

PLEASANT MANOR & TABOR MANOR

Seniors Ministry of the Ontario Conference of MB Churches



reachout



mission

To provide with excellence love and dignity a full continuum of affordable housing and services to senior citizens. We serve the Mennonite Constituency and others who wish to live in a community of Christian faith.



Tenant gardeners, from left to right: Linda Fast, Lena Neufeld, George Reimer, Ruth Fast, Ingrid Regier

INNOVATIVE GROWTH AND PARTNERSHIPS

A group of Pleasant Manor tenants used the summer months to dive into a project that provided hours of enjoyment and a great sense of achievement. The avid gardeners pictured left noticed the overgrown flower beds and faded wooden tables in the Long-Term Care courtyard at Pleasant Manor, and offered to do something about it. Much to the delight of the residents, they brought a wonderful sense of energy and creativity to the project, and today, the large garden in the Heritage Place Courtyard has new beauty. A wonderful example of partnership among tenants, staff, and the Long-Term Care residents, who enjoyed helping out as well.

SPECIALIZATION IN DEMENTIA AND PALLIATIVE CARE

Staff from both Pleasant Manor and Tabor Manor are taking part this fall in a six-week program offered through Palliative Care Niagara, called The Fundamentals of Hospice Palliative Care. Hosted on-site at Tabor Manor and delivered by the Palliative Care Niagara Consultation team, participants receive invaluable training and insight into best practices for providing loving, dignified care to those facing end-of-life or a serious illness. The course has been offered a number of times over the years, and staff in both our homes have benefitted from it. Intentional training presented by highly qualified professionals is a key element to achieving our strategic goal of developing expertise in palliative care for the benefit of residents and their families.

RELATIONAL EXCELLENCE AND CULTURAL PRESERVATION

On any given Tuesday or Thursday afternoon at Tabor Manor, you will find the Olive Branch Café humming with conversation and fragrant with the smell of fresh coffee, as tenants gather for Coffee Break. Faithful volunteers are on hand to provide the coffee and serve up friendly smiles to go with it. Thursdays, the volunteers are from the church next door, Scott St. MB, with Walter and Lydia Plett ensuring that each week there is a team ready to serve. On Tuesdays, Shirley Mulder is there without fail to host the many tenants who enjoy the friendships and the baked goods contributed by a list of volunteers. Sometimes, Shirley is joined by her grandson, Kyle, much to everyone's delight. Coffee Break is a true example of building community, one cup of coffee at a time.

BOARD ANNOUNCES HOUSING RETROFITS

On September 25, our Board of Directors announced a long-term plan to renovate and upgrade our aging housing units at both sites.

The upgrading will be taking place in two streams, (1) fire safety upgrades and (2) unit and common area upgrades. Fire safety upgrades will be completed by January 1, 2019, and unit and common area upgrades will be occurring during apartment transition times over the next decade. The estimated total cost is just under 4 Million dollars.

The funding for these upgrades is not coming from any governmental source. Instead, we will be using available money from our investment fund program to finance the cost of the upgrades over time. New rent rates will become effective on January 1, 2018 for all new tenants moving into the homes, and will be the primary source of revenue used to pay for this work over time.

This announcement by our Board is exciting for many reasons. Firstly, our homes take seriously maintaining our buildings and keeping them in good repair. One of our responsibilities is to plan for this. We have a plan! Secondly, we are grateful and thankful to our community of investors, made up of friends, families and close business associates, whose investments are being used according to their stated purpose – to help finance projects at the homes. Our community is supportive of the work going on at the homes! Finally, our tenants take seriously the value placed on keeping our homes in good repair. We've asked through our annual surveys, heard through the results, and listened by developing an action plan that responds to the feedback we've requested. The community of seniors who live at the homes are engaged! For this, we are very proud.

"CONNEXIONS" - PEOPLE MAKING A DIFFERENCE & BEING TRANSFORMED

I am thoroughly enjoying myself as Therapeutic Recreation Supervisor, building relationships, and helping to improve the quality of life for our residents and tenants. The field of Therapeutic Recreation brings great satisfaction and meaning to my life knowing that I am making a difference helping and supporting seniors. I am able to provide programs, activities and interventions designed to facilitate well-being in a loving and caring home. **Norma Restivo, Therapeutic Recreation Supervisor, Pleasant Manor**

In my role as Therapeutic Recreation Supervisor and Coordinator of Volunteers at Tabor Manor I am doubly blessed. I am able to connect with residents and tenants by offering programs and services that enrich lives and offer meaningful engagement in their days. I am also humbled as I work with dedicated volunteers who serve in so many aspects of our Home and campus. Tabor has a great community feel and I am happy to be a part of it! **Sherri Davis, Therapeutic Recreation Supervisor, Tabor Manor**

ON THE HORIZON

Nov. 9	Memorial Service 7pm	Pleasant Manor
Nov. 16	Memorial Service 7pm	Tabor Manor
Nov. 18	Auxiliary Christmas Tea & Bake Sale 10 - 11:30am	Tabor Manor
Nov. 25	Auxiliary Christmas Bazaar 10 - 11:30am	Pleasant Manor
Dec. 6	Tenant Christmas Banquet 5pm	Tabor Manor
Dec. 7 & 12	Tenant/Life Lease Christmas Banquet 5pm	Pleasant Manor
Dec. 14	Resident Christmas Banquet 5pm	Pleasant Manor
Dec. 17	Resident Family Christmas Party 2:30pm	Pleasant Manor
Dec. 20	Resident Christmas Lunch 12pm	Tabor Manor

VITAL STATISTICS - Waiting Lists

	Tabor Manor	Pleasant Manor
Apartments	1,081	835
Long Term Care	379	50

THE SPIRIT IS ON THE MOVE

I'll never forget the day I almost quit the cross country race I was running! Every part of my body hurt, and was screaming at me to stop! The reason I didn't was because my coach came alongside me as I ran and shouted his encouragement to me. He told me, 'Jim, you can do it. Don't stop. I believe in you!' I didn't win, but I finished! Thanks to my coach! We all need encouragement to face life's challenges, and we all need to be 'encouragers' for others. Hebrews 3:13 tells us to 'encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today'. The best way we can be grateful to God for His encouragement, is to be an 'encourager' to others! **Jim Evans, Chaplain, Tabor Manor**

Recently my 12 year old son stated that history shouldn't be taught in school – we focus too much on the past and neglect the problems of today. I shared with him that if we fail to study and learn from the past we'll be doomed to repeat it. In homes like Pleasant Manor we have great historical resources – 'living' textbooks from which to learn. Sadly, society sometimes ignores this 'living' past and often, seniors have come to believe that they have nothing left to offer. It seems to me that much of our struggles in faith and life could be addressed by diving deep into the wisdom of our seniors. **Michael Dyck, Chaplain, Pleasant Manor**