



GOOD TIDINGS

• **SPRING 2024** •

**Newsletter of the Reformed Presbyterian
Woman's Association**

REFLECTIONS BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of the Reformed Presbyterian Home (RP Home),

We are now several months into a new year, and what a wonderful year it's turning out to be!

We are blessed and grateful to announce that progress has been made in planning multiple important projects and facility improvements in 2024:

Resident Community Room and Chapel Improvements – We will begin construction on the Resident Community Room and Chapel in the spring of 2024! In addition to making improvements to the already existing space, we've planned the construction of a resident prayer and meditation space.

The renovation will begin when RP Home receives approval from the Pennsylvania Department of Health Life Safety Division. Once construction is completed, RP Home will host a ribbon cutting celebration – stay tuned for more information about this big day!

Nursing Community Hallway Improvements – We're also updating the nursing community (3rd floor) hallway this year. The goal of the project is to provide a homelike environment for the residents. The project will include the installation of new flooring, updates to the walls, updated homelike lighting, and installation of handrails. This project is made possible by the Neighborhood Initiatives Fund 2023 Grant, which was supported by the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh and awarded to RP Home.

In addition to seeing these important improvements move forward, we've also been able to organize some great events for RP Home members to enjoy this season:

February Events – February was a busy month here at RP Home. Residents met with Mayor Ed Gainey during his recent visit (which we talk about more in this very newsletter). Residents also enjoyed a performance by the Genevans (the student choir of Geneva College) on February 28th. The choir visited RP Home prior to beginning their five-day bus tour to the Midwest. This visit also included special performances from the Eight Bells and Grace Notes.

Preparing for National Skilled Nursing Care Week – We are excited to plan our celebration for 2024 National Skilled Nursing Care Week (taking place from May 12th to 18th). The theme this year is “Radiant Memories: A Tribute to the Golden Age of Radio.” We have many exciting events for how to bring this theme to life at the Home!

Providing senior living services for 127 years, the Reformed Presbyterian Home remains committed to providing a supportive living environment to those who call us “home.” Thank you for your ongoing support and for helping us continue to serve our Home's mission.



Blessings,

Cara D Todhunter
MA SLP, NHA MPM
Executive Director

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Our Mission

Our mission is to provide quality care and a supportive living environment to older adults in a manner consistent with the affection, honor, and care that the Bible teaches us to give our parents.

Our Vision

Our vision is to provide an environment which maximizes the physical, spiritual, social, and emotional well-being of each member of our community.

Our Philosophy of Care

God has given value to each person's life that does not diminish with age or changes in mental or physical condition. Our goal is to provide an environment that will help each person we serve achieve his, her, or their maximum level of well-being.

EVENTS



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17TH, 2024, 12PM

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION LUNCH

RP Home will celebrate the volunteers who have given the gift of time in the last year! All volunteers are invited to join for this celebration, and all RP Home community members and supporters are invited to help us in thanking our volunteers!

To RSVP, please contact Julie Haley at 412-321-4139, Ext. 2107 or jhaley@rphome.org.

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2024

ANNUAL ASSOCIATION MEETING

The Annual Association Meeting for the Reformed Presbyterian Woman's Association (RPWA) will be held on Thursday, April 25, 2024 at the Reformed Presbyterian Home (RP Home). This meeting is an opportunity for the Executive Director, the financial auditors, and the Board Committees to reflect on the work of 2023-2024, as well as look ahead to future organizational plans and goals.

We invite you to attend and hear how God is working at RP Home.

This meeting may also include an election of Board members.

WELCOMING MAYOR GAINEY TO THE HOME

This past February, RP Home hosted a special lunch in honor and celebration of Black History Month. We also welcomed Mayor Ed Gainey as a guest of honor during the event.

During the luncheon, Mayor Gainey met with residents and happily discussed any questions of interest they brought to him. Mayor Gainey and to be photographed with him.

When running for elected office, Mayor Gainey had previously stated that, "I understand that city government has the power to change lives, uplift communities, and fix what's broken in our city."

Gainey reflected further on this statement when Barbara Welsh, a resident of the Reformed Presbyterian Home (who serves as the Resident Council President for our Skilled Nursing unit) asked Mayor Gainey: "Why were you interested in leading Pittsburgh?"

Other conversation topics included:

- Pittsburgh's diverse and numerous neighborhoods
- Families and raising children
- Black history
- Super Bowl predictions

We are very appreciative of Mayor Ed Gainey for including RP Home in his community visits this season!



2023 WALKER CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS

Residents, friends, and family celebrated the 2023 holiday season together at the RP Home! We organized a number of activities throughout the month, including the Walker Celebration of Lights.

Residents and event attendees enjoyed live holiday music, delicious appetizers, and fun photo opportunities. We were overjoyed by the increased attendance of our friends and family. Thank you to all for joining us and sharing in the season's cheer!



EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION FUND

RP Home is honored to have employees who have dedicated their lives to our residents and our mission. Each staff member works hard to deliver on our mission of providing a supportive and fulfilling living environment.

The Home has an employee appreciation fund which provides residents, families, and others with the opportunity to honor our employees. Every dollar raised is directly used to show appreciation to our staff!

Mrs. Nancy Petshot

Mr. & Mrs. Edward Johnston



CAREERS AT RP HOME



At RP Home, you know you are improving the lives of our residents every day. Each and every staff member works hard to deliver on our mission of providing a supportive and fulfilling living environment. Together, our staff and teams can grow and enrich the lives of the residents.

Our employees are one of the reasons the Home is so highly recognized for extraordinary care and satisfaction. If you are looking to make a difference, consider joining our team!

We are actively hiring for the following positions:

RNs

LPNs

CNAs

Med Techs

Personal Care Caregivers

You can learn more at our website (rphome.org/careers) as well as submit an application directly:

Kathie Haffly, Human Resources Coordinator

2344 Perrysville Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15214

✉ khaffly@rphome.org 📞 412-321-4661

GENERAL FUND

RP Home gratefully acknowledges the following individuals, foundations, corporations whose ongoing support enhances our mission for those we serve. Thank you for your gifts in 2023.

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Kathy Calvin, CEO and President of
United Nations Foundation*

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Tribute Giving is a way to recognize, honor or celebrate a person, while having an eternal impact.

Please note in **bold** is the name of the person being honored or for whom the tribute was made; donors are listed below the name.

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GRACIOUS GIVING, GRATEFUL LIVING FUND

Our Gracious Giving, Grateful Living Fund (dedicated to benevolent care) exceeds \$2 million annually. Our mission continues through gifts from people who recognize the love of Christ within our walls.

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Donations for this fund are undesignated gifts supporting our Benevolent Care Fund.

In the last calendar year the total amount of uncompensated care provided by the RP Home amounted to \$2,298,000, consisting of \$188,329 in benevolent care and \$2,109,671 in contractual adjustments for Medicare, Medical Assistance, and commercial insurance

GIFTS TO THE DISABILITIES MINISTRIES

The Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America (RPCNA) appointed the Reformed Presbyterian Woman's Association (RPWA) to the task of leading and coordinating a support ministry for the church denomination to disabled individuals and to congregations, elders, deacon boards, and families of the RPCNA around the country who face disabilities of various natures.

Thank you to the following individuals and organizations that supported this fund:

*Covenanter Daughters Women's Missionary Fellowship of Shawnee
Mr. & Mrs. David Ciarrocchi
First Reformed Presbyterian Church of Beaver Falls*

GIFTS OF TIME

The Reformed Presbyterian Home relies on dedicated volunteers to help provide a positive and supportive home for our residents.

RP Home works with volunteers of all ages, from students to senior citizens. Our amazing volunteers help to provide organized engagement activities, visit one-on-one with the residents, assist with clerical work, and share their passions (such as gardening or playing music).

Thank you to all who gave the Gift of Time!



THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

<i>Victoria Araceli</i>	<i>Bonnie McLain</i>
<i>Mary Lou Basset</i>	<i>Marla Timms, on behalf of</i>
<i>Autumn Butler</i>	<i>Monarch Hospice</i>
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VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

BRIDGET O'BRIEN

Bridget – a Pittsburgh native who went to school in the North Hills – is just one of RP Home’s beloved volunteers. Bridget loves to be around people and is a very positive individual. She’s also an absolute joy to work with at the Home. Well, we call it work – she calls it enjoying retirement!

Some fun facts about Bridget:

- Her favorite movie is The Wizard of Oz.
- She loves pasta.
- Her hidden talent is Irish dancing.

She’ll be visiting Ireland with her family this May (and might put her dancing skills to good use on the trip).

If you know Bridget, you might also know Clancy! With Bridget’s help, this adorable dog has successfully navigated therapy dog training, as well as passed his therapy dog testing. This means he’s 100% qualified to make a difference in the world at Bridget’s side.

Bridget’s #1 goal is to continue sharing Clancy with the community in the coming months; her wonderful dog makes people smile just by being himself, and she loves being able to brighten people’s day just by introducing them to Clancy.

We are blessed that Bridget shares her time (and Clancy’s) with our residents and staff. They, like all of our volunteers, give us one of the most important gifts: the gift of time.



Volunteers are essential to serving our mission. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Kelly Rose (krrose@rphome.org) or Raymont Conner (rconner@rphome.org). There are many ways to volunteer and support our residents, you can learn more at RPHome.org/volunteer.

BUILDING FUND

RP Home publicly announced a capital campaign in June of 2022 with the goal to raise \$500,000. We acknowledge the following individuals, foundations, and corporations for their generosity in supporting the renovation of the resident Chapel and Community Space.

PROGRESS TO CAMPAIGN GOAL



\$399,297

\$500,000

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A person with good eyes gives: gives from his wallet, his time, gives of himself. He considers others, how he can encourage them.

–Hebrews 10:25



REMEMBERING HAROLD HUTCHESON

BY BILL WEIR, CLOSE FRIEND OF HAROLD HUTCHESON

Harold Hutcheson was an extremely gifted and intelligent man who grew up as a missionary kid in Syria. In his employment with the United States government, he used his education and language skills to faithfully serve his country with respect to sensitive issues.

Harold's employment afforded him the benefit of seeing different countries around the world, and he enjoyed traveling even in retirement. He was humble, confident, and kind. His wit and humor would catch people off guard at times, and anyone engaging Harold in the game of Scrabble would almost always be on the losing end!

Since childhood, Harold professed Jesus Christ as his Savior, and his confidence in his eternal destination was never in question. Just prior to his 90th birthday, Bill Weir requested Harold's assistance in ministering to an Arabic-speaking husband and wife in another long-term care health facility. Without any hesitation, Harold – who was extremely proficient in the Arabic language – grabbed his Arabic Bible and accompanied Bill to meet with the couple.

Harold read aloud (in Arabic) portions from the Gospel of John and prayed with the couple. He demonstrated not only his sustained knowledge and skill of this second language, but that even in his 90th year he could serve the Lord.



He was a very generous person who helped and encouraged many people and financially supported non-profit organizations throughout his lifetime. Following his death in August 2022, the RP Home was a beneficiary of a very generous portion of Harold's estate.

A gift in your will – also known as a bequest – is one of the easier and most effective ways to give to RP Home, or to any charity of your choice (a church, school, animal rescue, etc.). They are also known as “legacy gifts” because they are a way for people like you and Harold to leave your legacy in the world.

The Home is truly thankful for Harold's foresight and careful planning that made this possible. Home staff considered it a privilege to help Harold through the final years of his life.

DONATION TO RPWA

With my enclosed gift, I am joining other Reformed Presbyterian Woman's Association (RPWA) supporters with a tax deductible donation of:
(Please make checks payable to RPWA; donations by credit card can be made at www.rphome.org/give).

\$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$ _____

Accept this gift in honor / memory (circle) of: _____

How is this person related to you? _____

Please notify: Name: _____

Address: _____

I'm interested in talking with someone about an estate gift to help ensure that future seniors are well cared for.

Name: _____ Email: _____

Please include my/our gift in the list of supporters as: Listed Above Anonymous
Please contact Cara D. Todhunter, Executive Director at ctodhunter@rphome.org for questions.

In this season of thanks and giving, we're thankful to you for everything you do for the RP Home community.

We hope you'll consider sharing the spirit of the season by supporting our year end fundraiser—look for something in your mailbox soon!

Reformed Presbyterian Woman's Association serves all people regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, age, familial status, handicap or disability.

We are an equal opportunity employer.



2344 Perrysville Avenue
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The Reformed Presbyterian Woman's Association is a 501(C) 3 nonprofit charitable organization, founded in 1897, which today serves people of all faiths. We provide health care, housing and supportive services including independent living, personal care, nursing and rehabilitative services. We are registered with the Pennsylvania Department of State, Bureau of Charitable Organizations.