas & Christine Timmons
Douglas & Wendy Livy
Dr. Louis & Pat Banitt
Duane & Shirley Wheeler
Evelyn J. Tesdall
F. George Janvrin, Jr.
Floyd & Shirley Isebrands
Frances B. Kinne
Fred & Barbara Brown
Fred & Linda Vogtlin
Freedom Financial Bank
Gary Carpenter
Gary L. & Janet L. Thompson
Gary Thompson Oil Company
General Parts Foodservice Equipment

Gerald & Eileen Klonglan
GNB Bank
Great Western Bank
Gregory J & Caroline Phillips
H. Dieter Revocable Trust
Harold & Julia Ridpath
Harris "Pete" Twedt, Jr.
Heartland Senior Services
Jason & Jayme Kupka
Jeanette Tjelmeland
Jensen Excavating
Jeremy Allman
Jerome Peltier
Jerry & Barbara Twedt
Jim & Gloria Oberender
John & Angie Hinz
Jon & Bonnie Hunziker
Jonathan Cooney
Karel S. Johnson
Keith Bilyeu
Kenneth Dunker
Kenny & Sue Frette
Kenwood & Teresa Christian
Kurt Carlson
Laura Severson
Laurine Anderson
Leslie Campbell Hansen
Loren & Solvay Twedt
Margaret Junkhan
Marie Stupp
Marilyn Hanson & Ted Tostlebe

Mary Ann Sandvold
 MB Enterprises of Ames
 Michael & Jaclyn Tunesvik
 Michael & Sharon Justice
 Nancy Jewell
 Network for Good
 NuCara Pharmacy
 Oakland Corporation
 Our Saviors Lutheran Church
 Our Savior's Lutheran Church
 Palestine Lutheran Church
 Paul & Sharon Twedt
 PDG Printing
 Peterson's Paint & Floors, Inc.
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 Poet Grain
 Pr. Glenn & Mary Kappelmann
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 Randel & Elizabeth Lewis
 Redekers Furniture
 Rex Nelson
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 Robert & Pat Swanson
 Robert J. Moratz DPM, PC
 Roger & Charlotte Auestad
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Samuel Hammes
 Sandberg Barnen LLC
 Sandy Searl
 Schumacher Elevator Company
 Scott & Carrie Russel
 Security State Bank
 Shirley Stakey
 Stalls & Stripes
 Steamway Craftsmen Cleaning
 Service
 Stephen & Becky Hermanson
 Story Chapter, Thrivent Financial for
 Lutherans
 Story City Building Products, Co.
 Story City Dental
 The Waldinger Corporation
 Theo & Christine Leverenz
 Thomas Prochnow
 Todd & Kristin McDonald
 Wilson Auto Group

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 Janice & Bruce Thompson
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 Jill Norwood
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 Jody Nolte
 John "Slim" Roney
 John & Nancy Halleland
 John & Patty Rathmacher
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 Mardell Christian
 Margaret Fossel
 Marian Olive
 Marianne Berhow
 Marilyn Griffin
 Marilyn Lekwa
 Marilyn Osterhout
 Mark & Barb Peterson
 Mary Wheelock
 MaryEllen Hanson
 Michele Attinger
 Morgan Voga
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Van Langen
 Nicholas E Hermanson
 Ordean & Liz Johnson
 Pamela & Ernst Dehne, Jr
 Pete & Elaine Tekippe
 Phil & Barbara Schendel
 Pr. Conrad & Mary Rolland
 Randall Meals
 Raymond & Opal Nelson
 Rebecca Brommel

Richard & Lynn Engen
 Robert & Carolyn Ahlstrom
 Robert & Maxine Lekwa
 Robert D & Karen A Cole
 Roger & Mary Jo Kluesner
 Ronald & Ann Lovig
 Rose Marie Stoner
 Rose Morgan
 Rosemary Hennessy
 Russell & Idella Richardson
 Ruth Gabrielson
 Sally Houser
 Selwyn & Mary Kay Rash
 Sharon Laughlin
 Sheryl Phipps
 Shirley B & Kevin Stowe
 Stephanie Hadsall
 Steve & Nicole Jonas
 Steve Waugh
 Susan & Keith McKinney
 Susan & Rex Ondler
 Suzanne K. Nondler
 Tamra Shadlow
 Theodore & Terri Hammes
 Thomas & Susan Major
 Universal Med Apparel
 Vena Mae Larson
 Vernon & Ernine Larson
 Virginia Lee
 Vivian Whitmore
 William & Joann Robb
 Zion Lutheran Church

I Am Understanding

I understand it is a special privilege to be part of a loved ones journey in moving to a nursing home, whether it is for a short term stay, rehab or long-term care. The journey is not always easy, the team at Bethany Life understands this. Our team of physicians, nurses, nurse aids, chaplain, physical therapists, dietary staff, life enrichment-activities, environmental staff and administrator work daily to make this transition go smoothly. The unknown of a loved ones health during this time can be scary. The Bethany Life team stands with our residents, families and with God's love to bring peace of mind to you during this journey.



Lee Ann Braga, Social Worker, LBSW

Gifts for the Chaplaincy Funds reached over \$188,000 in 2019.

I Am Giving

We are thankful for the generous gift we received from Corwin and Kay Stephan in support of the new Bethany "Life" Bus Fund! We are excited to announce that the name of the bus will be *Summerville Bus*, in memory of Kay's father Robert Summerville who was a resident of Bethany Life. Your support of the Bethany "Life" Bus profoundly touches the lives of our residents!

Through the Bethany Life Foundation, you have the opportunity to give where your heart leads you. There are still many giving opportunities! Gifts of all sizes are needed and appreciated and they give "wheels" to our residents, tenants and members!

Giving Levels

Adopt a Driver Seat	\$10,000 - one is available
Adopt a Seat	\$4,500 - 24 seats are available
Staff Sponsor	\$1,000 - 30 sponsorships are available for staffing
Sponsor a Trip	\$500 - 40 gifts are needed to create trips
Fill the Tank	\$200 - 50 gifts are needed to keep the bus running

Give Online at bethanylife.org/our-funds



Bethany Life

LifeChoices® at Bethany
205 S Walnut Avenue
Ames, Iowa 50010
515.209.6756

The Households of Bethany
212 Lafayette Avenue
Story City, Iowa 50248
515.733.4325

Cedar Place
812 Cedar Street
Story City, Iowa 50248
515.733.2904

Timberland Village
725 Timberland Drive
Story City, Iowa 50248
515.733.6500

Bethany Life Foundation
212 Lafayette Avenue
Story City, Iowa 50248
515.733.4325

Affordables Thrift Store
630 Pennsylvania Avenue
Story City, Iowa 50248
515.733.5304

www.bethanylife.org

If you do not want to receive future publications or fundraising requests supporting Bethany Life, you may email office@bethanylife.org and request to be removed from our mailing list. Thank you.



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Bethany Life

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I Am Bethany...