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DONOR SPOTLIGHT:
Keeping the Legacy Going:
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“We have visited or supported people at Haven Homes for about 20 years,” says Christ Lutheran Pastor Ron Boettner. When Haven Homes sought to build a new chapel, Pastor Boettner joined the capital campaign committee.

Parishioners connect with Haven Homes residents in a variety of ways. Some work as nurses or nursing aides, while others bring residents to worship services held at the care community. Still others contribute funds to help support our Haven Homes capital campaign.

“I so admire people of faith. I can see how it gives them joy in rough times,” says Pastor Boettner. “I think faith is the key to a good quality of life.” The pastor also believes that those who give generously to help others show “a taste of God’s generosity.” We agree and are grateful to you all.

Minnesota Family Directly Impacted by Alzheimer’s Launches Parks’ Place to Redefine Memory Care

When Mayo Clinic diagnosed Plymouth resident Jerry Parks, a former vice president at a large construction company, with Younger-Onset Alzheimer’s at age 56, it did not provide a template for what comes next.

“Every day spouses are being thrust into the new role of caregiver as they deal with the impact of this disease, but it’s not every day the children of those affected by the disease are spurred to action to change the face of memory care,” says Jerry’s wife, Karen Parks.

The Parks family envisioned a family-centered, thoughtfully planned environment where people are excited to visit loved ones. With the support of spouses, relatives and friends, they leveraged their extensive Alzheimer’s network to put their passion project in motion.

Parks’ Place Memory Care Redefined opened in October at 18040 Medina Road in Plymouth, Minnesota and can accommodate 69 residents. Care and services are coordinated by Cassia.

The community was designed with well-organized spaces and natural light to create an elegant setting with highly personalized care. A memory care program will focus on abilities rather than disabilities to help residents experience success. To arrange a visit, please contact Kaitlin.Kelly@cassialife.org or call 763-710-8484.

New Outdoor Features Make Life Livelier at Brookside

Cassia’s Brookside Senior Living resident Elmer Boike is like many in his community who want a lively place to live—and in rural Montevideo, that often means spending time outdoors. Elmer loves gardening, and a new program at Brookside makes getting around outside easier than ever. The program was made possible by generous individuals and grants.

In 2017, staff and residents asked Lutheran Social Service for advice on how to connect more to the people and things that mean the most to them. The result! Raised gardens and a box garden allow residents to plant vegetables and flowers without straining muscles, according to Service Coordinator and Activator Dustin Kelly Snell.

In addition, a paved walking path links one garden to another. It’s called “Margaret’s Path” in memory of former Brookside administrator Margaret Niman, whose family made a significant donation to help create the path. Brookside also reconnected a sidewalk with an adjacent church—so residents using wheel chairs can easily get there.

“I do enjoy going out on the walking paths,” says Elmer. “I’m looking forward to seeing the flowers grow.”

Raised garden makes it easier for Brookside Senior Living residents like Elmer Boike to plant flowers and vegetables.

MISSION AND CREDITS

Cassia’s mission is to foster fullness of life for older adults in the spirit of Christ’s love. Cassia was founded in 1963 and is headquartered in St. Paul, Minnesota. Cassia provides health care and living services to older adults in the greater Twin Cities area and has been named a Best Place to Work by Minnesota Magazine.

For questions or feedback, please contact Jenna.Zark@cassialife.org or 952-855-5168.

Thanks to Cassia’s Brookside Senior Living resident Elmer Boike for providing photos of his new garden and to Cassia’s Brookside Senior Living senior administration for making this story possible by generous individuals and grants.
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Creative Director Jeffrey M. Placzek, Director of Communications Jenna Zark, Designers Mark Zukor

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As a result, the Parks family and a West Metro community established a new memory care community, Parks’ Place, to redefine memory care. Parks’ Place and a new program at Brookside make getting around outside easier than ever. The program was made possible by generous individuals and grants.

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I strongly believe in projects that are good for our community. We are all neighbors here. It’s a humbling, rewarding experience to be able to help.

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Friday, October 25
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Festival of Trees
Saturday, November 16
Augustana Regent of Burnsville
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Life-changing Gifts

What’s the best way to leave a legacy conveying your values while helping others for generations to come? Gifts by bequest enable us to improve the quality of life for those who give so much of themselves. Donations may be made using cash, securities, IRA and other retirement accounts, real estate or tangible personal property.

Gifts are deductible to the full extent of the law; consult an attorney to be sure. You’ll also want your attorney to verify that the provision states our legal names: Augustana Care or Elim Care Ministries. Please inform us of your bequest so we may be acknowledged and we may better plan for the future. For more information about planned gifts and other donations, please contact philanthropy@cassialife.org or call 952-855-5189.

Donor Spotlight:
Keeping the Legacy Going: Amy Woyke

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"As a parishioner of Christ Lutheran Church, my faith is very important to me. My late husband Denny and I have always supported local charities, but our support for Cassia’s chapel is even more meaningful because of my strong personal connection to the church and the mission of Cassia," Cindy said.

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"Why did you choose to support the chapel with such a generous, transformative gift?" I asked Cindy.

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