

Calvin Connection

Winter 2019

A quarterly publication for friends of Calvin Community

Renovations underway in Health Center

Thanks to the Calvin Foundation's recently completed Capstone Capital Campaign, Calvin Community has begun the first phase of renovating Calvin's third floor Health Center.

According to President and CEO Carl Koedam, the first phase will include new hall corridor lighting and flooring, painting and redecorating the dining room, and remodeling the kitchen. This phase is the beginning of a multi-year plan to completely renovate and reconfigure the entire third floor to enhance patient and family comfort.

In expressing thanks to the Foundation for its Capstone Capital Campaign, Koedam acknowledged, "This renovation would not have been possible without the Foundation's capital campaign and the financial support of residents, volunteers, and friends of Calvin. The Foundation is an important partner in Calvin's future and its financial well-being."

Do you follow Calvin on Facebook?

We share photos and events there every week!

A note from Carl Koedam

As I begin my career at Calvin Community I would like to reaffirm our commitment to those who live at Calvin. This is best summarized by my predecessor, Mark Teigland, but still rings true today.

Our Mission is to provide a continuum of services including Independent Living, Assisted Living, Memory Care, Long-Term, and Skilled Care.

Our Promise is, and has always been, that no Calvin resident is ever asked to leave should their resources become exhausted.

Our Priority as a faith-based not-for-profit retirement community is



to deliver individualized care to older adults with a team of dedicated professional staff – focusing on servicing our greater community.

My first three months at Calvin Community have been something very special to me and my family. The welcome I received from the people who live and work at Calvin has made me feel right at home. "Community" truly describes what it feels like to be a part of Calvin.

I would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone for making Calvin Community a special place to live and work.

I would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone for making Calvin Community a special place to live and work.

Renee Kendall now leads Health Care Services

Calvin Community is pleased to announce Renee Kendall as the new Director of Health Care Services, effective December 1, 2018. This is due to a recent restructuring and places Renee over the Health Care Center, Assisted Living, and Independent Living areas of Calvin Community.

Renee has over 40 years of nursing experience including working as a Director of Nursing (D.O.N.) in long-

term care, Assisted Living D.O.N., and Case Manager for the elderly. Her area of expertise is dementia specific care, and building strong teams.

Renee says she was honored by the promotion and getting to lead such a fine team and community. Renee says what she likes most about Calvin Community is its culture of friendliness and caring both for its residents and qualified staff.

Spotlight on quality and performance

Over the next year, we will be publishing descriptions of what Calvin Community staff members do on a day-to-day basis and how their jobs benefit residents and families.

Quality Assurance, Performance Improvement is the coordinated application of two mutually-reinforcing aspects of a quality management system.

QA is the specification of standards for quality of service and outcomes, and a process throughout the organization for assuring that care is maintained at acceptable levels in relation to those standards. QA is on-going, both anticipatory and retrospective in its efforts to identify how the organization is performing, including where and why facility performance is at risk or has failed to meet standards.

PI is the continuous study and improvement of processes with the intent to improve our current systems or to prevent problems from occurring altogether, by identifying areas of opportunity and testing new approaches to fix underlying causes of persistent/systemic problems or barriers to improvement. PI in nursing homes aims to improve processes involved in health care delivery and resident quality of life. PI can make good quality even better.

QAPI takes a systematic, comprehensive, and data-driven approach to maintaining and improving safety and quality in nursing homes while involving all nursing home caregivers in practical and creative problem solving.

Theresa Madsen is the Quality As-

urance and Performance Improvement (QAPI) nurse for Calvin Community.

One of the first projects that Theresa worked on at Calvin was the development of the Facility Assessment. This outlined all of Calvin's strengths and identified places where Calvin could use improvement. Development of policies and procedures that reflect Calvin Community's commitment to quality care and ensuring that team members uphold best practice standards in the form of "competency testing" have been built on the foundation of the Facility Assessment. The QAPI nurse identifies areas of educational need for team members and is respon-



Theresa Madsen

sible for collecting data in areas of needed improvement in order to create the best practice plan for improvement. Sometimes it takes a few "test drives" to find a system that works for everyone involved. QAPI relies heavily on feedback from our frontline team members, our residents and our families. This makes QAPI unique to other models for improvement as it truly involves every facet of the care continuum.

Theresa's office is located on the third floor in our Healthcare Center. If you would like to contact Theresa you can email tmadsen@calvincommunity.org or call 515-633-2528.

Meet Jesse Iverson

Jesse Iverson started in January as the Assistant Director of Nursing in the Healthcare Center.

She worked as a Registered Nurse at Skiff Medical Center in Newton, Iowa for 13 years and at Trinity Center at Luther Park before coming to Calvin Community.

Jesse chose to work at Calvin because of the organization's great reputation. Jesse says that her niche is working in dementia care. "I love to join the journey with the residents."

She obtained her Licensed Practical Nursing certification in 2002



Jesse Iverson

and completed her Associate Degree in Nursing (RN) from Marshalltown Community College in 2003.

Jesse grew up with a younger brother and sister in Newton, where she has lived for most of her life. Jesse has been married to her husband, Bill, for ten years and has three young daughters. They like to dance, go camping, and spend time outdoors as a family. The are members of First United Methodist Church, and she serves as the Parish Nurse for the congregation.

Welcome to Calvin, Jesse!

Resident spotlight: Bob and Verda Simon

Bob and Verda Simon moved to their Calvin West apartment at the beginning of January from their home in Urbandale that they lived in for 63 years. Welcome to the Calvin family, Bob and Verda!

The Simons both grew up in western Iowa, Bob in Hancock and Verda in Logan. They met while attending school and both graduated from Shelby High School in the same year.

Verda was valedictorian of her class and went on to attend Iowa State Teacher's College and taught in Strahan, Lamont, Avoca, and Shelby, IA. Bob attended Simpson College for two years and Iowa State University for one year before enlisting in the Navy. Bob served during the Korean War; he completed Basic Training in San Diego, and then moved to Long Beach for Personnel School and work in the Personnel Office. Bob and Verda were married at the Naval Station in Long Beach, California in July 1952.

The Simons then moved to the Des Moines area and in 1955 they bought their house, started their family, and Bob began his career at Western Mutual, now Continental Western Group, where he worked as a Claims Examiner for 35 years. Bob and Verda's family includes children Debra, Scott, and Holly, grandchildren Grant, Danielle, Ben, Brenden, and Megan, and great-grandchildren! After the children were school-age Verda returned to teaching as a substitute in the Johnston School District.



Bob and Verda Simon

Verda's interests include reading, she's already scoped out the Calvin library, and Bob is a self-proclaimed "history nut"!

You may recognize the Simons from when Bob presented information on the history of automobile registration and licensing in

Iowa at Calvin in July 2018. Bob has volunteered at the Iowa State Historical Building and has been a Board member of the Urbandale Historical Society. Bob is proud to have received the Governor's Service Award and Urbandale Citizen of the Year for his many years of community involvement. The Simons are charter members of Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Urbandale, where they remain active today.

visit calvincommunity.org

to see more newsletter profiles and event calendars

A note from Pastor Lamberts

On February 14 we celebrate Valentine's Day. It is a day to express our love for someone who is special to us.

Is it hard for you to say, "I love you?" It seems that women express those words more often than men do. Do you agree? Are you like that man who told his wife, "I told you I love you when I married you, so I don't have to tell you again. If anything changes, I will let you know."

It is good to express love and then to demonstrate love by our actions. God does that. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in shall not perish

but have eternal life (John 3:16)."

God created the world and He loves the world. That includes you. God loves you very much. But God not only tells us that He loves us, He demonstrated his love by sending his Son Jesus to die on the cross for us. His love is a perfect love. No matter what you do, God will not stop loving you.

An old hymn says, "O love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in Thee, I give thee back the life I owe, that in Thine ocean depths. Its flow may richer, fuller be."

Happy Valentine's Day!



Pastor Lamberts



4210 Hickman Road
Des Moines, IA 50310-3395

NONPROFIT
ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
DES MOINES, IA
PERMIT No. 707

Ann's Activity Calendar

Join us for chocolate and more!

All events held in the Main Lounge unless otherwise stated

Social Drumming in the Rec Room Tuesday, February 12 at 10:30 am

Music by Merrymaker Julie Moss Thursday, February 28 at 2 pm

Valentine's Day **Chocolate Affair** event returns Thursday, February 14 at 2 pm

Music by Merrymaker group "Antique Harmony" Saturday, March 16 at 2 pm

"The Telling Man" **stories** by Jim Boardman Saturday, February 17 at 2 pm

Art Therapy with Grand View University in the Rec Room on Saturdays at 10 am (February 23, March 2, March 9). Sign up with Deb Bodson if interested!

For more information about activities & special events at Calvin Community, please call Ann Scallon at 633-2512.

Visit calvincommunity.org for calendars in each level of care.



Calvin Square brings new independent living options to the west side of Calvin Community's campus.

Townhomes open spring 2019. Apartments and a Mercy Family Clinic open summer 2019.

View floorplans and more at calvinsquare.com