



FAITH CONNECTIONS THE HOLIDAY EDITION 2020



In this issue:

- #GivingTuesday Update
- Christmas Caroling with Flat Rock
- Autumn Fun
- Threads in Memory
- Disability Awareness Resources

Another Successful #GivingTuesday TRL Outdoor Therapeutic Center Project

Thanks to partners like you, [#GivingTuesday 2020](#) was a huge success! Your gifts were met with a match of **\$12,430** that will help make this wonderful outdoor area a reality! We know that more gifts will trickle in over the coming days, but we know that an additional **\$8,810** was added to the #GivingTuesday total thanks to gifts already received. This brings our current #GivingTuesday 2020 total to **\$21,240** thus far. Soon, our residents will have a lovely, accessible, appropriately sized playground on campus! But, that's not all! A walking path with benches and flower planters to enjoy along the way will add safe exercise/therapeutic space to the TRL Outdoor Therapeutic Center. And, that's still not all! A beautiful prayer/therapeutic labyrinth will provide a place of peaceful meditation and prayer. Visit our website to learn more about these exciting plans that will allow residents, family, and staff to enjoy and appreciate the great outdoors for many years to come. If you missed the #GivingTuesday fun, it's not too late to contribute to this special project. Visit <https://www.flatrockhomes.org/make-a-gift/> today and designate your gift for Giving Tuesday 2020! Your generous partnership continues to make a real difference in the lives of our residents! Thank you! <https://www.flatrockhomes.org/givingtuesday/>

Autumn Fun!

Pumpkins galore were on hand for our Care Center residents' Halloween festivities! Thanks to Apex Clean Energy, Canal Fulton UMC and Nickajack Farms for lots of beautiful pumpkins! And, what goes with Halloween better than - candies galore! All treats and no tricks here! This year's candy was a gift of Ebenezer United Methodist Church in Flat Rock, Ohio. Thanks to everyone who helped make this a fun day for our Care Center residents!



Join us for traditional **Christmas Caroling** 2020-style via Zoom! Gather around the piano with friends and staff of Flat Rock to sing favorite songs and hymns of the season! It all happens on Wednesday, December 9 at 11:30 a.m. Here is your invitation to the Join Zoom Christmas Caroling!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82829934678?pwd=emZnS2plTnBMWkp1UnRtZDR4QzdUZz09>

To Access via Computer, Laptop or Zoom App on Your Smartphone or Tablet (with video and audio options): Use link above (computer and laptop only) or visit the Zoom app on your Smartphone or Tablet. When prompted, enter Meeting ID: **828 2993 4678** and Passcode: **680091**

To Access by Dialing on Phone (audio options only): Dial by your closest location:

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)	+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)	+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)	+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

When prompted, enter Meeting ID: **828 2993 4678** and Passcode: 680091

Threads in Memory

When Rev. Jane Jacques was discerning God's call to seminary and ministry, she prayed for a job where she could literally sleep and get paid for it because life was so busy. Her prayers were answered when she got a job as a night attendant in a group home where she worked with individuals with disabilities. This answered petition was an initial step toward future ministries.

Earlier this year, when Jane heard of our request for personal protective equipment (PPE), including isolation gowns, she sprang into action, gathering special fabrics and sewing notions for the project. Jane is not, by her own admission, a skilled seamstress but had strong influence from the women in her family. Here is her story, in her own words:

"Your 24 isolation gowns should be arriving Thursday, 9/3, by UPS. I hope that you and Flat Rock Care Center will consider them, along with the 11 gowns I sent earlier, to be a donation in memory of three women from my family who each contributed to their construction in their own way. They are given in memory of Rachel Poppe Olin, my mother, and Vivian Ellstrom, my mother-in-law. These ladies were children of the great depression, who saved all things useful. Thread, bias tape, and some elastic came from their sewing boxes. Sheets came from my mother's linen closet, along with some sheets and fabric donated by members of Peace Lutheran Church in Ashland. The third woman I wish to remember with this donation is Esmeralda Jimenez, who would have become my son's mother-in-law. She passed away at the beginning of the pandemic which we are still experiencing, in circumstances that we have become all too familiar with. I have been mindful of her loss and of the sadness being experienced by so many as I have completed this work. I hope these gowns are useful as a resource for your center's preparation and readiness. I pray, also, that your staff and residents will be well, and can provide care and comfort to one another as we pass through the challenges of this time.

May you all be blessed.

Jane Jacques

United Methodist Deacon, retired."

Jane, we are so grateful for your work of love dedicated to these wonderful women in your life. Thanks, also, to all who so willingly gave of their time, talents, and compassion to make sure Flat Rock has PPE gowns for use during these challenging times.

Please remember Flat Rock in your legacy plans. Contact Jill Kinser at jkinser@flatrockhomes.org for details.

Disability Awareness Resources

March is **National Disability Awareness Month**, and we are scheduling now. We'd love to meet your congregation and speak on this subject. Rose and Sherri offer the "facts and figures" coupled with soul-stirring ministry stories of transformed lives because of Flat Rock's skillful care, patience, faith, and love. Contact Deaconess Sherri Buehl at sbuehl@flatrockhomes.org or Rose Darling at rdarling@flatrockhomes.org for more information. Sherri also offers Spiritual Gifts retreats as well as Bridges Out of Poverty training. Rose offers creative presentations as well as piano/organ music for your church's services and special events. We offer pulpit supply in-person or via Zoom or video to accommodate whatever type of worship your congregation is using during the pandemic.

Restoring Hope Group

There is still room for ***YOU*** in our Flat Rock Homes: Restoring Hope Facebook prayer group. Come join us for devotions and prayers and share with others! It's free! We would love to see you there!