

# soaring

A PUBLICATION OF MENNONITE HOME COMMUNITIES



*New President of Mennonite Home  
Communities—John Sauder*

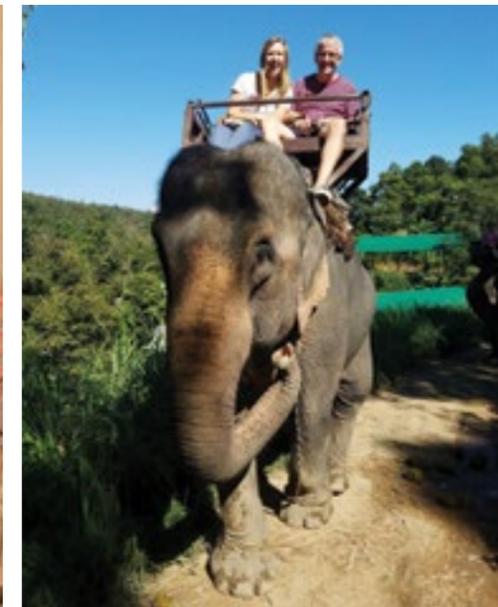
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SPRING 2017

# New Year Brings New Leadership

*As President, John is grateful that MHC has been a forward thinking community exemplified by being an early adopter of Person Centered Care .*



After an extensive search, the Board of Directors selected John Sauder as the new President of Mennonite Home Communities (MHC). John took over his new duties on December 24, 2016, following Nelson Kling's retirement the day prior. John's life journey and 24 years of increasing responsibility at MHC have prepared him well for his new responsibilities.

*"MHC is a strong, healthy organization and I look forward to MHC continuing to innovate and creatively respond to the changing health care landscape."*

"I feel blessed to follow in the footsteps of Nelson Kling who did a great job of developing both campuses, while

also overseeing the introduction of several new programs. MHC is a strong, healthy organization and I look forward to MHC continuing to innovate and creatively respond to the changing health care landscape."

John's journey toward his current calling began after realizing he did not want to farm as his parents had done and he instead decided to pursue nursing. After earning his RN degree, he joined a small hospital in Elmer, N.J. He worked on the medical surgical floor and intensive care units (ICU) and started developing

his administrative skills as the charge nurse of the ICU—all within one year!

John moved to Philadelphia to complete his BSN at Hahnemann University. After graduation, he spent two years on short-term mission assignments with Youth Evangelism Service (YES). He worked with heroin addicts in Hong Kong and then led a team to Indonesia that worked with the Mennonite churches there.

Upon returning home, he co-directed the YES training center in Baltimore, Md., where he met his future wife, Rose Kraybill. They married in 1992 and John worked in the ICU at the former St. Joseph Hospital in Lancaster.

In 1993, John joined MHC as a member of the finance team, learning the general

ledger and the budget process before being promoted to Director of Human Resources. John became Director of Nursing in 1996 and helped to build the nursing team and developed a collaborative structure with nurse managers to create better systems to monitor quality outcomes.

In 1998, John joined the executive leadership team and was promoted to Vice President of Health Services in 2000. By 2006, John was leading a team pioneering the new concepts of Person Centered Care delivered in home-like households. Person Centered Care households were completed in 2009 after a significant team effort.

In 2012, John transitioned into the Vice President of Operations role,

overseeing Personal Care, Facilities, and the Nursing Home Administrator, while also gaining experience as the MHC representative for construction projects including the VIVA Centre.

John and Rose are the parents of two daughters. They live in Leola and worship at Petra Church. They support a number of mission organizations and volunteer at the Pennsylvania Relief Sale.

As President, John is grateful for MHC's forward-thinking culture exemplified with steps such as being an early adopter of Person Centered Care and developing

*(Far left) John and his wife, Rose. (Middle) John with Cora Kaylor, Community Life Coordinator at Wissler Run, and resident Jake Hoover. (Far right) John and his daughter Kaitlin riding an elephant in Thailand.*

state-of-the-art amenities like the VIVA Centre. One of his goals is to develop a strong executive leadership team and to engage with all staff to ensure

MHC continues to enhance the lives of residents, staff and the community. John is delighted to work collaboratively with the great staff of Mennonite Home Communities

to continue advancing the organization into the future.

# Twelve Times the Impact!

*Several years ago residents suggested a way that our donors could multiply their impact sometimes by a factor of six to twelve times!*



Bill Cherry

Mennonite Home Communities is blessed with many generous donors who care deeply about our mission of providing a “Home for Life” for all of our residents, regardless of their financial or health challenges. Several years ago, residents suggested a way that our donors could multiply their impact, sometimes by a factor of six to twelve times!

Many charities solicit contributions around the Thanksgiving holiday as donors think of their personal blessings and consider helping others. Woodcrest Villa (WCV) residents Bill Cherry and Pat Smith suggested that donors could be more generous if contributions could be included on residents’ monthly bills, fitting the normal budget process. Thus the automatic monthly contribution was born!

Bill explains, “Whatever is important to us we should regularize or make automatic. This eliminates the need for spontaneity. Automatic monthly contributions are a wonderful opportunity to be faithful in our support of Benevolent Care.”

Kim Peters, Development Assistant, includes the automatic monthly contributions form in the annual campaign packet. Kim shares: “More than 40 families currently use automatic monthly contributions, in amounts from \$5 to \$200 per month. Looking at old records, some people who once gave \$100 annually are now giving \$50 or even \$100 monthly!”

Donors may opt out of their contribution at any time by calling Kim. Development also stops these contributions if residents move to personal care or skilled nursing.

Donors who do not reside at WCV can use either a debit card or credit card to arrange their own version of the automatic monthly contributions. Call Kim Peters at 390-4105 for more information.

## STOCK MARKET AT ALL TIME HIGH!

One of the best ways to support Mennonite Home Communities is via a gift of stock or mutual funds. The total value of your gift is tax-deductible provided it has been held for at least one year. You avoid paying capital gains tax on the appreciated value. The gift is fully deductible as of the date it arrives in our account.

### ELECTRONIC TRANSFER

Your broker can transfer your gift electronically, using the following information:

**DTC #: 990**

**Account Name:** Mennonite Home

**Account #:** 1002833

**Brokerage:** Manufacturers and Traders Trust Company

*Please notify Greg Pierce of your gift at [gpierce@mennonitehome.org](mailto:gpierce@mennonitehome.org) or (717) 390-4903 because the electronic transfer does not inform us of your name. We want to thank you and provide your tax-deductible receipt!*

## A Family Affair

To the Kauffman and Stoner family, volunteering is as much a part of their lives as attending church, working or even eating. Harold & Minnie Kauffman were married in 1921 and had five children: Harold Junior, Dick, Erma, Bob and Anna Mae.

They always believed that being a part of the community meant helping wherever and whenever there was a need.

Minnie, along with members of her Sunday School Class

was actually “volunteering” long before anyone thought of it in those terms. Among other things, they would come to Mennonite Home to clean, do laundry, help with food preparation and simply visit residents. As very young children, both Erma and Anna Mae vividly remember joining their mother and sharing her volunteer responsibilities when she came to Mennonite Home. Not only did that continue over the years; but also, the entire family would come and help with large events. Their commitment to Mennonite Home has never stopped.

When Dick was young, he was very busy with his own responsibilities on the family farm. About 20 years ago, he too became a very active volunteer with us and only just retired at the age of 90 from transporting residents in wheelchairs. In February, he and his wife, Eleanor moved into a lovely apartment at Woodcrest.

Anna Mae thoroughly enjoyed her 40-year career in banking. However, whenever time allowed, she continued to volunteer with special events, even serving on Mennonite Home’s Auxiliary as treasurer.

Then as soon as she retired from the bank, she took a more active role by transporting residents to their beauty shop appointments and working in our gift shop, The Country Store.

*Not many families have the commitment of sharing with others the way the Kauffman/Stoner family has.*

As years passed, Erma married Titus Stoner and the volunteering tradition continued. Both families are still very active sharing their time and talents in many capacities throughout Lancaster County, but Mennonite Home must have always had a soft spot in

their hearts. Erma served on Mennonite Home’s Auxiliary and helped with various activities and special events. For many years she undertook the position of manager and buyer of our gift shop. In fact, you can stop in today and still see her smiling face as she assists customers with their purchases. Her husband Titus also volunteered whenever extra help was needed for events and activities. More than 20 years ago he retired from farming and began transporting residents to their in-house physical therapy appointments,

and he still does so today. Titus’ parents lived here for the last several years of their lives and he used to love to come visit them and other residents every Sunday.

Titus and Erma have six children and they instilled the importance of helping others by bringing them to visit or volunteer with special events at Mennonite Home. Even as their children have grown and had children of their own, that family’s tradition continues.

Clara Stoner married Donald, Titus & Erma’s eldest son, and that’s when the next generation’s commitment started. Once again, first with special events, then volunteering in The Country Store. Clara loved volunteering in the store, and when her daughter Twila was old enough, she also started in the store.

Not many families have the commitment of sharing with others the way the Kauffman/Stoner family has. Mennonite Home is truly privileged to have had four generations volunteering their time and talents with and for our residents. We are so grateful for their service.

*Pictured are (left to right): Titus Kauffman, Erma Stoner (seated), Dick Kauffman, Anna Mae Kauffman, Twila Stoner and Clara Stoner.*



# Singing, Clapping, Foot-tapping Smiles and Eyes That Shine

At Mennonite Home, a very special resident's family has been sharing their wonderful talents with those around them as a way to connect with their mom while also brightening the lives of others. Dorothy Berrier has been a Mennonite Home resident since October 2014. Since 2015, her family has come in monthly to lead sing-alongs and play piano for the residents on the Swarr Run and Trout Run households in nursing care (Dorothy lives on Swarr Run). Dorothy's son (Dale), daughter-in-law (Bonnie), daughter (Dianna) and her nephew (Jerry) started this tradition for the first time on Easter Sunday 2015.

Bonnie has served as a pianist/organist for more than 40 years and says, "I've learned from my mother's special and giving ways of how important it is to make others happy and to share the talents that God gives us. It's a joyfully rewarding experience to watch and listen as those with confused memories, due to the disease, so quiet and solemn, come alive and interact with singing, clapping, foot-tapping, smiles and eyes that shine."

Music is great therapy and the residents respond in such a lively way! As they hear familiar songs of the World War II and Big Band Era, they sing along. The 1939 Glenn Miller Band's recording of "In The Mood," a hit of the Swing Era with a lively bounce tempo, is a favorite. One female resident moves the wheels of her wheelchair back and forth to the beat, and then announces that her legs are tired.

"For most of our residents on both Swarr and Trout Run, their memories have diminished, but when we play music that they may have sung in church or a song they enjoyed listening to, they remember the words or smile because it brings back memories," says Rachel Nauman, Community Life Coordinator for Swarr Run.

Her counterpart on Trout Run, Sharon Metzger shares: "Music is probably the most favorite activity on Trout Run. There is a comfort in singing or listening to familiar songs and hymns. Even residents who rarely talk will often sing. Those who are no longer able to sing will sit with smiles on their faces as they listen to the music."

The residents love music and it brings them joy to sing along; what a blessing to have family members who are willing to share their time and talents with Mennonite Home residents. Thank you!!

*"I've learned from my mother's special and giving ways of how important it is to make others happy and to share the talents that God gives us."*

Bonnie Berrier



*(Left to right) Bonnie Berrier enjoys playing piano and singing for Mennonite Home residents like her mother-in-law Dorothy Berrier along with her husband Dale Jay Berrier and sister-in-law Dianna Zimmerman.*



### Crafters Return to Action in Gamber Auditorium!



After a two-year hiatus, Woodcrest Villa continued the tradition of holding a Craft Show this past fall. During the construction of the VIVA Centre, there was no place to hold the show; but the newly constructed Gamber Auditorium proved to be the perfect space to bring back the show—bigger and better than ever!



All show participants were Woodcrest Villa residents or staff. More than 35 crafters offered many types of items for sale, including hand-carved wooden items, decorated throw pillows, knit items, Christmas gifts, beautiful jewelry, handmade cards and so much more.

Although it was not a requirement, many participants donated all the proceeds to Mennonite Home's Benevolent Care. Woodcrest Villa's Crafters donated all of their proceeds from the sale of items they worked on throughout the year. Combined with the sale of food items by the Community Life Department, the two groups donated \$1,677, with others donating more than \$350 for Benevolent Care.

People are already making things for next year's event, which will be on Saturday, November 18 in the Gamber Auditorium at the VIVA Centre of Woodcrest Villa.

### Extraordinary Give Records Another Great Year!

Last year, in November of 2016, Mennonite Home Communities (MHC) once again participated in the Lancaster Community Foundation's Extraordinary Give. This special event is held the Friday before Thanksgiving and is a community-wide celebration of philanthropy. 2016 marked the fourth year that MHC has been involved.

With so many excellent non-profits to choose from, MHC was honored to receive 99 gifts totaling \$26,226—all of which will go toward Benevolent Care.

Kim Peters, Development Assistant with MHC, says that each year the Extraordinary Give attracts new donors to our cause of helping older adults. Throughout the past four years, more than \$87,000 has been donated to Benevolent Care through this initiative.

## THE EXTRA ORDINARY GIVE

## Mennonite Home Communities

1520 Harrisburg Pike  
Lancaster, PA 17601  
www.mennonitehome.org

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## soaring

**Featured on the cover:** New President and CEO John Sauder appreciates the support of his daughters (left to right) Ally, Kaitlin and wife Rose as he embarks on this new chapter at MHC.

### SOARING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Connie Buckwalter, John Sauder,  
Kim Peters, Greg Pierce, Kathleen Maule,  
Jane Gamble, Amy Yoder

## Create a lasting legacy

by supporting Mennonite Home through your estate and/or your will. Call Greg Pierce at 717-390-4903 to learn more.

If you would like to receive information about **Residential Living at Woodcrest Villa**, call Amy at 717.390.4103

If you would like to receive information about **Personal Care or Health Care** at Mennonite Home, call Cathy at 717.390.7979

If you wish to have your name removed from our mailing list, call Kim at 717.390.4105.



## Living Longer & Filling Life

WITH LAUGHING, LEARNING, LOVING — AND LIKING IT!

**People who enjoy life to the fullest laugh a lot,  
keep learning and love family and friends.**

Woodcrest Villa is excited to host **Dr. Charles Petty**, a humorous professional speaker from North Carolina who has entertained and educated audiences in 50 states and 15 countries.

## SIMPLY BETTER LIVING

**JOIN US**  
**Tuesday, March 28**  
**10-11:30 a.m.**

**10 a.m.-11 a.m.**

Dr. Charles Petty

**11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.**

Woodcrest Villa resident panel

Woodcrest Villa, VIVA Centre,  
Gamber Auditorium  
2001 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster, PA

Light refreshments provided.  
Event is free, but reservations are required.  
Please call 391-3608 or register online at  
[www.woodcrestvilla.org/petty](http://www.woodcrestvilla.org/petty)

**Woodcrest Villa**  
A MENNONITE HOME COMMUNITY