



Flat Rock

Restoring Hope. Transforming Lives. Living Faith.

FAITH CONNECTIONS September 2020

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The 2020 Dick Parks Memorial Race at the Rock Wraps Up!

There were lots of happy, excited faces as folks served by Flat Rock put on their walking shoes for the Inspirational Race in mid-August! Even though the event went virtual this year, many folks from around the state supported Flat Rock Homes, Care Center, and Community Services through the annual event. There's still time to get sponsorship money in to win the Dick Parks Fundraising Award! To make a donation or to see more pictures, [click here](#) or head to our website.



Meet Blair Porter, Flat Rock's NEW Volunteer Youth Ambassador!

Blair is the youngest of three girls. Her parents are Randy and Rev. Erin Porter. A senior at Huron High School, she serves on the Huron Schools' Superintendent Cabinet, which meets weekly with the superintendent, school principals, etc. to discuss how school is going, what's working, and what is not. Blair also plays tuba in the band.

Blair's work with the United Methodist Church starts at Columbus Avenue UMC where her mother serves as pastor. Blair is the Young People's Discipleship Coordinator at her church and makes sure that babies through college-age have opportunities to grow in their discipleship to serve the Lord as they grow older.

As a member of the Firelands District of the East Ohio Conference, Blair is involved with the Firelands District Youth Events and serves on the District Missions Committee as well as the North Coast District Haiti Board. She has also served as pulpit supply for Imagine No Malaria. At the Conference level, she has been a member of the Conference Council on Youth Ministries (CCYM) and is now the President of CCYM. Blair also serves on the Conference's Leadership Committee and the Board of Laity. For fun, she works at Cedar Point in the Games Office and loves to bowl.

Blair didn't take this opportunity lightly but prayerfully sought God's direction. She will be working to connect youth with the mission and ministry of Flat Rock Homes. She is already filled with great ideas! We welcome Blair Porter to the volunteer family of Flat Rock!

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DisAbility Awareness Resources

“Increasing Access and Opportunity” is the 2020 theme for October’s annual observance of National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). This year is the nation’s 75th observance of NDEAM. The observance culminates in the Department’s commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

“Ensuring that America’s workplaces continue to include and accommodate people with disabilities will be an important part of our economic rebound,” said U.S. Secretary of Labor, Eugene Scalia. “People with disabilities are experienced problem solvers with a proven ability to adapt,” said Office of Disability Employment Policy Deputy Assistant Secretary, Jennifer Sheehy. National Disability Employment Awareness Month celebrates the ingenuity people with disabilities bring to America’s workplaces. (Department of Labor. www.dol.gov)

Our team is here to help you with **DisAbility Awareness**. We also offer pulpit supply, music supply (Rose), spiritual gifts retreats (Sherri), and other special services/programs.

Please contact the following for additional information:

- Karen Kilgo, President/CEO of Flat Rock Homes, Care Center, and Community Services at kkilgo@flatrockhomes.org
- Deaconess Sherri Buehl, sbuehl@flatrockhomes.org (EOCUMC: Firelands, North Coast, Mid-Ohio, Western Reserve, and Southern Hills districts).
- Rose Darling, rdarling@flatrockhomes.org (EOCUMC: Canal, Mahoning Valley, Ohio Valley, Three Rivers, and Tuscarawas districts).

We are also available for other church affiliations and can travel to locations across Ohio.

#GivingTuesday Project!

#GivingTuesday is coming December 1st so mark your calendars! This year we are working towards The TRL Outdoor Therapeutic Center. For more details, head to our social media pages or click [here](#).



Flat Rock from its Roots

“I thank God for Flat Rock Homes!” exclaims Jim Horner, great-uncle of one of our Flat Rock Care Center residents. This resident’s family story reminds his great-uncle of Flat Rock’s earliest days as an orphanage for children orphaned by the Civil War. Jim’s great-grandfather, Jackson Michaels of the Tiffin area, was killed in the War in 1863 when he driving a supply cart. Suddenly, the horse bolted, overturning the cart, and Jackson was killed instantly after hitting his head. Richard and Leroy, Jackson’s two sons, were sent to live with relatives when their mother was unable to care for them and subsequently died in 1865. Sadly, Jim recalls, the relatives argued over who would get the boys and their \$6.00 per month pension. While these boys had relatives to care for them so many other war orphans served by Flat Rock did not. Jim feels connected to Flat Rock through his great-nephew’s experience as well as through his own great-grandfather’s story. Read more about Flat Rock’s history [here](#).

Jim enjoys sharing stories of long ago but appreciates more the wonderful life and care enjoyed by his great-nephew at Flat Rock, where has happily lived for fifteen years. Sadly, due to the restrictions caused by the pandemic, the family misses frequent visitation with each, but they look forward to getting together as soon as the pandemic is behind us.

It’s Beginning to Look A Lot Like Christmas

Christmas at Flat Rock has begun! Contact Meg at mlarkin@flatrockhomes.org or call 419.483.7330 ext 1420 if you’re interested in bringing the joy of Christmas to Flat Rock this year.

What Will Your Legacy Be?

Leave a legacy. Remember Flat Rock in your will. Contact Jill Kinser at jkinser@flatrockhomes.org with questions

