COVID-19 VACCINATIONS BEGIN IN JANUARY AT SAINT SIMEON’S

On Monday, January 4th, residents and staff joyfully received their first dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine. We turned it into a celebration complete with snacks and photo ops. Angela Green (President/CEO), Amanda Terrel (Administrator), and Nikki Christian (Director of Nursing) were first in line to receive their shots and encourage others to do the same. We look forward to receiving our 2nd doses on January 25th!

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LIFE ENRICHMENT EVENTS  (Continued from page 1)

Residents enjoyed a variety of Christmas festivities throughout the month of December.

Please note: Masks were briefly removed for some photos.

FEBRUARY/MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Jean Saylor  February 4  
Glenda Irwin  February 5  
James Richardson  February 14  
Sari Reingold  February 18  
Dorothy Findley  February 19  
Elizabeth Blue  February 21  
Ardellas Marshall  February 23  
Vera Trotier  March 2  
Mary Carnley  March 7  
Harold Buckner  March 10  
Jack Long  March 18  
Doward Johnson  March 19  
Merilyn Limric  March 19  
Minna Lo Squires  March 27  
Charles Scott  March 27  
Jimmie (Leon) Thomas  March 28  
Katherine Amend  March 31  

Dan Francescon and Jeff “Santa” Centeno  
Lucy Eller and Santa  
Minna Lo Squires  
Jackie VanAlstine  
Charles Scott  
Tody Kopczynski
Cassie Barr, RN, Infection Control

“I would like to nominate Cassie Barr. Cassie always maintains an air of calm and has the ability to put you at ease without making you feel like you are asking her ridiculous questions. Being a nurse in infection prevention can’t be easy during these times. I appreciate her always sunny attitude, her honesty, and her caring nature.”

Lisa Gray

Joshua Smith, Facility Services

“We would like to nominate Joshua Smith. He has a great attitude and is always willing to step in and help! He truly cares about the Saint Simeon's team and residents and his work ethic shows that every day! Josh recently stepped up to the plate, like he often does, when we brought in a new employee to Procurement. He showed her the ropes, gave her a tour of the building, and helped in any way he could. He was instrumental in bringing her up to speed and making her feel welcome. He deserves to be recognized!”

Thea Lawson and Rachel Owens

Also Nominated:

George Barton, System Administrator; Matthew Molone, CNA-Health Care Center; Rikki Rowe, Memory Center-Life Enrichment; Demetric White, Morrison’s-Health Care Center

A Note from Fr. Holly

I am so grateful for the amazing opportunity to share life with you during my 15 years as Chaplain at Saint Simeon’s. Thank you for a beautiful send-off with the retirement party. I leave with many memories of residents and staff through the years, as we all shared in joys and sorrows. I leave knowing that Saint Simeon’s is in the very best hands possible for times such as we have endured. Those hands are yours, and I ask God to bless those hands as they give care and comfort. May the road rise to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, the rain fall soft upon your fields, and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Love to you all,
Fr. Bill Holly+

Nicole Palmer with Fr. Holly

IN MEMORIAM

Robert Allen
Anne Evans

Dorothea Francescon
Robert Kamstra

James Morris
Jerry Smith
Dear Residents, Families, and Friends of Saint Simeon’s,

I am so pleased to be the new chaplain at Saint Simeon’s. This post is truly a capstone for all my passions.

My passion for being with seniors started even as a child in a parish in SE London. My favorite memory is of Miss Hare, whose house and garden full of statuary were beside a railroad track. She invited my sisters and me to come to her house, trim hats with ribbon, feathers, and flowers and place them on the various statues! In high school, a family asked me to sit with their mother and practice my beginning French with her. I visited people in nursing homes when I was in graduate school, and while in seminary, I led monthly worship services at a couple of nursing homes. As a priest at Saint John’s Episcopal Church, I visited many; my favorite senior living center was Saint Simeon’s! I am already enjoying visits with residents.

I love growing people and plants. I love to encourage people to grow in their competencies and ministries. I have facilitated programs such as the Community of Hope to train lay pastoral caregivers. I have led The Art of Engaging Holy Scripture (TAEHS) contemplative Bible reading groups, so people discern what scripture has to say to them. I have developed all kinds of curricula for growing Christians in their faith. My office is filled with plants. I love all the varieties of greens, the various shapes and scents of my plants. Since 2008, I have been a garden volunteer at Philbrook Museum, where my most favorite task is weeding. I am very good at weeding!

I love being a priest. I have mainly worked in parish ministry, focused on pastoral care, Christian formation, and outreach. For many years I have been involved with our Diocesan prison ministry, going to the two minimum security prisons in Taft, OK. I enjoy interfaith work and have participated in the Jewish community’s adult education program for many years, as well as book groups. For three of my years of ordained ministry, I was the Priest-in-Residence and then Director of Clover House, a residential home in Salina, Kansas, for teenage women who had survived sex trafficking. I learned a lot from those young women about resilience and strength, as well as about the challenges of regulations, staffing, and running a home.

I have a passion for learning. My MBA supported my finance and computer work in non-profit home health agencies. My MS in marriage and family therapy supports my work with families. And, of course, my MDiv is the academic and practical preparation for ministry. I also have certificates in gerontology and spiritual direction. If I mention anything about a PhD, do everything to dissuade me!

My other interests include reading, sewing, and my poodle, Busco (meaning “I search for/I look for”). His curiosity gives me lots of stories to tell. I have three wonderful sisters, a great legacy from my Australian father and German mother. I have lived in England, Australia, Canada, both coasts of the United States and am now working my way through the middle of the country.

I invite you to be in touch with me for ways I can support the residents, families, and staff here. Please let me know how I can pray with and for you as we together care for Saint Simeon’s.

Susanne

A Note about Dropping off Items for Residents

We understand there are times when families have items to drop off for their loved ones. You are welcome to drop off items at our Security Gate. Please be sure to label all items with the resident’s first and last name and room number, so that we can deliver your loved one’s items in a timely manner.

Items may be dropped off between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. If you are dropping off perishable food items, please notify the Security gate staff so that it can be delivered as quickly as possible. Any items dropped off after 5 p.m. may not be delivered until the following day. Thank you for your help!