

## Music to Our Ears

Once in a while, the perfect opportunity comes along to truly enrich the lives of all of our residents. Last year, we reached out for your help in supporting a refurbishment to our sound system in the Multi-Purpose Room (MPR) via our Mother's Day/Father's Day appeal – and our donors so graciously responded! I'm happy to report that the upgrade to the audio system we had dreamed of is now underway!

The "MPR" is the heart and soul of our Home, where Pastor Sam conducts weekly uplifting spiritual programs, musical entertainment stimulates the senses, and joyful daily events take place. So we are especially grateful to all those who have made this important project possible — it will greatly improve the quality of life at RCH.

According to Paula LeBlanc, our Director of Development, installation of the new system will begin by the end of February under the supervision of CSAV Systems, Colts Neck. The sound upgrades will consist of new ceiling speakers, new audio components to ensure USB, CD, SD and Bluetooth capability, and new microphones, all yielding much-improved sound quality not only for our daily events but also for visiting performers.

But perhaps the most exciting part of this project, in my opinion, is the addition of the Listen C-Series Single Hearing Loop Assisted Listening System, which uses

radio frequency to allow personal hearing aids to act as amplifiers with no additional equipment needed. This means residents with hearing issues will be able to enjoy all of our programs and activities like never before! Technology at its best to help seniors live richer, fuller lives!

To complete the upgrades, we have also decided to augment our video capabilities in the MPR, funded through a grant from a long-standing donor, The Lebensfeld Foundation. This independent philanthropic group supports healthcare organizations among other sectors such as the arts. We are beyond grateful for their continuing support this year. Included in the video enhancements will be a ceiling-mounted projector and new projection screen, with sound filtered directly through the new system. Movies at the Home will never be the same, as we will be able to view them on the big screen while accompanied by fantastic audio!

Here's another great addition – a live-feed camera will enable programs/activities from the MPR to be seen in each resident's room via our Senior TV provider. This capability will be a huge benefit to residents who may not be well enough to join events in the MPR, but can still enjoy all the amazing activities and religious services we offer. There will also be a channel guide and marketing/activities channels added to the Senior TV line-up to keep all residents connected to the goings-on at the Home.

I trust you realize how your donations, year after year, truly improve the experiences we can provide our residents. Our annual report is included in this issue, which provides more details on our fundraising efforts for 2019, the projects your donations have brought to life in the past year, and our vision for the future. God Bless you for your continued kindness. See you at the movies!

Sincerely,

Kate Shepard  
Executive Director/Administrator



*The Multi-Purpose Room will soon receive a major upgrade to both the audio and video systems thanks to our generous donors as well as a grant from The Lebensfeld Foundation.*

# News, Notes & Announcements

- You'll be seeing a change in our **Dining Services** area beginning at the end of February, now that we have partnered with Unidine to handle our daily food service needs. Unidine's hallmark is a commitment to preparing meals that are home-made using responsibly-sourced, local, healthy ingredients. New menus are planned while maintaining some established mealtime favorites. Most importantly, we want to hear from all of YOU regarding what you want from your dining experience. Food committee meetings will be held to ensure everyone has the opportunity to voice their requests and opinions. We look forward to a long-standing partnership with Unidine as we embark on this new venture!
- After 18 years of service to the residents of Reformed Church Home, our Director of Nursing, Evangeline Villanueva, RN, has announced her **Retirement**, though she plans to continue working per diem as needed to supplement our nursing needs. At the same time, we are very happy to announce that Anna Vergara, BSN, RN, a 10-year veteran at the Home, will take on the Director of Nursing position. The daytime Nursing Supervisor position vacated by Anna will be filled by Bhavik

## 2019-2020

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Rev. Joseph Woods	Spotswood Reformed Church

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A colorful graphic featuring several Easter eggs with various patterns and colors (yellow, green, purple, orange). The text is overlaid on the eggs in a playful, bold font.

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Annual RCH Easter Egg Hunt**  
**Saturday, April 4, 2020**  
**Indoor Easter Fair**  
**9:30 am to 11:30 am**  
**Games | Crafts | Contests | DJ**  
**Candy Sales | Bunny Photos**  
**Egg Hunts by Age Group**  
**(in or out based on weather)**  
**10 am 2-4 | 10:30 am 5-7 | 11 am 8-10**  
**Many chances to win candy & great plush toys!**  
**Bring your own basket.**  
**More information to be posted this March on [www.reformedchurchhome.com](http://www.reformedchurchhome.com)**  
**(Open to all children - not just resident families!)**

Mehta, RN. Lastly, Rhaniel Mendoza, RN, and Alyssa Corio, RN, will jointly assume the task of 3rd Floor Unit Manager. Please wish everyone well in their new positions and support them however possible.

- We are still waiting for final approvals to begin our **Parking Lot Expansion Project**. Stay tuned to our Facebook page and special announcements we will send regarding start dates, times, and driveway closures. We are hopeful this project will begin by early summer. We sure could use the 42 parking spots that will be created, and truly appreciate your patience with this process.

## ***Wishing All the Best to Our Newest Assisted Living Residents!***

Sonia Plutnick	D260
Mary Stanul	D270
Kathleen Freund	E110

**The Home News** is published multiple times a year by the Marketing Department at Reformed Church Home. Questions, comments, or editorial suggestions should be directed to Andrea Walls, Director of Marketing, 732-607-9230 or sent via email to [awalls@rchnj.org](mailto:awalls@rchnj.org).

**Editor:** Andrea Walls

**Assistant Editor:** Ava Lowen

## As We Enter a New Decade...

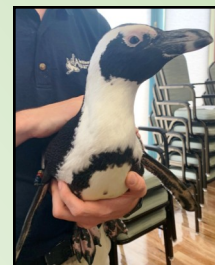
*We are Grateful and Blessed!*

Dear Friends,

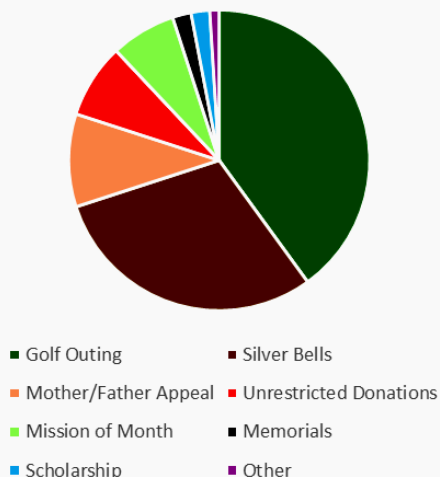
With a grateful heart and renewed commitment to our mission, we forge ahead into a new decade — 2020! Together we move into the future with a strong foundation, while taking this opportunity to thank our very generous 2019 donors. We appreciate each and every one of your heartfelt gifts driven by your own personal story and connection with Reformed Church Home. We are blessed with the abundance of your stories and the knowledge that our mission is being carried out and well received. Thank You for entrusting us with the care of your loved ones and for providing the funding for some very special projects that make our residents feel at home.

We have been fortunate to bring these projects to life funded by your generosity throughout our various 2019 initiatives:

- The Mother/Father's Day Appeal donations will provide an upgraded sound system in the MPR
- The 28th Annual Golf Classic benefited the continued renovations of our Skilled Nursing alcoves for the comfort of residents and their families
- The 2019 Silver Bells appeal was allocated to renovations and new therapy equipment in our Rehabilitation Department
- Memorial donations sparked the new Marie Kelene Nazaire Education Award, a scholarship program for current or prospective CNAs
- New benches in the Skilled and Assisted Living gardens and fun activities such as the Jenkinson's Aquarium Penguin Adoption Program were funded by both memorial and honorary donations
- Our Mission of the Month proceeds renewed our Resident Replacement Fund
- Other donations in 2019 were made specifically to enhance Pastor Sam's ministry, and for use where the need is greatest



2019 Donations



In all, Reformed Church Home received over 600 gifts in 2019 totaling nearly \$191,000! Donors included residents, family members, employees, volunteers, board members, churches, vendors, foundations, corporations and individuals — including those donors who wish to remain anonymous. The accompanying graph shows a breakdown of the major sources of all donations. You will find a complete listing of contributors on the following pages.

We understand you have many options for your charitable support and we are grateful to include you in our collective **Family Caring for Family**. Our 5-star reputation for compassionate care and the high quality of daily living we provide for our senior population is only made possible by your generous financial support. **THANK YOU again!**

May you all be blessed, enjoy good health, and experience joy in this new decade,

**Paula LeBlanc, Director of Development**



*Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of our donor listing.*

*We kindly ask that you notify the Development Office of any errors or omissions and please accept our sincere apologies.*

◇ = Special Gifts

○ = Circle of Life Society Member

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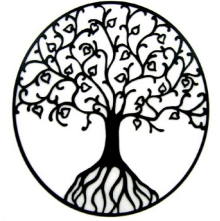
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NJ Devils & Friends of RCH  
Olive Garden  
One Steep at a Thyme  
Ono Korean Barbeque  
Osteria Cucina Rustica, Marlboro  
Pascack Reformed Church  
Pet Oasis, Matawan  
Philadelphia Flyers  
Mr. Paul Pinchak  
Red Lobster  
Reformed Church of Freehold  
Renaissance Promotions  
Rutgers University Athletics  
Sephora  
Sky Zone  
Staples  
St. Ambrose Church  
State Theatre New Jersey  
Mr. Don Tao  
TD Bank  
The New York Jets  
The Ridge at Back Brook  
Top Golf/iPlay America, Freehold  
Ultimate Tan & Wellness of Matawan  
Vera Bradley  
Ms. Susan Vilagi  
Ms. Colleen Wagner  
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Walls  
Walmart  
Whole Foods



*The Generous Hearts  
Legacy Society  
recognizes those  
individuals who have  
made a commitment to  
the future of Reformed  
Church Home by way of  
providing a legacy gift.*

*If you would like to learn  
more about any of these  
gifting options, we invite  
you to contact or visit the  
Director of Development,  
Paula LeBlanc, ext 108.*

# Memorial and Tribute Gifts



From time to time RCH receives special gifts of love in addition to those tributes made during our regular annual appeals. These special tribute gifts are recognized below.

◇ = Special Gifts

○ = Circle of Life Society Member

## Special Tribute Gifts

### *In Memory of Don and Bunny Adams*

by Trinity Reformed Church and Ms. Judith E. Adams and Ms. Linda Ranft

### *In Memory of Ethel Beattie and Barbara Zach*

by Dr. and Mrs. Alfred H. Beattie ○

### *In Memory of Ruth Carmeli*

by Tyler & Carmeli, PC ◇

### *In Memory of Eleanor Carucci*

by Mr. and Mrs. James Adinolfi

### *In Memory of Lucy Fischetti*

by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Cavallero, Mr. and Mrs. Michael DeSimone, Mr. and Mrs. John Kline, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Kline, Dr. Anne Marie McNamara, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Miller, Old Bridge Elks #2229, Mr. Stephan Pickman, Mr. and Mrs. George Reach and Mrs. Amy Shaw

### *In Memory of Connie Grzybowski*

by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Grzybowski

### *In Memory of Beverly Jawdzik*

by Ms. Winnie Bohadel and Mr. and Mrs. John Incorvaia

### *In Memory of Joan Krenzel*

by Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Hoffman, Mr. John Krenzel, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Krenzel, Mr. and Mrs. Don Mayer, Ms. Kim Mayer and Mr. and Mrs. Mark Podeszinski

### *In Memory of Barbara Krug*

by Ms. Janet Schmidt

### *In Memory of Marie Kelene Nazaire*

by Anonymous ◇, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Herrick ◇ and Tyler & Carmeli, PC ◇

### *In Memory of Sabina McCarthy*

by Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Cassidy, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Catarzi, Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Highfield, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Ian Horen, Ms. Holly Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Hrycenko, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Kochanski, Mr. and Mrs. Butch Mink, Ms. Diane Palmer and Mr. and Mrs. Eric Rabinowitz

### *In Memory of Stamatis Smirlis*

by Reformed Church Home Activities Department, Mrs. Denise Morano, Ms. Lillian Padula-Coscia, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Podeszinski, Ms. Susan Schwarz, Ms. Leah Smirlis, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Vikner and Rev. and Mrs. Samir F.H. Youssef

### *In Memory of George Strasser*

by Mr. James Vernarec and Ms. Carol Reinmann

### *In Honor of Nelly Grusgott, RCH Staff*

by Ms. Eleanor McCarthy

### *In Honor of Ruby and Richard Jacobus*

by ALP and Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Patonay

### *In Honor of Joseph Mayer*

by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Krenzel

### *In Honor of Marvin's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday*

by Mrs. Sharon Flisler

### *In Honor of the RCH Activities Department*

by Anonymous and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Addy, Jr.

### *In Honor of Helen Schreyer*

by Ms. Diane Madden

### *In Honor of Kate Shepard and the RCH Staff*

by Ms. Theresa Whalen





# Save THE DATE!

29<sup>th</sup> Annual

## GOLF CLASSIC

MONDAY  
September 21, 2020



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## From the Pastor's Study

Rev. Sam Youssef, Chaplain

### The Lord Will Do Wonders Among Us

What a great blessing to start a new decade! It's 2020, and I would like to seize this opportunity to wish you all, my dear readers, a very happy, blessed New Year.

Let us start this promising New Year by thanking God Almighty for all the blessings He has given us in the past. Let us allow ourselves a few minutes to look back and try to count the many occasions in which we have experienced the hand of God encouraging us, supporting us, and in some cases miraculously rescuing us – although I am sure we will not be able to remember all those wonderful times that God has intervened, directly or indirectly, in our lives. King David tried to sum it up in his Psalm 103 when He said: *“Bless the LORD, O my soul; And all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with loving-kindness and tender mercies, Who satisfies your mouth with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.”*

Though it is good to remember the past and learn from it, it is more crucial to look toward the present and prepare for the future. St. Paul said in Philippians 3:13-14, *“...forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”* Therefore, in this New Year we have to try hard to renew our minds, our hearts, our spirits, and our lives. To be renewed means that we change our ways of thinking, our behaviors, and even our views about people or things around us. We sometimes reach a conclusion or an idea about a certain subject but when we submit ourselves to the Will of God we have to look at that subject from His point of view, so that we can have the mindset of Christ.

We also need to renew our hearts and attitudes. When we spend more time with God reading His word, praying and contemplating His unconditional love, we will spend less time thinking of how others have hurt our feelings or mistreated us. The more we love God the more we love others. When we think how much God forgives our sins we will be able to forgive others also. We have to be honest with ourselves and always purify our motives, feelings and emotions, just as King David stated in his psalm 51:10: *“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.”*

When we have a strong relationship with God and we are led by His Spirit, we are considered His sons and daughters (Romans 8:14) and therefore, we will produce fruits worthy of the Holy Spirit. We will no longer be lagging in diligence, but always be fervent in spirit. We will be persisting in serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, and given to hospitality. (Romans 12:11-13)

***“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”***

**Romans 12:2**

It is well established that whatever we sow today we will reap sooner or later. Therefore we have to be careful of our actions and do things according to the will of God. We have to honestly recognize our shortcomings and do our best to stand up for what is right. Many times we adopt negative positions and rely on others to stand up for the Truth. Yet God wants us to be positive and not to be afraid to stand up and support what is right. It is of utmost importance to please God and to be certain that God will never forsake us nor let us down.

We have to realize that the renewal of our minds, hearts, and spirits is a difficult, ongoing journey that will have ups and downs. It takes effort and complete submission to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It requires we accept the gift of the Holy Spirit and strengthen our faith. We should rest assured that we will always have victory over all the obstacles we may face. This conviction should lead us to be unshaken in our faith as we read in 1 Corinthians 15:57-58, *“Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.”*

God has promised us that He will watch over us from the beginning of the year until its end. Based on this promise, do not be afraid in 2020 because the Holy Spirit will be with us. Therefore, we have to prepare ourselves and sanctify ourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among us. (Joshua 3:5)

## *RCH Goes **Red** for Women for Heart Health Month!*



*Our AL residents made  
homemade chocolate lollipop  
centerpieces for each table!*

On February 7, 2020, Reformed Church Home joined forces with Silver Linings at Old Bridge, the local senior community for active adults 60+, and Lares Homecare to support a huge and very successful **Go Red for Women** event at the Silver Linings center.



The day featured heart health education and tips, including the warning signs of a heart attack or stroke, followed by a Zumba class to reinforce the importance of exercise. Following lunch, Silver Linings celebrated their member birthdays and the group danced to a mix of cultural and popular music into the afternoon. Five of our assisted living residents joined in the fun, thanks to transportation provided by the Township of Old Bridge and fabulous hospitality by the Silver Linings welcoming committee. We'll be celebrating all February long, so don't forget to wear your **RED** to show your support for women's heart health!



2018 Post-Acute Care Partner



5-Star Quality of Care Rating  
By the Centers for Medicare  
& Medicaid Services



Reformed Church Home 1990 Route 18 North, Old Bridge, NJ 08857

Assisted Living | Rehabilitation | Skilled Nursing

# *The Home News*

Old Bridge, NJ



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