

Spring is a perfect time for visitors

Family, friends are invited to participate in activities

While residents enjoy welcoming visitors throughout the year, spring is a great season to spend quality time with loved ones at Good Samaritan Society—Minneapolis.

“Visits from family members and friends mean so much to residents,” says Activities Director Shane Ringle. “We definitely see how visitors enhance residents’ quality of life.”

Here are some ideas for activities to do with a resident when the weather is warm:

- Attend a local parade or festival.
- Bring others to visit, such as children or grandchildren.



Resident Albert Facklam helps Sydney Weis from Little Samaritans Childcare with a project during one of her visits to the Town Center at Good Samaritan Society—Minneapolis.

- Bring a pet to Good Samaritan Society—Minneapolis. Residents like taking animals outside to play or go for walks in the spring.
- Assist a resident with potting a plant or seedlings and share the growth and care. The Good Samaritan Society—Minneapolis also has raised-bed gardens that residents tend.
- Take a resident for an outing—to church, stores, parks or other places the person enjoys. Remember to check in and out at the nursing station.
- Go fishing. Many residents like being lakeside on a warm summer day.
- Bring newspapers, magazine articles, photographs and other interesting objects to discuss together on the patio. Family pictures are especially welcome. †

Save the date

Saturday, May 30

Benefit Golf Tournament
4-person scramble, 18 holes
Minneapolis Golf Course

*Find a sponsor, form a team
and get ready for some fun!*

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In memory



Administrator Dana Rice helps preschoolers from Little Samaritans Childcare with a project during a recent visit. The children visit the Town Center monthly and interact with the residents in many ways, including playing outside, singing and crafting.

 Good Samaritan
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MINNEAPOLIS

"We emphasize hope and cherish life for the remarkable journey it has been, and that is still to come."



Dana Rice

Changing the perception of care centers

By Dana Rice

Most of us get a specific image in our heads when we hear the term "nursing home." Usually, it's not terribly flattering, and I encourage you to let that image go.

Today, we don't use the term "nursing home" as much as we do "skilled nursing center" or "long-term care center." The vast majority of centers provide much better care than previously perceived.

Part of this is because of state and federal regulations. Additionally, many centers are operated by not-for-profit organizations such as the Good

Samaritan Society, where the emphasis is on care for residents, rather than on profit for shareholders.

In addition, our center is registered with the Eden Alternative. This means that our center has embraced the Eden Alternative Principles and Practices and—through this program—seeks to eliminate loneliness, helplessness and boredom in our residents' lives. Come for a visit, and we will show you how companion animals, the opportunity to care for other living things, and the variety and spontaneity that come from having an on-site preschool can be a benefit to our residents. The core concept of the Eden Alternative is

strikingly simple. We see our center as a habitat for humans rather than an institution for the frail and elderly.

It is our emphasis on creating a caring home, where God's love is shared in word and deed, that sets the Good Samaritan Society apart from other care centers. We emphasize hope and cherish life for the remarkable journey it has been, and that is still to come.

Whether through donations, volunteer time or prayers, thank you to everyone who continues to support the mission and ministry of Good Samaritan Society—Minneapolis. Your caring is greatly appreciated.✝



By Helen Martin
Chaplain

It seems like spring and summer can be some of the busiest times of the year with vacations, baseball games and community events, and planning for fall activities that are just around the corner. But during these busy times, do we take time to be with God?

Many pastors will say that church attendance declines during the spring and summer. When we are busiest, we feel like we don't have time for God, even though that may be the

time when we need Him the most. Psalm 46:10 (NIV) says, "Be still, and know that I am God." This verse is an invitation to enter into a relationship with God. That is what He wants from each of us. All we need to do is take time out for Him and slow down occasionally to be quiet in His presence.

I have often wondered why many residents seem to have a closer understanding of God and Jesus. It is not a big mystery that residents spend a lot of time reflecting on their lives and how God fits into the plan. Many seniors spend less time watching television and

more time simply contemplating. I am convinced that it is during their times of reflection that God comes to them with comfort and understanding.

This kind of loving relationship is available to each of us if we will just take the time to do the same. It's easy to say we don't have the time, but how many times do we talk on the phone or just listen to the radio while driving the car? I know I do that, and that can be a perfect opportunity to talk to God.

Take time to be still with God. He is waiting for you, especially on those busy days.✝

Grace notes

Take time to be still with God



Our heartfelt thanks to the following people who have given so generously from October 2008 through January 2009.

We apologize if we have inadvertently omitted or incorrectly spelled your name. Please contact Karin Bigler at kbigler@good-sam.com with corrections.

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In memory

We would like to thank the families and friends of the following residents for allowing us to care for their loved ones during their last days.

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Beverly Lambertson
Juan Rael
Don Stover

Jean King
Bonnie Kissick
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In memory of John Bishop

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Delbert and Twila Werries

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Minneapolis**

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*O*ur mission

The mission of The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society is to share God's love in word and deed by providing shelter and supportive services to older persons and others in need, believing that

*In Christ's Love,
Everyone Is Someone.*

**Good Samaritan Society—
Minneapolis**

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