

# News & Notes

## THE GIFT OF REVITALIZATION PROJECT REVITALIZATION FINISHES UP THIS CHRISTMAS

Exciting changes continue at Luther Manor as progress continues on our \$9 million Project Revitalization. This two-year transformation will enhance, and has already improved, the lives of residents and elevated our already beautiful, park-like campus. Scheduled for completion by year-end, the project includes aesthetic improvements and updates focusing on increasing community safety and security.

**PROJECT  
REVITALIZATION**

The **Courtyards** assisted living neighborhood has seen:

- A relocation of the main entrance and a refreshed outdoor patio with expanded seating is currently underway, perfect for enjoying time outdoors.
- A revamped ice cream parlor turned into The Courtyards Great Room Café & Lounge, offering more snack options, and creating a welcoming space for residents and their families to gather for games, movies, and special events.
- New mailboxes completed and keys distributed.
- Equipment delivered and a construction schedule still on track to turn over to Luther Manor a new beauty salon right before Christmas.

**92nd Street entrances and other exterior work** is also underway, in spite of a few weather bumps. New landscaping has gone in along 92nd street and the new entrance sign is in place. Gables are being erected along the exterior on 92nd street above The Courtyard patios as well as the west patios in the new entrance drive.

Project Revitalization reflects our commitment to providing an enriching, secure and vibrant environment for all who call Luther Manor home!

92ND ST ENTRANCE & COURTYARDS GREEN SPACE



COURTYARDS ENTRANCE



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# GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR

By Sharon Porfilio, Terrace Resident

*Roger Dahlin*

**Pastor Roger Dahlin (PI07)** was born December 23, 1935 in St. Paul, MN. He was always interested in automobiles. His mother wrote that by the age of two, his toys included 24 cars and 6 airplanes. He became involved in the scouting program, eventually achieving the highest rank of Eagle Scout in his early teens. Scouting made a lifelong impression on him, to strive to be, and to remain, a person of honor, integrity, with respect for all persons. He loves music, entertaining, humor, fun, the outdoors, the Church, and especially, youth groups. He enjoyed outdoor sports, ice hockey, skiing AND even snow shoveling when his family relocated to Duluth, MN when he was in junior high.

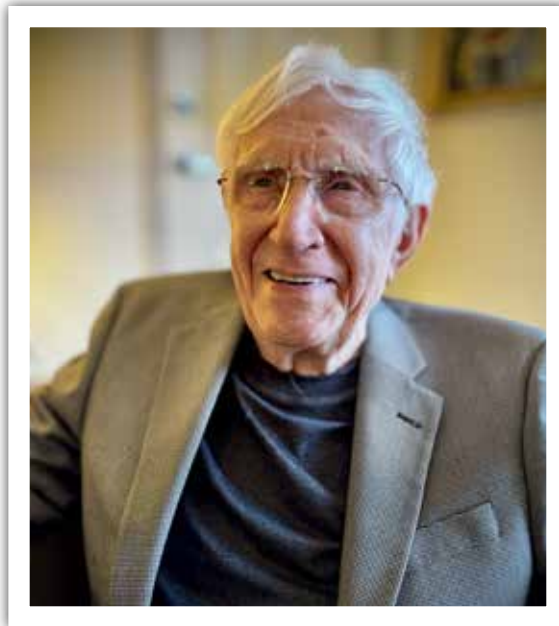
His employment history started rather early working at a local truck farm where he earned 15¢/hour. Roger clarified, "No, they didn't raise trucks, but the farm did produce radishes, carrots and smelly onions!" During high school years, he worked with a local house builder learning the skills of woodworking. Thankfully so, as he worked in a wood shop in Marquette, MI during the summers as he attended Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN, where he was elected president of the student body, and the Seminary in Rock Island, IL. Later, the woodworking and building skills he learned served him well as a homeowner, church buildings' manager and in his own creative artistic endeavors.

He met Beverly in Rock Island, IL when he was in his last year at Augustana Theological Seminary. They were married in August of 1962. They have five children, ten granddaughters, one grandson, and one great grandson.

He served several parishes in Illinois, one in Houston, TX, one in Springfield, VA, and one in Washington, DC.

Many decades later, he earned two additional academic degrees: a Masters in Sacred Theology and a Doctor of Ministry from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago.

In 2023, he and Bev decided to downsize and leave their home of thirty years in the DC area. In an important conversation with their daughter, Rezonn, they decided to move to Wisconsin where she and her family live in Wauwatosa. She did the research and legwork that brought Luther Manor to mind for them. They then flew out to visit and agreed that relocating to Luther Manor would be a good decision for them. Actually, being here has confirmed that decision as they have joyfully become a part of this very lively community!



**Editor's Note: I asked Roger to tell us about his call to the ministry. To illustrate his answer, he wrote the following imagined dialogue and explanation:**

"Ring! Ring! Ring!"

"Who's calling?"

"This is God calling."

"Are you sure?"

"Yes!"

"I answered that call by living out my realization that I, as always, was being called to help other persons to discern their callings. Even though you, as the reader of these words, may feel that you are in the "summarizing" period of your current life; you still can think about your calling in the present. For example: 'Who do you spend time

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GET TO KNOW THE STAFF OF LUTHER MANOR

## STEVE WATSON

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LM FOUNDATION

**Where were you raised and what schools did you attend?** I was born at Fairchild Air Force Base in Spokane, WA, and moved to Kirtland, OH at a young age. At 11, I relocated to Coeur d'Alene, ID, where I later graduated from high school. I went on to study Radio/TV Broadcasting and Marketing at North Idaho College. I spent 10 years living in Scottsdale, AZ, and now am settled in Muskego, WI.

**Do you have a significant other?** My wife, Sandy, and I have been married for nearly 33 years. She works as an Administrative Assistant to the Principal at Bay Lane Elementary School in Muskego.

**Children's ages and pets?** We are blessed with two wonderful children through adoption: Bobby, who joined our family at 11 weeks old and is now 25, and Amelia, who came to us at 5 months old and is now 19. We also have a 13-year-old dog named Charlie, a Bichon Lhasa Apso mix.

**How do you spend your free time away from Luther Manor?** I enjoy all kinds of sports - both playing and watching. I rarely miss a Friday night high school football game and love getting in a round of golf whenever the weather permits.

**Do you have any hobbies?** I enjoy helping smaller non-profits with developing and growing their organizations. Over the last 25 years, I volunteered as an auctioneer (about 6-8 times a year) to support fundraising efforts.



then spent 3 years as Development Director at Children's Hospital of WI and recently completed 7 years as Executive Director for the St. Camillus Foundation and CADIS USA (the US branch of Camillian Disaster Service) before joining Luther Manor.

**Tell us about your job at Luther Manor, please!** As the Foundation Director, I play a key role in managing and expanding our organization's philanthropic activities to support our mission and enhance the quality of life for residents. I lead various fundraising

efforts, including annual giving, major gifts, planned giving, capital campaigns, and grants. A crucial aspect of my role is building and maintaining strong relationships with stakeholders. I also oversee the Foundation's budget, ensuring that donations are allocated to programs that align with both donor intent and our strategic objectives. I work closely with the Foundation's board of directors to guide and implement key initiatives. Additionally, I seek funding from private foundations and government sources by identifying grant opportunities, writing proposals, and managing awarded grants to ensure compliance and successful project implementation.

In addition to these responsibilities, I also oversee our growing Volunteer Services program. I work

**Tell us about your work background.** Most of my development skills come from my 17 years with The Salvation Army, where I served as an Executive Director, Planned Giving Officer, and Strategic Planning Officer for the WI and Upper MI Division. I



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# What's Happening @



# LUTHER MANOR



Halloween at Luther Manor is a **HUGE** deal and is the subject of countless activities, parties, and celebrations! Of course, there were plenty of themed snacks and drinks, music, and costumes. Other areas played games, celebrated trick or treat, and had contests with fun prizes for the winners!

Even our staff was encouraged to dress up for Halloween. In one special encounter, our President & CEO, Stephanie, encountered a music-loving, harmonica-playing resident. The two of them sang "I Have a Friend in Jesus" together, resulting in a roar of applause when they finished.



For more, find Luther Manor on Facebook!  
[facebook.com/luthermanorwi](https://facebook.com/luthermanorwi)



This fall, our Terrace residents took a bus trip to Holy Hill & as all Wisconsinites know, the area is picturesque year-round! They attended mass, learned about the Basilica, gazed at the wonderful fall colors, and spent time in the gift shop!

Along the way, they stopped by one neighbor on Holy Hill Rd. who always puts on a unique, themed display featuring a massive collection of skeletons dressed in the caps & gowns of high school graduates!



# MINDFUL SCOOP

## What is Type 2 Diabetes?



As of 2020, more than 34 million people, or about 10.5% of the population, had a diagnosis of diabetes. The prevalence of this disease increases with age, and approximately 26.8% of adults over the age of 65 had this diagnosis that same year. Type 2 Diabetes occurs because of a problem in the way the body regulates and uses sugar as fuel. When we eat carbohydrates, they are absorbed into our bloodstream and the hormone insulin helps to move this sugar into cells where it can be utilized for energy. In diabetes, the insulin is unable to fully facilitate the movement into the cells and blood sugar levels stay elevated which can lead to a variety of other health consequences. Diet and lifestyle play a large role in the prevention of diabetes. Check out the different types of carbohydrates and tips that can help you keep your blood sugar balanced while enjoying nutritious source of carbohydrates.

### TYPE OF CARBOHYDRATES

**SUGARS** can be naturally occurring in foods like fruit and milk or added to foods like cake and sodas.

**STARCHES** found in plant based foods such as corn, beans, potatoes, rice and other grains.

**DIETARY FIBER**, the indigestible part of plant foods, help with digestion and heart health. Fiber can be found in a variety of plant foods.

### TIPS FOR BALANCED BLOOD SUGAR

Avoid foods with large amounts of added sugar, which is now included on the nutrition facts panel. Balance your plate with fruits, and vegetables, whole grains, lean protein, and healthy fats.

# SHINE GOD'S LOVE *for our* LOVED ONES

We close out the year with another successful Love Lights campaign and celebration! **Luther Manor Foundation raised nearly \$25,000 (net) from 14 corporate sponsors and 182 individuals who donated in honor or remembrance of loved ones.** Proceeds help grow Luther Manor Foundation's resident support fund. Thank you for helping Luther Manor Foundation Bridge the Gap! To see a list of those honored or remembered, look for the large boards in

The Welcome Center, Terrace atrium and Courtyards dining room.

In honor of our loved ones and to celebrate a successful fundraising campaign, residents across campus celebrated as we turned on our "Love Lights."



During this December event, residents in The Health Care Center, The Courtyards and The Gardens enjoyed a special lunch, program led by the pastoral staff, and musical entertainment. Residents in The Terrace celebrated with a special dinner, music and program. Family members, Luther Manor volunteers, and board members joined residents in the celebration, making it an evening for our extended Luther Manor community. Thank you to all who participated in this cherished event.



## Thank You 2024 SPONSORS



"Project Revitalization" continued from page 1

COURTYARDS ENTRANCE & PARKING LOT



TERRACE ENTRANCE



COURTYARDS ADDRESS SIGNAGE



COURTYARDS LOBBY



THE LANTERN WELCOME WALL



THE LANTERNS RECEPTION & ACTIVITY AREA



# A FOUNDATIONAL WEBSITE

We gladly invite you to peruse **Luther Manor Foundation's new website!** Luther Manor's website has always included a single page for Luther Manor Foundation. Now, the foundation has a new digital place to call home. The website includes: an explanation of our mission, stories about residents, volunteers, and donors, information about upcoming events and fundraising campaigns, short articles on topics of interest for older adults and caregivers, and much more!

VISIT US AT [FOUNDATION.LUTHERMANOR.ORG](http://FOUNDATION.LUTHERMANOR.ORG).



**"Inside Peek" continued from page 3**

with our management team to foster an environment where volunteers are well-organized, engaged, and able to effectively contribute to Luther Manor's mission. Our goal is to create a supportive and enriching atmosphere for both volunteers and the residents they serve, ensuring that our volunteer program remains a vital part of the community's success and sustainability.

**Do you have meetings?** The Foundation and Volunteer Services team meets every Monday at 10:30 am. Throughout the week, I also have several other meetings, including one-on-ones with Stephanie Chedid, CEO and my supervisor, as well as Executive Leadership Team meetings, donor meetings, family connection meetings, board meetings, one-on-ones with board

members, community partner meetings, and various other planning meetings.

**Tell us about your team.** My right arm is Jenny Wisniewski, the Foundation's Communication Director, who has been instrumental in our growth over the past few years. My left arm is Dana Roesner, our Volunteer Services Manager, who recently joined us and is making great strides in revitalizing our volunteer program. Acting as my feet—because she gives me the time to walk the campus—is Darlene Burrmann, a longtime friend of 30 years, who has served as a volunteer over the past 10 months, providing valuable administrative support to the foundation.

**"Get to Know Your Neighbor" continued from page 2**

and have conversations with? What are your thoughts about your future? Are there people with whom you have unfinished business? People from whom you have to seek forgiveness? Are there tasks left to be completed?

Are there exciting and creative endeavors you have yet to begin or initiate?

*Thank you, Roger, for a great insight into part of your life. You and Beverly are great assets here at Luther Manor.*

# WE NEED THEM & YOU!

With hundreds of residents living in several care areas, Luther Manor depends greatly upon volunteers to help bring abundant life to everyone who calls Luther Manor home! Our volunteers vary in age, gifts, interests, availability, and reasons for volunteering.

One of our longest and most treasured partners is **Divine Savior Holy Angels High School (DSHA)**, just around the corner from us. DSHA students volunteer to help peel apples for pies, play games with our residents, assist with special events, and anything else they might be asked to do!

**If you're interested in learning more about volunteering at Luther Manor, please visit [luthermanor.org/volunteer](http://luthermanor.org/volunteer) or call Dana Roesner, Volunteer Services Manager, at (414) 831-8964.**

