

Radiant Care Tabor Manor

Tabor Times

April 2020



WE REMEMBER...

Alice Earley
Shirley Plymout
Sara Wiebe

WE WELCOME...

Mary Sharp
Helen Dubiel
Niels Johansen
Rosaria Tullio
Joyce Woodhouse

WE CELEBRATE THE BIRTHDAYS OF...

Helen Dubiel – 2nd
Irene Wiens – 8th
Margaret Neufeld – 9th
Giovanna Garofalo – 13th
Mona Bartleet – 15th
Richard Snyder – 16th
Evelyn Street – 16th
Josie Cecchetti – 23rd
Harriette Fraser – 26th
Donald Mullan – 26th
Erna Werner – 29th
Lois Carriere - 29th

THE CHANGING & THE CHANGELESS

This month I have experienced the welcoming heart of the Radiant Care community, entering into the role of Lead Chaplain at Tabor Manor for the next year. The mentoring presence of Jim Evans, whose post I am assuming while he is at Pleasant Manor, and the encouragement of the entire team here has been incredibly meaningful.

For those who have not met me yet, my name is Stephen Mason. I am a loving husband and the proud father of four young adult children. I have also had the joy of being a foster father to 12 children, through FACS Niagara, over the past eight years; a rewarding experience which has profoundly shaped me and my family. A Canadian boy at heart, and a loyal and longsuffering Toronto Maple Leafs fan, I enjoy playing hockey in the winter and kayaking in the summer.

For a 20-year period, I had the privilege of pastoring in two vibrant and loving churches; one in the Toronto area and one here in Niagara. As a chaplain, offering soul-care to seniors is truly a sacred and beautiful experience. I am cherishing the heart to heart conversations I am having within the Tabor community. Thank you for the warmth of welcome you have all extended to me!

No doubt we have all been reflecting on how things in our world have changed. In mere weeks, the COVID-19 virus has changed the global economic and relational landscape in an unprecedented way. And as we all struggle to adapt to the changes brought on by the virus, we are reminded once again that we live in a world where change is a constant reality.

What do you do in a changing world? You don't get to vote on it most of the time. Sometimes you like the change, sometimes you don't. Sometimes there is loss involved. Sometimes the changes are brutal.

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I would offer that the way to navigate these rapidly and radically CHANGING times is to hold on to that which does not change...that which is CHANGELESS. Is there such a thing? Yes. In the New Testament book of James we read: *“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like the shifting shadows.”* (James 1:17) And, it's not just that God doesn't vary...there is not even a shadow of it. Not a hint. It never happens. Our God never changes.

And while much can be said about the changelessness of God, I wish to highlight one thing here. God's love for you never changes. Do you realize:

God loves you on your best day AND God loves you on your worst day.

God loves you when you have a heart full of gratitude toward Him AND when you are loaded with pain, confusion and anger.

God loves you when you trust Him AND when you don't think He's there.

God loves you when you feel confident useful and strong AND when you feel anxious, useless and weak.

God loved you in your crib and God will love you on your death bed.

Through the prophet Jeremiah, God said to his people: *“Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love.”* (Jer. 31:3) I love those words! Can you hear your Loving Lord saying them to you? I invite you to slow down, take a deep breath and allow the Spirit of God to press those words into your soul and help you hear them afresh.

It was Elisabeth Elliot who would say, during each radio broadcast, “You are loved with an everlasting love. And underneath are the everlasting arms.” May we live together, in these days of uncertainty and change, in the knowledge of that bracing and changeless truth.

Warmly,

Pastor Stephen

Out of the mouth of Our Seniors....

With the introduction of Skype & Facetime we sure have had some funny and heartwarming comments related to using the I pads. We thought we'd share some of them with you.



© dak

Oh my, I can see all my wrinkles....

How did you get inside there?
(tapping on the glass....)

Side way glances to rec staff with
puzzled looks (I don't get it??)

I have better pictures of you than this
one you are showing me...

Oh my, your face is not usually this
close and fat...

Oh my, do I have this many wrinkles?

I never thought the day would
come...



WE MISS YOU



We hope you are all doing well and keeping safe. Have a look at us enjoying the simple moments in our day that help make us smile!!!



"this is unbelievable"



"oh, I am doing just fine"



Big Shout out to **Orchard Park Growers** (Gerard Schouwenaar) for donating flowers to every resident and tenant at Tabor Manor!!!! Hand delivered by Rec staff room to room.



"Hope my hair looks okay!!"