

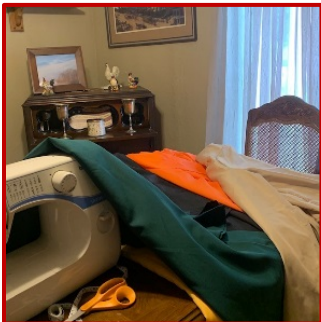


Faith Connections June 2020

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**To the essential workers at Flat Rock Homes, Care Center, and Community Services:
THANK YOU!**



Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Project

Flat Rock received a generous and rapid response to our request for masks. When we sent out the call for unneeded choir robes and/or graduation gowns to be repurposed into PPE gowns our churches and church members were also swift. Nearly 200 robes of all colors and sizes came in, and with a bit of adaptation, they will be available to keep staff, residents, and program participants safe. Thanks so much to those churches and individuals who donated and to our seamstresses who made masks and helped with the gown adaptations!

Important Information for Donors about the CARES Act

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act is well known for the economic stimulus checks provided to millions of Americans this year. But this sweeping legislation also includes two new temporary tax benefits for donors giving to nonprofits.

1. Universal Deduction for donations up to \$300

Even if you no longer itemize your charitable giving, CARES allows individual taxpayers a charitable deduction *up to \$300*. This is a temporary "above the line" deduction for 2020.

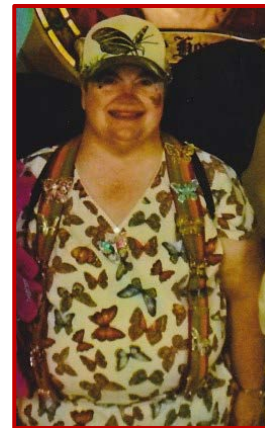
2. Raised Charitable Giving Deduction cap

For those who itemize their deductions, CARES lifts the current charitable giving deduction cap from 60% adjusted gross income to *100% AGI* for individuals and joint filers. The deduction cap for corporations is lifted to 25%.

Keep in mind that these changes are most-likely temporary, so if you would like a charitable deduction of \$300 or if you are considering a significant gift to Flat Rock, 2020 is a good year to make a gift. If you have questions, please contact your financial advisor or Jill Kinser, Legacy Giving Specialist at Flat Rock Homes, jkinser@flatrockhomes.org

Southern Hills District Churches Respond During the Pandemic: Hats off to "Rev Bev!"

Reverend Beverly Hall aka Rev Bev, aka Butterfly the Clown (pictured) will soon retire after 31 years in active ministry. In addition to serving as pastor, Rev Bev has been actively involved in the East Ohio Conference Disability Awareness Committee, both as a member and its chair for the past eight years. As she winds down her time at Caldwell UMC in the Southern Hills District, Bev shared some of the actions in her community to minister to the unique needs brought about by the pandemic. Caldwell UMC is in Nobel County, and, of the five known COVID-19 patients in the county, three were members of her congregation. At the time of the interview, one who had been on a ventilator for 15 days had finally returned home. As a pastor, keeping in touch with her congregants is important. Bev made encouraging posters, set up several "when prayers go up, blessings come down" prayer parades to drive by the homes as people recuperated. Her church is also involved in a community project to supply lunches for 250 children for summer weekends, as well as helping to supply food for those in need.



Caldwell UMC is preparing to re-open by installing new soap dispensers and UV-ray sanitizers in addition to a thorough cleaning of the building before and between services. Rev Bev, we thank you for all the hats you so willingly and lovingly wear as a pastor, committee leader, wife, and clown! May God bless you as you retire!

More Pandemic Ministries in Southern Hills District

Yvonne Matus, Certified Lay Speaker at Middlebourne and Quaker City United Methodist Churches near Cambridge, says one of her congregations has not met since March 8th, and the other has taken advantage of virtual meeting technology to share and connect with the people on Sunday mornings since April 12th. Yvonne mails a devotional or card to them to keep their spirits lifted. She tries to call, but due to many of them being elderly she also tries to not intrude on their time. Most of them are avid readers, and she included a copy of the May edition of Faith Connections! Yvonne says most of her people are staying close to home, and many are not venturing outside.

About Flat Rock's Legacy Program

From its very foundation, Flat Rock Homes has existed due to supporters with a spirit of giving. Flat Rock Homes was created in 1866 through the generous donation of farmland, allowing the creation of a home for children orphaned by the Civil War.

Today, the mission of Flat Rock is still supported and strengthened through generosity. When considering a gift, many people initially think about a gift of cash. Cash is always an appreciated gift, but there are many other ways you can support Flat Rock that will not affect current income. Consider giving from your IRA distribution, leaving a simple gift designation in your will, or gifting appreciated stock. The spirit of giving is alive and well today! Contact us and let's talk about creative ways to leave the legacy you envision. Jill Kinser, Legacy Giving Specialist

jkinser@flatrockhomes.org

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Please Help Us Reach Our Goal!

Our [Facebook](#) page has nearly 1,000 likes!! You can help us reach that milestone by:

1. Sharing Flat Rock Homes Facebook posts with your friends and family
2. Inviting them to join with you by **LIKING** our Facebook page, and
3. Joining our Facebook prayer support group - Flat Rock Homes: Restoring Hope

You can also follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) @FlatRockHomes!

Here to Work With You!

We're excited to share that our President/CEO, Karen Kilgo, will be leading the DisAbility Awareness Committee beginning on July 1! She is looking forward to taking the reigns and helping those in our district.

As churches open and get back to a "new normal" schedule, please remember that our President & CEO, Karen Kilgo, and Church & Community Engagement Coordinators, Deaconess Sherri Buehl and Rose M Darling, are available for:

- Pulpit supply (all)
- Disability Awareness Sunday, or programs (Rose or Sherri)
- Retreats (Sherri)
- Music programs or piano/organ supply (Rose) and more!

Contact us for additional information and to schedule an inspiring message!

Karen at kkilgo@flatrockhomes.org

Sherri at sbuehl@flatrockhomes.org

Rose at rdarling@flatrockhomes.org