

HH Promises

A PUBLICATION OF THE HOLLAND HOME FOUNDATION



“I know the plans I have for you...plans to give you hope and a future.”

Connecting a baby, a social worker, and a legacy of giving

Only God could orchestrate the connection between Marge Vander Ploeg and Jim Bush! Their story begins in August 1961 in Hawthorne, NJ where a baby boy was born to an unwed mother. Marge, an adoption social worker for the newly-established Bethany Christian Services office in New Jersey, assisted with the adoption of that child by Peter and Mary Bush. The boy was named Jim.

Having longed for a family, Jim was an answer to their prayers. “My childhood was wonderful and my parents loved me to death,” states Jim. “I was their only child, and life centered around our church, Christian school, and neighborhood.”

The family became friends with Marge, and she was often a guest for Sunday dinner until she moved to Michigan where she continued to serve children until her retirement. “I gave my life to that work,” said Marge. “It was certainly my calling.”

Jim eventually attended Calvin College where he met his wife, Jan, and began what would become a thriving West

Michigan business. Peter and Mary then moved to be near their son and his new family — and reconnected with Marge.

After Peter’s passing, Mary moved to Holland Home’s Fulton Manor where she lived until her death. Marge chose Holland Home’s Breton campus as her post-retirement residence.

In addition to the life-long relationship they share, Marge and Jim are also connected through their enthusiastic support of Holland Home! Both are members of the 1892 Heritage Society, signifying a future gift from their estate plans. Jim’s business, Weather Shield Roofing, faithfully sponsors our annual golf event, and Marge supported our Resident Assistance Fund.

Marge’s and Jim’s commitment to caring for others is a lasting legacy of their unique connection — one that will continue to bless generations to come.

Note: In God’s timing, Margery passed away on August 31, 2022. We extend our sympathy to her family and friends.



Curt Gritters
Vice President of
Development & Foundation



Singing through tears

Shortly before Christmas, my dear Grandfather went to heaven under the care of Faith Hospice. He couldn't remember our names or where he was, but he sure knew how to sing *Amazing Grace* and *How Great Thou Art*!

A few days earlier, he had given a beautiful testimony of God's great faithfulness. As a pastor and missionary in Singapore, Myanmar, and India, he had experienced plenty of trials; but God had blessed him, and Grandpa wanted to be a blessing to others. He was. As we sat next to the bed Faith Hospice had brought into his home, we held his hand and shared memories — launching model rockets at the park and of sleepovers when my Dad and Mom were away.

We sang. We laughed. We cried. We couldn't distinguish the tears of sadness from the tears of joy, but it didn't matter, the moments were powerful, moving.

God has blessed my family and me with many opportunities to serve our West Michigan community over the last 20 years. He opened a door this spring to be able to serve the compelling mission of Faith Hospice and Holland Home alongside amazing colleagues here. Our team wants to be a blessing to you as well. Together, we can be a blessing to those served by Faith Hospice and Holland Home. Together, we can support our mission of service with love and compassion. Together, we can create more opportunities like the one I had with Grandpa — close connections, powerful moments, perhaps singing through tears.

Thank you for your support of Faith Hospice and Holland Home. Thank you for picking up this issue of *Promises*, the biannual newsletter brought to you by your friends on our Development (fundraising) team: Sarah DeYoung, Gerilyn May, Keith Meyering, Marcia Timmerman, and Laurie VandenAkker. We hope you enjoy it. God bless.



A breath of fresh air

Raybrook Mol/A-Wing memory care residents now have direct access to an outdoor space that is safe and secure. This Memory Care Courtyard will make a huge difference in the lives of these residents, allowing them to step outside and experience the seasons while enjoying garden plantings and time with friends, family, or a caregiver.

Ray's Bistro a reality!

To celebrate the completion of Ray's Bistro, our new Raybrook campus café, the Foundation recently hosted a 1950s-themed reception for donors to the project. This long awaited addition to the campus, largely funded by residents, adds a wonderful option for fellowship with family and friends. Thank you to all who gave generously to the ongoing renovation of the Raybrook campus.

The café now provides a multi-use eatery and gathering space that residents of Estates I, II, III, and the Homes can enjoy. It provides more seating, food options, and opportunities for fellowship — including a cozy fireplace, pool table, and coffee bar.





The Holy Spirit's nudging of one person to help others have a better time outside becomes Breton Woods Park

"Something is eating at me, which is usually the Spirit talking. Just want to throw it out there to you...During Covid restrictions, I took up walking. I watch people with walkers trying to get around the parking lot, up and over curbs, etc. Sidewalks on the street are not safe for old people, the park is too far away and scary. Walking around the building on the road is very trying with no place to rest, and if you need help — you are sometimes hidden from the building.

There is this big field. I don't know what Holland Home has in mind for it, but how would a walking track work? Just a smooth place to walk with grass in the center...maybe that would help with outdoor gatherings?"

At left is an excerpt of an email received from a spirit-led donor who saw a need, had the inklings of a vision, possessed the desire to help it come to life — and watched it blossom into a much larger blessing. What is now Breton Woods Park grew out of one person following the nudge of an idea by the Holy Spirit to fill a need. Residents and their guests have enjoyed this new space and Vibrant Living staff have utilized it well for programming and activities. *May we all be open to follow Holy Spirit nudges each day of our lives.*

Phase One (complete):

- Parking Area (with bus loop)
- Paved Figure-Eight Walking Track
- Ample Bench Seating
- Picnic Pavilion
- Pickle Ball Courts (3)
- Putting Green
- Shuffleboard Courts (2)
- Wildflower/Butterfly Habitat
- Rain Garden
- Landscaped Privacy Berm

Phase Two (planned):

- Bathrooms
- Storage
- Ravine Viewing Deck
- Bocce Ball Court
- Outdoor Exercise Stations



Legacy Walkway

It was an honor to greet brick donors who came to the Legacy Walkway Open House in August. Wonderful stories, memories, and tears were shared among staff and families.

It's not too late to add a brick and commemorate your loved ones. Go on-line to faithhospicecare.org/buy-a-brick-leave-a-legacy or contact us at 616-235-5118.

Summer sounds

On August 12, 250 guests enjoyed a picture-perfect evening for the 11th Annual House Concert & BBQ held in a beautiful garden setting along the Grand River. Garden walks, a mouth-watering meal, and entertainment by the talented Holly Tucker of Waco, TX, and Andy Gullahorn and Jill Phillips of Nashville, TN, were enjoyed by all attendees.

An estimated \$50,000 in net proceeds will go to support the Faith Hospice Trillium Woods lower level build out which will be the new home for the Faith Hospice Grief Support Center and the Trillium Institute.



“While I’ve learned about grief and grace through dozens of natural disasters around the world, it’s not something I had read about. In *Grieving Well*, Terri and Janet cover the critical topic of grief in a graceful way that is helpful for everyone, everywhere.”

– Ginger Zee, chief meteorologist, managing editor Climate Unit, ABC News.

Grieving Well will be released in February 2023. Beginning October 1, advanced copies will be available for purchase directly from the Faith Hospice website at \$15 each (including shipping).



Terri DeBoer
WOODTV
Meteorologist



Janet Jaymin
Faith Hospice
Bereavement Manager



Golf outing recap

Holland Home is incredibly grateful to report record success at our 33rd Annual Foundation Golf Outing! Generous sponsors and 236 golfers raised \$108,629 — smashing the previous record by 10%! The competition was fierce, the on-course food delightful, the memories lasting, and the cause compelling: *a promise to provide Christlike service to Holland Home residents even when life sends a bogey*. Thank you for your kind support — see you next year on Monday, June 5!

1892 Society Luncheon

In April, 1892 Heritage Society members and guests enjoyed a Kentucky Derby themed luncheon as a thank you for their commitment to Holland Home and Faith Hospice through their estate plan. This annual event featured entertainment by local barbershop quartet, Montajj, and a “Derby menu” courtesy of Holland Home’s dining staff.

We gratefully welcome new members. Contact the Holland Home Foundation at 616-235-5118 or foundation@hollandhome.org to establish a planned gift — some that even provide donor income.





Holland Home™
FOUNDATION

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Questions? Call 616-235-5118.



*Keeping
the Promise*
DINNER

Honoring 130 Years of Service

Monday, November 21, 2022

6:00 Reception / VIP Reception

7:00 Dinner and Program



featuring

Michael W. Smith



We invite you to celebrate Holland Home's 130th Anniversary and raise funds to enable us to keep our Promise of Care to residents.

Guests will enjoy an evening of connecting with friends, fine food, and experience multi-platinum Christian artist Michael W. Smith!

Register

www.hollandhome.org/dinner

Questions?

marcia.timmerman@hollandhome.org

616-235-5118