



Resident Birthdays

Joyce S. Mar. 17th

Staff Birthdays

Emma D. Mar. 1st
Tyler G. Mar. 5th
Yahitsha P.L. Mar. 15th
Allie K. Mar. 30th
Kristina R. Mar. 30th

Staff Anniversaries

Emma D. 3 years

New Residents

Evean H.
Vernon V.

We Remember

Marvin L.

March 2025

505 East 4th Street | Hills, MN 56138

Hello March!

March arrived like a lamb, so we'll see if it leaves like a lion! It's shaping up to be a busy month, and we're excited to share some updates. The chapel renovation project has officially begun! The ceiling has been painted a soft cream color and new lighting has been installed. Up next, we're looking forward to new flooring, an upgraded sound system, and a remote-controlled screen for the projector. During the monthly resident council meetings, residents shared their thoughts on the chapel's updates, including the ceiling color, and they are thrilled with the progress so far.

Residents had a wonderful time participating in the food packing event, *Then Feed Just One*, on Saturday, February 22nd. This program, organized out of Le Mars, Iowa involved packing essential food ingredients into bags through an efficient assembly line. Each bag was carefully filled with measured portions of soy, dried vegetables, minerals, vitamins, and rice then weighed before being sealed. In under an hour, a total of 5 boxes were packed, with each box containing 36 bags—enough to feed 1,080 people. These meals will be sent to severe malnourished children and their families in Honduras, Haiti, and Sudan. A slideshow was presented prior to the event highlighting where the food would go and the reasons behind its distribution, which was deeply moving for residents. Residents felt honored to participate in such a meaningful cause and are already looking forward to do it again. One of our residents, Anna Mae V., made history by breaking the record as the oldest participant at 99 years old, actively helping to pack the bags. See the photos on the last page for a glimpse of this heartwarming event.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the celebration of the Tuff Memorial Home's 65th Anniversary on Sunday, July 27th 11:30-1:30p.m. for residents and their families. More information to follow.

Mission Statement

The Tuff Memorial Home is a Christian home with a heart. In Christian love, we provide heartfelt quality care to people in a way that contributes to their sense of dignity and self-worth.

Department Heads

Administrator- Katie Kendal
Executive Director- Jane Blank
Director of Nursing- Dana Huisman
Social Services Professional- Emily Baatz

Life Enrichment Director – Jocelyn Jacoby
Laundry & Housekeeping Supervisor – Judy DeNoble
Maintenance Supervisor – Ben Vander Poel
Dietary Manager – Kelli Hellerud

Highlighted Activities for March

3/5- Ash Wednesday Service

- Pastor Lori will be here to lead the Ash Wednesday Service.

3/10- HBC 4th Grade Class Activity

- Residents are so happy to play a fun game with the 4th graders.

3/12- What's Up Wednesday

- This new activity allows residents to choose which activity they would like to participate in. There will be 2 different activities offered- for example there could be a card game going on in the activity room and in the dining room there could be a craft.

3/20- Spring Break Party

- Residents are getting ready for a fun tropical party in the dining room!

Tuff Family Council

Meetings will be held on the first Thursday of every month at 5p.m. located in the Tuff Chapel.

Thursday, March 6th

These meetings are designed for families to gather amongst themselves to discuss topics related to their loved ones in a safe space. Stay tuned for meetings with educational guest speakers.



Employee of the Month is: *Ashton D.*

Employee of the month goes to Ashton D. Ashton has worked for the Tuff Home since 2022 and works overnights as a CNA. Her family consist of her husband (Cody) and two kids Vidalia (7) and Gus (1). Her family enjoys camping together and sharing her love for gardening. She enjoys working at the Tuff Memorial Home because she likes making a difference in the peoples' lives and has made so many friendships here. Fun fact: she has a bachelor's degree in business and worked in HR/Payroll for 6 years prior to working here.



Pastor's Page

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." Ecclesiastes 3:1

Change is a constant in life. Most of us do not like change, we don't want to change, we want things to be they have always been. I get that, but we also embrace change. Do any of us want to go back to churning our own butter? Or farming with horses? Or no TV, or internet or phones we carry with us? (Well, maybe the last one, phones with us does keep us from interaction with others at time!)

We are on the cusp of change in seasons. Lent begins in a few days, we will move our clocks ahead (ugh) on the 9th of March, spring begins, at least on the calendar, on March 29th. Lent is a time to slow down and take a look at ourselves, our relationships with others, to consider changes we could make to help us live better lives. Maybe those changes are simple, taking time to pray each morning, or giving a little extra to the church, be it time, money, or something from our stockpile of gifts we have been given. Maybe the changes are bigger, changes in behavior, being kinder to others, talking to someone you don't know well, adding an activity, like visiting someone each week or sending a card to someone. Or maybe we have 'bad' habits we wish to change, like too much chocolate, soda, coffee, junk food or speaking without thinking, or not being gentle with ourselves.

This season, for Lent, we will gather on Wednesday evenings and we will share a meal and then come together to worship, to change our normal pattern of life. Our time together will focus on change. We will talk about the Change of Season, Change of Habit, Change of Circumstances, Change of Heart and Change of Plans. I invite you to come with open minds and willingness to not be afraid to change. It is a scary word, but with change comes new possibilities. I will likely teach you new songs, I will likely challenge you to think new thoughts, but I will also ground it all in our faith and love of God, knowing that as we go through change, God goes with us and never leaves us.

Change is a challenge. Getting to church on Wednesday nights may be a challenge, but it is also a time to listen and rest in Gods arms of love. Change is hard for everyone and we continue to go through changes at Bethlehem. If we are to be the best we can be and if we are to serve our community, some change need to happen. Will it be hard, yes. Will it be successful, we hope. Will it be worth it, yes, because we will have brought others to know God. Will it take commitment, yes. It will take everyone together to make it work, everyone can contribute. Pray for our congregation, help where you can, invite others, open your hearts and speak to one another with love.

Pastor Lori





Then Feed Just One

Food Packing Program