



DISCIPLE EXPRESS

Vol. 21, No 11 November 2013 A Newsletter to Inspire and Celebrate Oakland United Methodists

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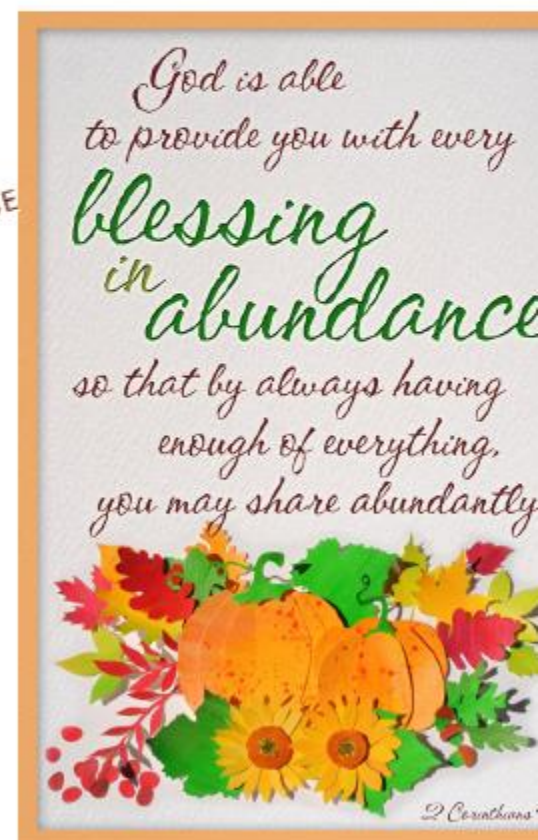
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Worship Service Time:

10:00 Worship
11:00 Koinonia

Sunday school
Youth 9:00 a.m.
Adult 11:15 a.m.





Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

*On your feet now - applaud God!
Bring a gift of laughter, sing yourself into
his presence.*

Know this: God is God, and God, God.

He made us; we didn't make him.

We're his people, his well-tended sheep.

Enter with the password: "Thank you!"

Make yourselves at home, talking praise.

Thank him. Worship him.

For God is sheer beauty,

all generous in love,

loyal always and ever.

Psalm 100

These particular words of "instruction" come from The Message, the Bible in Contemporary Language. Although we are more familiar with the way most translations begin Psalm 100 -

Make a joyful noise to the Lord all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness;

I really do like the image of standing up and applauding God. Certainly we have much to applaud God for! We are blessed to serve a God who loves us beyond measure. We are blessed that through the life of Jesus we have come to know the God who created us and loves us unconditionally. We are blessed that through the Spirit of God we can be assured of God's forgiveness for us. We are blessed that we can come before God at anytime and anywhere to share our deepest thoughts. We are blessed that while we are applauding God for all he has done, is doing, and will do, God is applauding us simply because we are.

Disciple Express

When was the last time you stood on your feet, looked to the heavens, clapped your hands, and shouted in your loudest voice, "Yea, God!" Heaven knows our Creator deserves it!

Have a Blessed Thankful Thanksgiving!

And All God's Children Said,

"Amen."

Thank You

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Thank you for the gift cards you gave to me. I appreciate your thoughtfulness. Jerry and I will most certainly enjoy dining out. Thank you for your love and support!

We are blessed!

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Karen

New Addition to Church Library

The book, Proof of Heaven, A Neurosurgeon's Journey into the After Life, by Eben Alexander, has been donated to the church library. The book was given by Jim Orr of Orient, Iowa in memory of his wife, Hazel, who passed away in November 2011.

Bulletin Board Creator

Did you see the bulletin board for October? Margaret White volunteers her time and talents to create a unique monthly bulletin board. Thank you, Margaret!

Angel Tree

The Oakland UMC Mission Committee invites you to help provide Christmas gifts for families in need in the Oakland area this Christmas. When you come to worship on the first Sunday in Advent, December 1, an angel tree will be set up in the narthex. You can take an angel off of the tree and go shopping for the requested item. Please bring the wrapped gift with the angel taped to the outside of the gift to the church by December 18.

Women at the Well Clothing Closet to Shut Down

For many years the churches of Iowa have helped to support women leaving the Mitchellville prison by giving to the Clothing Closet that has been a joint project of Women at the Well and the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women. Your generosity has given clothes, underwear, toiletries—and dignity—to these women who are often going out with only their prison scrubs. Unfortunately, the Clothing Closet is being shut down indefinitely, effective by mid-November.

This change was dictated by the prison administration, which is stretching to accommodate transition needs with the current construction project. The Clothing Closet building needs to be demolished, and there is no space available for its contents.

While the prison intends to build a new building to accommodate this project in the future, that will probably not be completed until mid-2015. So over the next 30 days we have been asked to move our current clothes, shoes, intimates, towels and toiletries to ministries that can make them available to women in need, especially those leaving prison. If you know of groups that would be interested in picking up some of these items, please invite them to be in touch with us.

In light of these developments, Women at the Well can no longer receive donations of items for the Clothing Closet. We know that some of you are already collecting items—you always are!—and we regret that this transition could not happen with longer notice. Please continue your efforts and then take those donations to a halfway house or shelter in your area.

With or without the Clothing Closet, Women at the Well will continue to be the church inside the walls of the prison, and our reentry ministry will continue as well, being present

with women as they leave prison. We hope you'll connect with us in these ways and be part of the ongoing story of this great work God is doing in our midst. You can find out more on our Facebook page, Women at the Well UMC, or at our web page, www.womenatthewellumc.org.

In Christ's Service-

Daniel Schott – Administrative Assistant
Women At the Well Prison Congregation
P.O. Box 33

Mitchellville, Iowa 50169

Office Hours: M-T, Th: 8 am - 2 pm

W: 12 pm – 4 pm 515-822-4599

womenatthewell@iaumc.org

Support Women at the Well!

To donate via the Iowa Annual Conference, click:

<https://nc.iaumc.org/>.

To donate directly, click:

<https://www.dwolla.com/hub/womenatthewell>.

COAT COLLECTION

Brianna Skank will be collecting coats this season to give to those in need.

You can bring your coat donations to the Oakland UMC or you can give them to Brianna.



BLOOD DRIVE

The Riverside high School Student Council will be hosting a Blood Drive on Wednesday, November 6 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the RHS gym.

You can schedule an appointment by contacting the school at 712-482-6464 or emailing hinkhouse@riverside.k12.ia.us. Donating takes just over one hour and walk-ins are also welcome.

If you have any questions please contact Holly Hinkhouse at the high school.



All Saints Sunday

Come join us for worship on November 3. This will be a day of remembrance for those in our church family who have gone on before us. We will also be dedicating memorial gifts given in the past year. Following the lighting of the candles for those from our church family who have gone on before us, there will be a time for anyone in the congregation to come forward to light a candle in remembrance of a family member/friend who has passed away in the past year.

BIBLE TRIVIA
Answers for October

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. "Peace, be still!" | 6. The Canaanite woman |
| 2. Having demonic power | 7. John |
| 3. His bed | 8. Peter |
| 4. One | 9. Capernaum |
| 5. Seven | 10. Lazarus |

BIBLE TRIVIA with hints

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. What Gospel records the ability of the resurrected Jesus to walk through locked doors? Chapter 20 | 6. According to Matthews Gospel, what Sabbath healing caused the Pharisees to plot to kill Jesus? Matthew 12 |
| 2. What was the affliction of the man Jesus healed on the Sabbath at the home of a Pharisee? Luke 14 | 7. What did Jesus tell the two blind men not to do after he healed them? Matthew 9 |
| 3. What Roman of Capernaum asked that Jesus heal his servant? Matthew 8 | 8. What future disciple did Jesus see, through miraculous means, sitting under a fig tree? John 1 |
| 4. When Jesus was healing people, whose prophecy was he claiming to be fulfilling? Matthew 8 | 9. When Jesus healed a man who was both blind and dumb, what demon did the Pharisees accuse him of consorting with? Matthew 12 |
| 5. Where did Jesus send the demons he drove out of the Gadarene demoniacs? Matthew 8 | 10. When the disciples saw Jesus walking on water, what did they think he was? Mark 6 |

GODLY HUMOR

An elderly Chinese woman had two large pots, each hung on the ends of a pole which she carried across her neck. One of the pots had a crack in it while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water.

At the end of the long walks from the stream to the house, the cracked pot arrived only half full. For a full two years this went on daily, with the woman bringing home only one and a half pots of water..

Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it could only do half of what it had been made to do.

After two years of what it perceived to be bitter failure, it spoke to the woman one day by the stream.

'I am ashamed of myself, because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your house.'

The old woman smiled, 'Did you notice that there are flowers on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side?'

'That's because I have always known about your flaw, so I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back, you water them.'

For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate the table.

Without you being just the way you are, there would not be this beauty to grace the house.' Each of us has our own unique flaw. But it's the cracks and flaws we each have that make our lives together so very interesting and rewarding. You've just got to take each person for what they are and look for the good in them.

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Remember to smell the flowers
on your side of the path!

November Daily Reading Guide

1st	Psalm 104
2nd	Psalm 105
3rd	Ephesians 1:1-23
4th	Ephesians 2:1-22
5th	Ephesians 3:1-21
6th	Ephesians 4:1-16
7th	Ephesians 4:17-32
8th	Ephesians 5:1-20
9th	Ephesians 6:10-24
10th	1 Chronicles 15:1-24
11th	1 Chronicles 15:25-16:7
12th	1 Chronicles 16:8-43
13th	1 Chronicles 17:1-27
14th	Revelation 4:1-11
15th	Revelation 7:1-11
16th	Revelation 14:1-20
17th	Revelation 19:1-21
18th	Revelation 20:1-15
19th	Revelation 21:1-27
20th	Revelation 22:1-21
21st	Ezra 7:1-28
22nd	Nehemiah 8:1-18
23rd	Nehemiah 12:24-47
24th	Psalm 92
25th	Psalm 96
26th	Psalm 97
27th	Psalm 98
28th	Psalm 100
29th	Psalm 111
30th	Psalm 115

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United Methodist Student Day on November 24, 2013

I invite you to join us again in providing critical help that empowers students to change the world through a life of faithful service for Christ.

As you know, your participation enables the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry to provide scholarships that make college possible for thousands of United Methodist students through low-interest loans available to students through the United Methodist Student Loan Fund.

But the Student Day offering **does much more than** offer low-interest loans and scholarships to great students. By making their education possible, your congregation's offering will help students become:

- Qualified for a future of alleviating suffering around the world
- Emboldened to speak truth to the powerful
- Equipped to free the oppressed through God-given talents
- Liberated from crushing debt that restricts the ability to serve
- Positioned for success as committed disciples of Jesus Christ

I can't think of a better way to use God's resources in shaping the future generation for service in God's world. Thank you for helping to make this happen.

Blessings,

Allyson Collinsworth

Executive Director Loans and Scholarships

General Board of Higher Education and Ministry

The United Methodist Church

Office of Loans and Scholarships

PO Box 340007

Nashville, TN 37203-0007

www.gbhem.org

615-340-7342 www.umcgiving.org/UMSD

Mark Your Calendars

Saturday, November 2nd, Ingathering at Greenfield UMC

Sunday, November 3rd, 2:00, annual Charge Conference at Oakland UMC.

Sunday, November 24th, 6:00 p.m., RCA Thanksgiving Dinner and Worship at Carson Community Building.

Riverside Church Association Thanksgiving Dinner/Worship

Please join us for the annual Thanksgiving Dinner and Worship Service to be held at Carson Community building on November 24 at 6pm. We will share a meal together at 6pm and a Thanksgiving Worship Service will follow.



Please bring a dish to share. The drinks and table service will be provided.

UPCOMING IN DECEMBER

Hanging of the Greens

It is hard to believe that the Advent Season will begin soon. The first Sunday in Advent is December 1. We need your help to prepare our church for the Advent season. Following the 10 a.m. worship service on December 1st, we will decorate the church and share in a light meal together. Hope you can join us!

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Rev. Dwight Grosvenor writes these Nesting everyday and will send them to anyone who is interested in them. If you would like to be on his emailing list contact him through the address below.

D F Grosvenor [dwightsnestings@me.com]

“Keep within me a stillness deeper and sweeter than a forest’s in mid of winter.” *From* Hebridean Altars ~ Celtic Daily Prayer p. 770-771

**ORDER
YOUR**



Poinsettias

Poinsettias are one of the ways we decorate our sanctuary and, also, honor someone we love or would like to remember during the coming Advent season. Place your order now by filling out this request form and placing it with your check in the offering plate, or by contacting Sharon Jones at #482-3687. Single six-inch plants are \$6.75 each (eight inch are \$15.00) available to us through an area grower and payable with your order. They are available in RED, WHITE, PINK, or MARBLE.

(Following worship on Christmas Eve you may take your plant home.)

ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MONDAY

NOVEMBER 17th.

ONLY A FEW LATE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

• -----

Given by

In memory/honor of

RED PINK WHITE MARBLE

Dwight's Nesting 10-19-13 \ Roots of the trees grow [10-21-13]

Roots of the trees grow.

Roots of the trees grow in the watered dark of soil.

Roots of the trees grow.

In the watered dark of soil they will draw in nutrient rich energy.

Roots of the trees grow in the watered dark of soil.

They will draw in nutrient rich energy sending leaves and branches into the sky.

Roots of the trees grow.

In the watered dark of soil they will draw in nutrient rich energy.

Sending leaves and branches into the sky

reaching for the light ~ the trees give us a living model for spiritual lives.

A model for spiritual lives:

~ grow in the dark

~ reach for the light

~ feed on unseen energy

~ develop deep roots

~ bloom in ways that some will notice

Roots of the trees grow . . .

© 2013, Dwight F. Grosvenor

--= Title:

10-19-13 \ Roots of the trees grow

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 11/01 Blackburn, Andy
- 11/01 Martens, Kristian
- 11/02 Busby, Justin
- 11/03 Rankin, Ethan
- 11/03 Houser, Mason
- 11/04 Peek, Mardell
- 11/06 Gardner, Alan
- 11/06 Henry, Gayla
- 11/06 Pierce, Justin
- 11/09 Jeppesen, Grady
- 11/12 Cleaveland, Leslie
- 11/14 Haines, Hayley
- 11/14 Danker, Carley
- 11/15 Carley, Jason
- 11/15 Hughes (Hummel), Molly
- 11/16 Turner, Kelly
- 11/19 Grosvenor, Cathey
- 11/19 Zuch, Beverley
- 11/19 Henry, Wesley
- 11/20 Timberman, Neuonia
- 11/21 Bartlett, Jeff
- 11/22 Wilson, Jenn
- 11/23 Wilson, Dane
- 11/23 Hinzmann, Braden
- 11/26 Waggoner, Bill
- 11/26 Frizzell, Gordon
- 11/28 Alff, Margaret
- 11/29 Skank, Tami
- 11/29 Pierce, Jordan
- 11/29 Baker, Deanna
- 11/30 Larimore, Diann
- 11/30 Bentley, Cale
- 11/30 Hummel, Lisa



REMEMBER OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN



Kristie Copenhaver, John & Mary Lou Copenhaver's daughter; **Jared Myers**, son of Robert Myers and Sid & Tami Skank; **Sonja Husz**, Niece of Butch & Velda Husz; **Lucas Smith**, Addie Mae's grandson; **Brian Thornton** from Avoca; **Tyler Clark**, Marvin & Carolyn Clark's grandson; **Brad Grosvenor**, Cathey Grosvenor's son stateside, and other area service men and women. **Landen Pedersen**, son of Tab and Lorie Pederson

If you have a loved one in the service and wish to have them listed on our prayer list, please contact the church office.

NURSING HOMES - Remember those in the nursing homes with cards and visits.

Oakland Manor: Margaret Alff, Audrey Hartje, Dorothy Martens, Lucille Bentley, Erma Cleaveland,

Oakland Heights: Janice Harris, Pat Burgett



Trinity Lutheran Church Women

Aebleskiver & Sausage Supper

301 N. chestnut Street

Avoca, Iowa

Thursday, November 21, 2013

4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

No call-in, carryout orders after 6:00 p.m.

(limit 2 dozen)

Quilt Raffle & LYO Bake Sale

Changes at the Conference Center

The staff of the Iowa Annual Conference was notified on September 6, 2013 about workforce reductions, which took effect on September 30, 2013. These actions were taken in response to 2013 Annual Conference session action to reduce the Conference Ministries apportionment by \$486,259.

The Administrative Cabinet (Bishop Trimble, Bill Poland, Karen Dungan, Art McClanahan, Joni Mardesen and Todd Weber) was charged by the Annual Conference session with the responsibility of making the necessary adjustments. After careful and extensive deliberation, which included expense reductions in other areas, the following changes were made:

- The Central Services area of the Administrative Services department was eliminated.
- The position of Accounts Receivable Accountant (in the Administrative Services department), which was vacant due to staff resignation related to new employment elsewhere, was not filled. Responsibilities associated with this position were reallocated among other current remaining conference positions.
- The position of Communications Manager was eliminated. Two half-time positions—Content Manager and Web and Social Media Manager—were created.
 - a. Some services will be outsourced, including graphic and publication design and major video project editing.
 - b. Administrative support will be shifted to the Administrative Secretary for the Assistant to the Bishop for Administration.
- The position of Administrative Secretary for the Assistant to the Bishop for Administration has been reduced to 27 hours/week with some of the responsibilities of the position changed

- a. Event planning for the Annual Conference Session will be outsourced.
 - b. Responsibility for logistics or meal planning for groups being hosted by the Episcopal Office will be assigned to another Conference Center staff member.
- The Leadership Development Ministry positions for Young Adult and Generational Ministry and Social Justice and Mission have been reduced to less than full-time and are in the process of being filled.

The persons whose positions were affected by these reductions were offered severance pay and payout of unused Paid Time Off per conference employee policy. The Conference contracted with the Palmer Group of Des Moines to provide outplacement services. Assistance in resume' preparation and searching for new employment will be provided.

“Our Annual Conference has been blessed by the gifts of these employees during their time of service. We want to encourage them and pray God’s blessing upon them,” said Bishop Julius Calvin Trimble. “We are working to support our staff and our congregations and to make Conference operations as efficient as possible and during this time of transition. Also, as we move ahead to fill the positions that are now less than full time, because of these budget reductions, every effort is being made to align these positions’ job descriptions with the strategic priorities we adopted in June.”

No other reductions in staff are planned for the 2014 budget year.

In late September, the Conference Staff Design Task Force, created by action of the 2013 Annual Conference session, began its work. It will review the Conference staffing structure and make recommendations for changes that align our staff resources with the Conference’s strategic priorities. Director of Human Resources, Joni Mardesen and Treasurer/Director of Administrative Services Todd Weber, will be members of the Task Force.

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NURSERY

VOLUNTEERS



- 3rd Pam Ehmke
- 10th Leslie Cleaveland
- 17th Gloria Gleaves
- 24th Lindsey Henderson

KOINONIA



- 3rd Bud & Marsha Beedle
- 10th Marty & Kristy Rieken
- 17th Lucia K. & Sandy Bane
- 24th Due Duhachek

USHERS, GREETERS, CANDLELIGHTERS



- 3rd Bob & Beverly Beckendorf
Mitch & Penny Anderson
- Candle lighters
Andrew Jones & Eric Duhachek

- 10th Bernie & Norma Bolton
Mark & Mischa Martens
- Candle lighters
Anna Duhachek & Calvin Duhachek

- 17th Alan & Connie Gardner
Jerry and Suzanne Pierce
- Candle lighters
Sarah Jones & Kristian Martens

- 24th Doc & LaVinna Blanchard
Skip & Ilene Applegate
- Candle lighters
Grace Gleaves & Camryn Pierson

5:00p.m. Hispanic Worship Service

	Host	Nursery
3rd		Pastor Karen
10th		Mary Waggoner
17th		Volunteer Needed
24th		Volunteer Needed

Sunday School Teachers

	Pre K	K-1st	2nd-4th	5th-7th
3rd	Jodi	Lynelle	Sue	Pastor Karen
10th	Carrie	Leigh	Jen	Pastor Karen
17th	Lindsey	Jamie	Sue	Pastor Karen
24th	Lynelle	Jodi	Jen	Pastor Karen

Youth Sunday school is in need of volunteers to teach a class or music. Please contact the church office if you are interested in helping!

Save your cans!!!

The November Lion's Club can collection will go to our ecumenical youth group who meet here on Wednesday evenings.

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November Calendar of Events

Sat, 2nd	8:00 a.m.	Ingathering at Greenfield UMC
Sun, 3rd	9:00 a.m.	Youth Sunday School/Choir Practice/Women's Study
	10:00 a.m.	Worship w/Communion/Daylight Savings Time Ends
	11:00 a.m.	Koinonia
	11:15 a.m.	NO Adult Bible Study
	2:00 p.m.	Cluster Charge Conference
	5:00 p.m.	Hispanic Service
Tue, 5th	6:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
Wed, 6th	6:30—7:45 p.m.	Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
Sun, 10th	9:00 a.m.	Youth Sunday School/Choir Practice/Women's Study
	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:00 a.m.	Koinonia
	11:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	5:00 p.m.	Hispanic Service
Tue, 12th	6:30 p.m.	Last Women's Bible Study For This Study
Wed 13th	6:30—7:45 p.m.	Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
Sun, 17th	9:00 a.m.	Youth Sunday School/Choir Practice/Women's Study
	10:00 a.m.	Worship/3rd Sunday Offering/Children Sing
	11:00 a.m.	Koinonia
	11:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	5:00 p.m.	Hispanic Service
Wed, 20th	6:30—7:45 p.m.	Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
Thu, 21th	7:00 p.m.	Ad Board Meeting
Sun, 24th	9:00 a.m.	Youth Sunday School/Choir Practice/Women's Study
	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:00 a.m.	Koinonia
	11:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	5:00 p.m.	Hispanic Service
	6:00 p.m.	RCA Ecumenical Thanksgiving Meal and Worship
Wed, 27th	.	NO Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
Thu, 28th		Thanksgiving—Office Closed
Fri, 29th		Office Closed

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NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

OAKLAND, IO-
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PERMIT NO. 5

OAKLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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www.oaklandiaumc.org
Rev. Karen Hoff, Pastor
Sheryl Sindt, Secretary

Address Service Requested



"We invite all persons to be a part of our Community of Faith by participating in worship, education, fellowship and Christian service."

Disciple Express

Oakland Manor

Greetings friends! Our residents have been blessed by the support of families, friends, volunteers and businesses in the community. The support embraces a network of love, fellowship and opportunities with the elders at Oakland Manor.

With the holidays fast approaching, we invite you to be part of our Christmas In-House shopping for the residents. We call it "Black Wednesday". It is an all-day shopping spree for residents that will allow them to select gifts for their families. Each resident has their gifts wrapped by our volunteers.

All items are donated by employees, families, businesses, church groups and volunteers. There is absolutely NO COST to the residents. Leftover gift items are either saved for next year or donated to charity. Last year some items were donated to the Open Door Mission.

The In-House Christmas Shopping Day has helped our residents actively participate in the holiday season by giving to others in the spirit of love. If you would desire to help our residents give gifts to their families this holiday season, please consider the folks here at the Manor.

Our "In-House" shopping day is set for December 4, 2013.

We are seeking small gift items for men, women and children. Popular items include: billfolds, aftershave/cologne, small gift sets, tool sets, jewelry, stuffed animals, children's books, throw blankets, caps, gloves, chocolates, candy and themed items like Iowa State, Nebraska, John Deere and Farm-All.

If you would like to donate your gifts, please drop them off at any time or call Judie Ridgley or Tess Timberman at 482-6403 to arrange a pickup date. Please put your name and address on your donated items so that we can personally thank each individual.

We thank you for your consideration in making this a memorable event for our elderly residents this holiday season.

May you have a blessed holiday season,

Judie Ridgley, Activity Director

