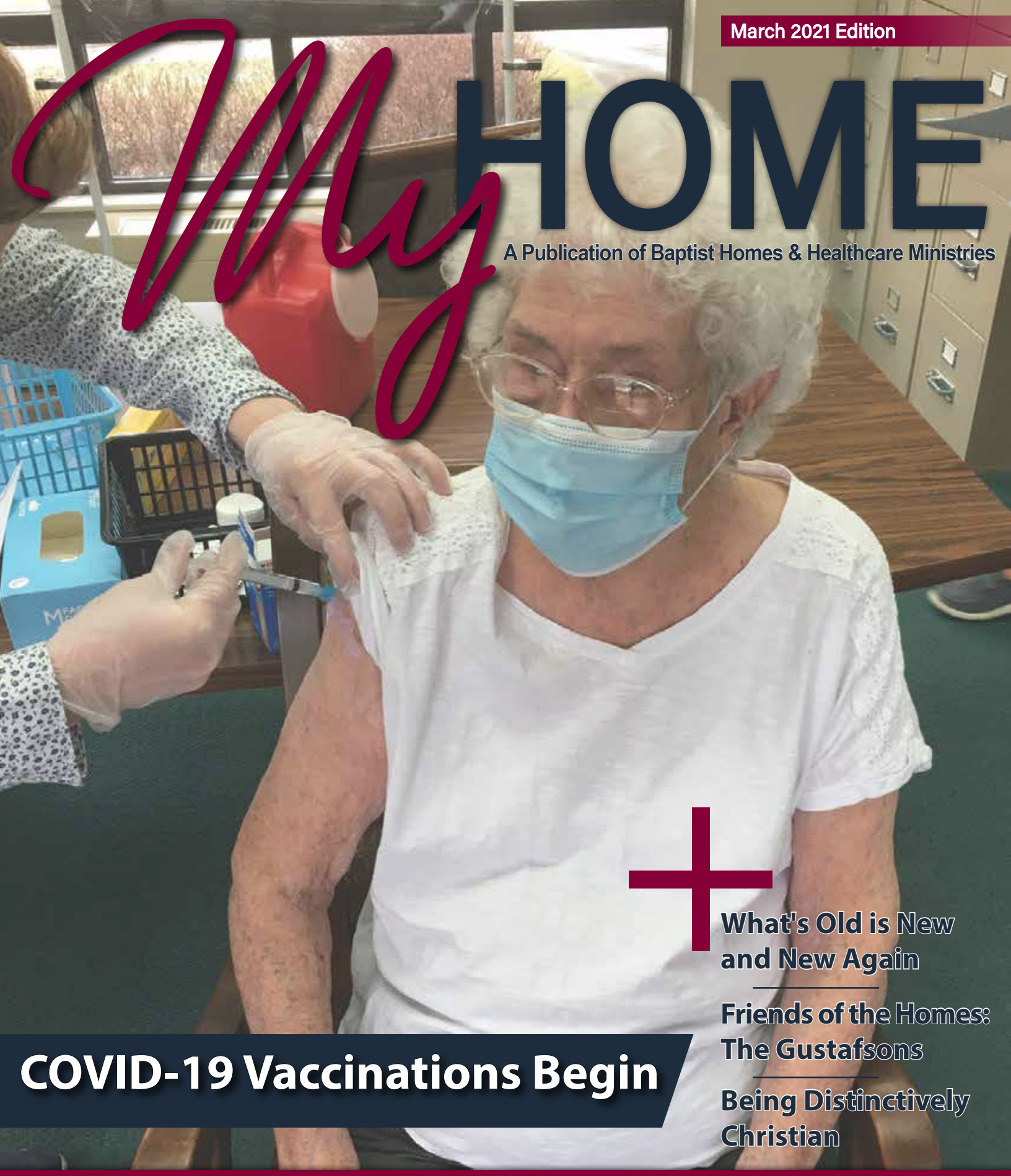
March 2021 Edition

# My HOME

A Publication of Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries



## COVID-19 Vaccinations Begin

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What's Old is New and New Again

Friends of the Homes: The Gustafsons

Being Distinctively Christian

BAPTIST HOMES
PROVIDING CHRISTLIKE CARE TO THE AGING SINCE 1913
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# From the President's Desk

It has been said that "Every great idea digresses into hard work." This inaugural edition of Baptist Homes *My Home* Magazine illustrates the truth of that adage. Countless hours have been invested in developing this communication tool designed to educate, advocate and encourage our readership. My heartfelt thanks to Becky Barton, Amber Nichols and each contributing writer for their work in making this resource possible.

The late Steve Jobs, founder of the Apple Computer empire, wrote, "If you really look closely, most overnight successes took a long time." In the case of the Baptist Homes, that success has been nearly 108 years in the making. According to U.S. Census data, only 0.00897% of companies are over 100 years old. That makes this ministry a success and a survivor by all accounts. Launched just prior to the ravages of World War I, by God's grace the Home was able to weather the Spanish Flu and Great Depression in those early years. Later, the ministry withstood World War II with its accompanying rations and shortfalls. In the 1980s, 1990s, and 2010s, new campuses were added, each a step of faith that expanded our reach. Today, we continue to explore new avenues of service that will allow us to honor the aged and fulfill our ministry mandate to senior adults in new locations and in innovative ways.

This has also been a season of cooperation and partnership. This past year has seen partnerships develop with Hannibal-LaGrange University, Missouri Baptist University, Southwest Baptist University, the Missouri Baptist Children's Home, the Missouri Baptist Foundation and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. It has been decades since our Missouri Baptist entities have enjoyed this level of cooperation and camaraderie. This is not by chance. This is the result of prayer and a willingness to put the past behind us and move forward to fulfill the Great Commission and Great Commandment of our Lord Jesus Christ.

At the same time, there are still many needs. The coronavirus continues to extract a physical and emotional toll upon our residents and caregivers. The economic impact upon this ministry is now in the millions. The plans for the upcoming Ashland continuum of care campus have been radically redrawn to incorporate new best practices in a post-Covid world. Costly campus updates are being drafted to ensure the safety and well-being of our residents. However, it is not with fear that we face the future. Rather, it is with hope, faith and confidence in God's mandate as articulated in our mission.

Thank you for being part of the Baptist Homes family. I pray our news magazine format will encourage and inform. Also, please subscribe to the new monthly e-newsletter to keep abreast of campus happenings.

Together in His service,

Rodney Harrison

# THANK YOU

*Baptist Homes would like to thank everyone for their continued prayers, support, gifts and love throughout 2020. Despite the year's challenges, the tangible expressions of love and support provided by our extended Baptist Homes families sustained us through a very difficult time. Along with the rest of the world, we hope that 2021 is a brighter year that includes more connection and community with our loved ones. God bless you for being the hands and heart of Christ through this time and sending gifts and love to us.*

*Front Cover: Margaret Marshall; Top Left: Vice President Ron Mackey; Top Right: Susie Tucker; Bottom Right: Nurse Angie Walker*

# COVID-19 Vaccinations Begin at Baptist Homes

On December 31, 2020, the Baptist Home-Arcadia Valley campus became the first of the Home's four campuses to offer the Moderna COVID-19 vaccination to residents and staff. This two-dose series, mRNA vaccine was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for emergency use on December 18, 2020. Just a few days later, a clinic was scheduled for December 31, 2020, on the Baptist Home-Arcadia Valley campus, and representatives from UnitedScripts were on site ready to provide the first dose to all residents and staff who were willing and able to receive the vaccine.

After months of experiencing visitor restrictions, lockdowns, and quarantines, the residents who were waiting to receive the vaccine were nearly jubilant. After the first few vaccine recipients emerged from the vaccination area, waiting residents and staff cheered, clapped, and smiled. For them, receiving the vaccination represented more than protection from a dangerous virus, but the key to being able to freely visit, hug, and see their loved ones again.

Professional Assistant Patty Risher was the first staff person to receive the vaccine. Patty shared she was very excited to receive the vaccine, and said, "This was never about me. This was about protecting the residents and my mother who are very high risk. When I think of how sick COVID-19 could make them or kill them, what are a few days of not feeling well?" After the vaccine, Patty reported having only mild symptoms, such as chills and body aches, but nothing severe. The majority of staff and residents who received the initial vaccination have reported feeling only soreness near the injection site or no symptoms at all.

In early December, the Baptist Homes began educating residents and staff on the importance of receiving the vaccination and worked to dispel misinformation and myths about the vaccine which have been widely circulated on social media.

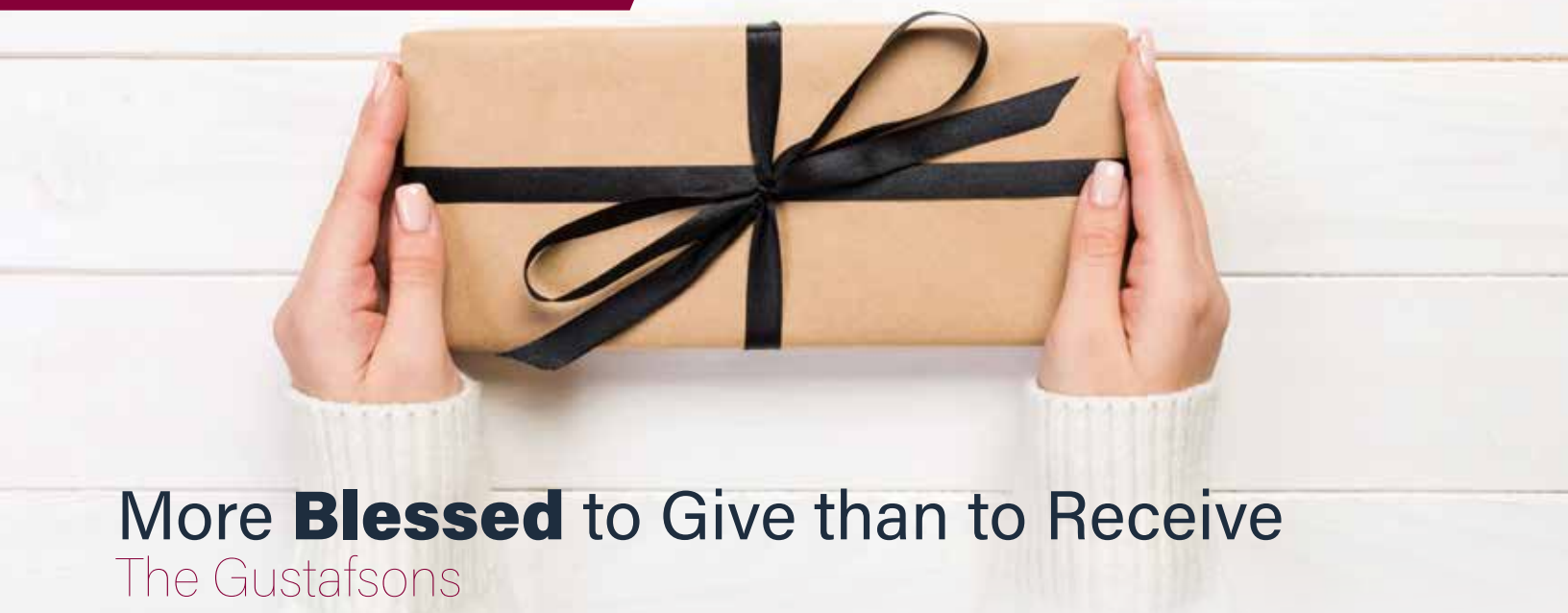
Baptist Homes President Rodney Harrison, who is a registered nurse and vaccine proponent, said, "The choice to receive the vaccination is truly a life or death decision. As Baptists, it is our responsibility to choose life."

The FDA is reporting the Moderna vaccine to have 94% efficacy two weeks following the second dose, and those who might still contract the virus post-vaccination experience few complications.

For our residents, the first dose will begin protecting them from the virus after 10 days, although full efficacy is experienced two weeks after the second dose. At that time, residents who have been vaccinated will be able to enjoy physical contact with other family, friends, go to church, and socialize with other residents.

Harrison had the privilege of receiving his vaccination along with the independent living residents on the Ashland campus on January 5.

Booster vaccination clinics have now been held on all campuses. Third and final clinics for those residents and staff still needing their second dose of the vaccine will be held March 9th at Ozark and March 13th at Chillicothe. Additional news about the Moderna vaccine and other COVID-19 vaccine FAQs can be found on the Baptist Homes website, www.thebaptisthome.org/vaccine-news.



# More **Blessed** to Give than to Receive

## The Gustafsons

Bill and Evelyn Gustafson grew up in Springfield, Missouri, and were high school sweethearts. They have been members of South Haven Baptist Church in Springfield since 1983. Their longtime former pastor and current resident of the Baptist Home-Ozark, Paul Swadley or "Swad," as he was called, was always a great supporter of the Baptist Homes. He talked about the Homes with his congregation and promoted the various special offerings. It was his leadership that caused Bill and Evelyn to learn more about the ministry.

Bill was a fireman and retired after 33 years of service. Evelyn served in Baptist life for many years. She was a member of the Missouri Baptist Convention (MBC) Executive Board for seven years, serving two of those years as an officer. In addition, she served as the administrator for Greene County Baptist Association for 28 years. She was active in Baptist Secretaries Association of Missouri (BSAM) and was a conference leader for Missouri Baptists throughout the state. In retirement, Bill and Evelyn have enjoyed traveling in their motorhome to see their children, who both live in Texas, and to attend St. Louis Cardinals ball games. In the last few years, they have preferred to stay close to home.

Having served on the original committee to secure land for the Ozark campus, Evelyn had a working knowledge of the Baptist Homes ministry which helped guide them when seeking care for their own parents. Both of Bill's parents were residents at the Baptist Home-Ozark as was Evelyn's mother. Although her mother was not able to live at the Home long before her passing, Evelyn shared, "The care was the best of the best. I would tell anyone who asked that the nurses were great, and we were greatly touched by that." She also spoke highly of the spiritual care provided by the now retired Campus Pastor Tommy Harper.

After the passing of Bill's parents, they decided to do more to support the Baptist Homes. They decided to tithe Bill's parents' estate and worked with the Missouri Baptist Foundation to establish a charitable gift annuity which would benefit the Baptist Homes, and in addition, they continued to be regular donors each month.

"We believe supporting the benevolent ministry of the Baptist Homes is a priority," Evelyn stated. And husband Bill agreed, saying, "Even though our parents didn't have to use it, it is something we feel strongly about. There are people that wouldn't be able to stay (at the Baptist Homes) if we didn't give."

A couple of years ago, Evelyn's Sunday school class wanted to recognize a class member who was celebrating a 99th birthday. Instead of a card shower, they all gave a monetary gift in her honor to the Baptist Homes. And, in times of memorials, Evelyn sends a gift to the Baptist Homes in lieu of sending flowers.

When asked about encouraging others to give, Evelyn shared, "You have to know the benefit of care. We support the work of the Children's Home (MBCH), too. You get the blessing anytime you give of yourself, and what has been entrusted to you. Then, He will bless you."

When the time comes when they need to move from their home, the Baptist Homes is at the top of their list. They shared, "We know so many people there. We have the application on the desk and are preparing to send it knowing there may be a long wait. The one-on-one focus that the Baptist Homes has is so interesting to read about and to see. People think, 'If I have to be in a place, I would like to be in a place like the Baptist Homes.'"

Spencer Hutson, Church Relations Specialist

*Evelyn and Bill Gustafson*

# The Most RESILIENT of Us All

The COVID-19 pandemic will rightly be remembered as a season of great loss:

- Loss of freedom as we have all had to quarantine for a period as a population in the State of Missouri and, as some have had to quarantine individually due to infection or exposure.
- Loss of connection with others as we have lived behind masks, not given, or received handshakes and hugs which were commonplace just a few months ago.
- Loss of loved ones as, virtually everyone has lost a friend or a loved one during this pandemic.

Those losses have been compounded due to the disruption of the important and traditional ways we are used to saying goodbye. Add to this a general loss of a sense of well-being. An article crossed my newsfeed the other day describing the marked increase of calls to suicide hotlines by folks who were just frightened by all that is going on. It seems that the underlying stress of COVID-19 causes the normal stressors of life to be experienced in outsized measures.

Now, imagine experiencing all of this as an octogenarian who has already given up their home for a small apartment or room in a care facility. Imagine experiencing this social distancing during a time in life when being close and experiencing human connection is perhaps more important than ever before. The birthday and holiday you just missed might be the last one. That new great-grandchild that you see through a glass screen on a phone or a tablet may never be held in your arms. The last time you visit with your family may be through a screened-in window or behind a hastily erected sheet of plexiglass. If the pandemic has been almost unbearable in the general population, then surely it has been more difficult among the elderly, especially those living in nursing communities.

Recently, I came across an article, "Research: Older people resilient, but stressed by COVID-19 isolation." (Dan Gunderson MPR News, 11/25/2020). This article described a survey conducted among "76 people between the ages of 70 and 97 who live in North Dakota and Minnesota." The stated reactions to the pandemic were somewhat surprising. Those interviewed stated they were less worried about themselves and more concerned about their families. They viewed the threat to their own well-being with a humble confidence, "If it's my time to go, it's my time to go". Less than 20% of those interviewed communicated that they found the stress unmanageable. And most surprising to the researchers was the elder's adaptable nature when it came to a newfound appreciation and use for technology as most expressed great enjoyment of using various social media platforms to stay in touch with families.

To what can this resiliency be attributed? The researchers offered no suggestions as to how these senior citizens seemed to be coping with the pandemic better than their younger counterparts. The article has caused me to reflect on my limited socially-distanced, hidden-behind-the-mask encounters with our residents at the Baptist Homes. I concur with the study's findings as many of our folks have referenced concern for their loved ones. There is a constant reliance on the providence of God in these days as they have witnessed the illness and death of friends around them. They do not like the isolation, but they are coping well. And yes, they have learned how to use social media to connect with loved ones – just ask any of our activities, social service directors or campus pastors about their scramble to keep our residents connected to their loved ones via technology.

I think what we are witnessing is the power of the Grace of God in our midst. The truth of so many scriptures are bearing fruit before our eyes. The oft repeated promise in scripture, "I will never leave you, nor forsake you" is being lived out in their experience. I have heard more than one of our elders roughly quote Paul, "But even if I am being poured out like a drink offering on the sacrifice and service coming from your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you." (Phil 2:17).

In all the fear, loss, separation, illness, and death these resilient aged ones have taught us to rely more closely and humbly on a God who will, "even to your old age I am he, and to gray hairs I will carry you. I have made and I will bear; I will carry and will save." (Isaiah 46:4) May they continue to lead us by their humble examples.

Dr. Ron Mackey, Vice President of Community Engagement

# Honor Thy Father and Mother

*The following is an excerpt from the Biblical Perspectives on Aging podcast interview with Dr. Ben Mitchell and host, Dr. Andy Braams. Dr. Ben Mitchell is a Graves Professor of Moral Philosophy at Union University in Tennessee (retired) and author of "Ethics and Moral Reasoning."*

**Andy Braams:** One of your books is called Ethics and Moral Reasoning. And I want to center the remaining questions in or around that book.

In one portion of the book, you discuss the Ten Commandments as a backdrop to moral reasoning. And a commandment such as honor your father and mother. Now, when we teach that in church, what we generally think is children, you need to honor your father and your mother, which is true, but we can still honor our father and our mother much later in life. And in fact, that's oftentimes when it becomes more challenging.

So how would you apply a commandment like that to someone who is a father or mother who is not able to take care of themselves? What would the ethics or moral reasoning say, about how a middle-aged child, for instance, like myself, should take care of an aging parent that was unable to take care of themselves?

**Ben Mitchell:** That's such a great question, Andy. And it's one that I'm actually going through myself. My father is 87 years old and has all kinds of health problems right now. And even though he's still able to live somewhat independently, he has (lots of needs (lost audio)), and I try to help him and this has been sort of my, what I've been experimenting with, if you will.

I've been trying to learn, what does it mean at 65 to try to honor my 87-year-old father? You're exactly right. I mean the text, honor your father and mother is found first in the Ten Commandments. The commandments are principles. They are rules, but I like principle better because rule makes us feel like we're rule followers. But they are principles to guide our behavior.

And the other dimension of ethics is virtues or character traits. So, you have the Ten Commandments, for instance, and then you have the virtues. Jesus said in the Beatitudes, "Blessed are the poor in spirit."

Blessed are the meek. Blessed are the merciful. These are not laws to be followed. They are character traits to inhabit. And what we have in Scripture are both principles and virtues. We have both commandments, and we have Pauline injunctions, for instance. We also have the fruit of the spirit, love, joy, peace, patience, etc.

And all of that comes, or is brought to bear on, those family bonds that we have, kinship bonds that we have, say in marriage or in parenting or in the case that you're describing in being a child who now has a parent who has needs that go beyond what he's able to do on his own.

And there's a part of that, where he'd just say, "Well, neighbor love should take care of that. Love your neighbor as yourself." Well, yes, but as a son, do I have an even greater obligation to my father or my mother than I do as a neighbor? And I would argue that we do. I would argue that our duty or our obligation and our privilege to care for our family members, those with whom we share these family or kinship bonds, is even stronger than the duty that we have to love our neighbor, partly because of the investment that those parents have made in us. You know, my dad took care of me. My mom took care of me when I was a snotty nose, a little boy, and they did things for me that I'm sure I don't even remember now that I would turn my nose up at today. Any parent knows that. And now that my dad is losing some of his short-term memory, and now that he's not physically able to do the kinds of things that he wants to do, [and also] now under the restrictions of, of a global pandemic, his relationships with others have been diminished.

He was going to a veteran's home and having coffee with the guys at the veteran's home. That got shut down, you know, the middle of March. All the other relationships he had in his life have been taken away under the restrictions of the pandemic. So as a son, surely, I have a greater obligation to try to care for my dad and to honor him to respect him.

And, that's hard for me. Don't misunderstand what I said. I don't mean that I have a hard time honoring my dad. What I have a hard time doing is not treating him like a child. Not doing things for him, or to him, without his permission or without his knowing, or giving his consent to. To truly honor him as the man that he is, the person that he is under God, and not to treat him as if he were a child.

And that's a challenge. I'm learning, and I would love to hear from folks who've done this before and done it more often than I will do it. But I'm learning to walk that tight rope sometimes between his being his own person, under God, again, and my simply being available to him if he needs me, rather than my just saying, "Dad, I'll do this for you. Let me take that. I'll take it and do that for you." There's a part of me that wants to do that and, and yet, I, I can't violate his... I can't disrespect him by just stripping him of all of his own decisions and his own abilities, you know?

It's been a real challenge, but I think it's an important one. And, you know, I'm a boomer, and there's going to be lots more of us who are going to have to both learn what it means to honor our fathers and mothers, and then also learn what it means to have children who care for us.

And, it's something we have to do. And that's why I'm so excited about your podcast, for instance. I mean, with a growing aging population, with us living longer, not always living more healthily, but living longer. The issues are alive, and they are urgent in many cases.

**To listen or to read the transcript of this interview in its entirety, visit biblicalperspectivesonaging.org or find the Biblical Perspectives on Aging podcast on your favorite podcast app and select episode 1.03.**

# As our parents age, what does it mean to honor thy father and mother?


Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries

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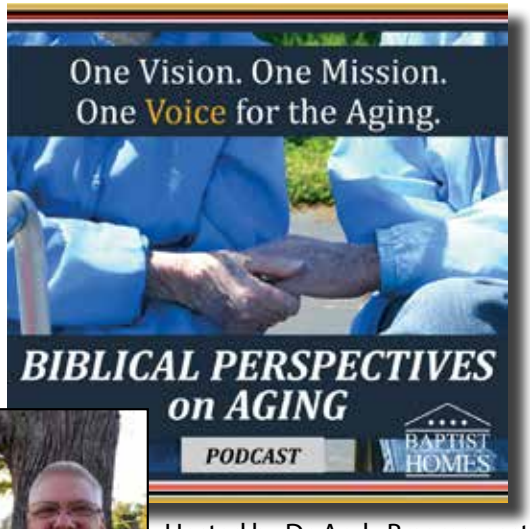
**We have a new podcast!**

Based on Psalm 71, **Biblical Perspectives on Aging** features one-on-one conversations with Christian aging experts from the **Baptist Homes** and other industry leaders who fearlessly apply biblical truths to aging issues.

**Check us out on iTunes, iHeartRadio, and Google Play, or on our landing page, biblicalperspectivesonaging.org.**



Hosted by Dr. Andy Braams, pastor, adjunct professor at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and host of **Christian Educator Weekly** podcast.

**Topics include:**

- **Aging and Ethics**
- **Eugenics and Ageism**
- **End-of-life issues**
- **Sanctity of Life**
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- **Validation Therapy and Dementia care**

Listen to industry leaders like:

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**Dr. Alan Branch**, Professor of Christian Ethics at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
**Sherri Snider**, M.S.W., Administrator at the Baptist Homes
**Dr. Ron Mackey**, Vice President of Community Engagement at the Baptist Homes
**Tom Turner**, President of South Carolina Baptist Ministries for Aging
**Dr. Elmer Towns**, Christian author, speaker and co-founder of Liberty University

*Emma Gardner received flowers on her 104th birthday.*

# Celebrating Our Centenarians

At the Baptist Home – Chillicothe, we are blessed to have four centenarians currently living here. This is the first time in our campus history that four have resided at one time. We think that is worth celebrating. Emma Gardner is 104, Lovie J. is 101, Kathryn Gooch is 100, and Twila Bennett just turned 100.

Centenarians, those who have reached the age of 100, are nothing new for the Baptist Homes. Just at the Chillicothe campus, we have had 10 additional residents reach the century milestone, a grand total of 14. Three other times we had three centenarians, with Emma Gardner being the connection. But, in 33 years at Chillicothe, we have never had four at one time.

What makes this feat more remarkable is during 2020, we lost two residents who were 99, and one who was 101. At the beginning of 2020, I wondered how long it might be before we had someone turn 100. I was surprised to learn that we have only had 7 residents pass away at 99.

I sat down and talked to each resident about being 100 or older and asked them a series of questions. They had some surprising answers. Listening to them tell stories of their past is very enlightening. Unfortunately, there is a wealth of knowledge that they have lost the capacity to share.

Here is some wisdom shared by Emma, Lovie, Kathryn and Twila. I asked each of them what was the best thing about being their age and the worst thing about being their age. Emma said, "The smiles of the people you see." Kathryn said, "No chores!" Of the worst of things, Lovie said, "Plenty," while Twila said, "Losing your independence." Interestingly, Twila moved here from Independence, Missouri. But all of them relate to that sense of loss.

I asked them, "What is the secret to living so old?" Kathryn said, "Drink lots of water." Lovie added, "Get lots of sleep." Twila thought, "being a Christian" was a key for her. Emma was quick to say, "I didn't plan for it. It just happened!" They all know how to take one day at a time.

Their favorite Bible verse tended to be John 3:16 or Psalm 23. I was surprised that none could share a quote they lived by or admired. However, all could tell the most important invention that changed their life. For Twila it was the television. For Emma, it was the telephone. She likes to talk. For Lovie, it was the automobile, and she will remind you that she doesn't have hers anymore. And for Kathryn, it was indoor plumbing and electricity, which did not happen until she was married with two children.

My last question was to offer one suggestion to others who were younger. Lovie just laughed. I didn't know if that was good or bad, because Kathryn said, "Don't do it." But Twila and Emma were more reflective when Twila said, "Go to church!" and Emma said, "Trust in the Lord."

All of this made me do further research on our 33-year history in Chillicothe, and I turned up some interesting facts. Opening in 1988, Chillicothe did not experience their first centenarian until midway through 1994. Stella Day, one of our original residents, lived to be 106. She passed away the day after her birthday. During her six years after 100, no other resident joined her at the century mark. After Stella's passing, another original resident, Clora Hart, joined our first of two male residents to reach 100. Interestingly, our only two male centenarians were both named Mark.

Here is a list of our fourteen centenarians. We celebrated 106 with Stella Day, 105 with Ethel Anderson, 104 with *Emma Gardner*, 103 with May Akers and Virginia Ferguson, 102 with Mark Bunyard, 101 with Gladys Stanley and *Lovie J.,* and 100 with Clora Hart, Mark Eckert, Ethel Perry, Ginny Hutchinson, *Kathryn Gooch,* and *Twila Bennett.* (Our current residents are in italics.)

It is great to be around so many wonderful residents and learn from their wisdom and experience. When you think about all the things they have seen and heard in their lifetime, turning 100 is truly a remarkable achievement! And so, we celebrate it wholeheartedly and ask that you celebrate with us!

Steve Moseley, Campus Paster - Chillicothe

## Congregate Living Apartments Nearing Completion

Construction is racing towards completion for the Congregate Living Apartment building in Ashland. Finish details like cabinetry, ceiling fans, and the community fireplace are being installed daily, and everything has received a first coat of paint. Fiber optic internet service is being finalized as an option for residents, while the sidewalks and landscaping will begin taking shape in the very near future. Today the first sidewalk was poured during a break in the cold winter weather. As we rapidly approach our goal opening date of March 1st, it is exciting to see these apartments taking shape before our eyes.

The progress also continues forward for the construction of the future care building, which will consist of Assisted Living, Intermediate Care, and Skilled Nursing, along with the Duke-Nelson chapel and community center. This ambitious project is well underway. We are now in the process of securing the necessary licensing and permits to begin construction, and are fine tuning our designs to best meet the anticipated needs of our future residents and staff. Our goal is to begin earthwork shortly after we complete the Congregate Living Apartments.

## ARCADIA VALLEY CAMPUS

# Love is in the Air

Jo Pace

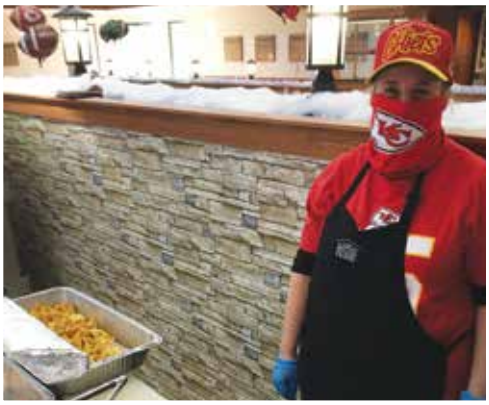
Bill Lumbley

Virgie Dodd

At the Baptist Home – Arcadia Valley, we have been celebrating the month of love. Many residents participated in decorating Valentine's Day boxes this month. Each resident expressed their creativity by decorating or building their own box from scratch. Boxes resembled Disney characters and Valentine themed animals. Residents enjoyed admiring each other's lovely handiwork.

# They Showed Up

*Top photo: Lucille Brown (left) with April Snyder; Bottom photo:Shirley Butler*



As a nurse, I get to see the best and the worst of my patients and of my fellow coworkers.

I smile daily because my patients get to wake up this morning, and I smile at my fellow coworkers because they showed up.

No one ever truly knows what goes on behind the mask, behind the eyes and the smile. You never know that their father has fallen and is not doing well—But they show up.

You never know that they are having difficulties, babysitting problems, or just trying to make it through the day—But my coworkers show up daily for their shifts…with smiles.

To my coworkers, the next time your patient is smiling, despite facing their own turmoil, or they snap at someone, maybe out of pain, please remember the Lord gave them another day to wake up—Maybe you were the reason they woke up today.

The Lord does work in many mysterious ways. The Lord knew my fellow coworkers had the strength and stamina to endure in this highly stressful field. The Lord put you in the path of many patients where you may not realize it here on this earth, but when you arrive in Heaven, and one of your past patients greets you with a smile and states, "Thank you for holding my hand and being there." Then you will see how that one act of kindness made such a difference in this world.

During this difficult time of COVID lockdown—God foresees all. He placed the caring and the strong to care for the weak and ones in need.

So, when you see a fellow coworker having a bad day, smile. Let them know you know that they showed up. It's what strong, loving, and caring people do.

Kimberly Bone, Ozark Campus LPN

## Community Sharing Bank Provides a Way for Staff to Minister to One Another

A new program at the Baptist Home-Ozark provides a way for staff to bless one another. The Community Sharing Bank was launched by Administrator Sonya Newton as a way to help staff who might need an occasional helping hand. According to Sonya, this is a way for staff to "give if they have it" and "take it if they need it" with no questions asked.

Sonya shared, "Over the years, I have seen healthcare workers struggle. Many employees work paycheck to paycheck. Those that do, run short of money when emergency situations arise, like car trouble or an unexpected medical bill. When this happens, it usually takes away from the money to buy groceries. As Christians, I believe we are called to help those in need. So, we ask those that can give, to give, and those that need to take, to take. It has been well received and has taken on a life of its own. We started out with a small cabinet for food, and it has grown to offer personal hygiene items and clothing. I am proud to be a part of such a giving community."

BAPTIST HOMES

# 13 Day Bible Land Tour of Jordan and Israel

**December 29, 2021 - January 10, 2022**

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**Dr. Rodney Harrison :**
**president@thebaptisthome.org**
**(866) 454-2709**

**Jim Anderson:**
**jim.anderson.aee@gmail.com**
**(816) 309-4977**

**Included in your tour:**

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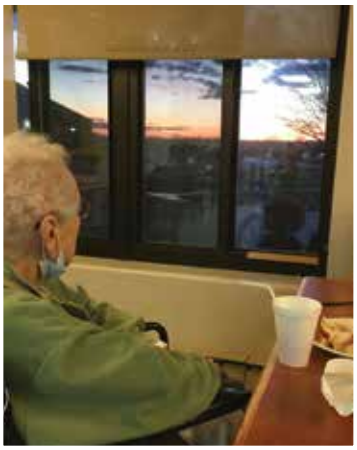
Reservations with full payment must be made 90 days before departure. Later requests are first-come-first-served-space-available. Checks should be made payable to: Christian Adventure Tours. Surcharges may be added to late reservations.



# CAMPUS L

*Follow us on Facebook for weekly campus photos! www.facebook.com/thebaptisthome*

# Upcoming Campus **Birthdays & Anniversaries**

### ARCADIA VALLEY BIRTHDAYS

Apr 10 **Frances Nicholson,** Fee Fee Baptist, Bridgeton.
Apr 15 **Vernon Long,** Leadington Free Will Baptist, Leadington.
Apr 18 **Patricia Haus (IL),** Canaan Baptist, St. Louis.
Apr 22 **Lena Patterson,** Kirkwood Baptist, St. Louis.
May 2 **Sherman Reed,** Black Mountain General Baptist, Arcadia.
May 3 **Thelma Reeder (IL),** First Baptist, Farmington.
May 5 **Arlene Jackson,** First Baptist, Farmington.
May 11 **Eugene Fisher,** First Southern Baptist, Troy.
May 23 **Donald Hoffmann,** Lower Doe Run Baptist, Ellington.
Jun 5 **Philip Corpening (IL),** First Baptist Church of Crestwood, St. Louis.
Jun 13 **Jane Johnson (IL),** First Baptist, Farmington.
Jun 24 **Beauford Jones (IL),** First Baptist, Ironton.
Jun 25 **Angela Hisserich,** Ironton
Jun 29 **Maxine Parkes,** First Baptist, Ferguson.

### ASHLAND BIRTHDAYS

Apr 2 **Carla Hayes (IL),** The Revolution, Columbia.
May 24 **Keith McGowan (IL),** First Baptist, Jefferson City.

### CHILLICOTHE BIRTHDAYS

Apr 17 **Nancy McKerlie,** Linneus United Methodist, Linneus.
Apr 30 **Ethel Thompson,** Highview Baptist, Chillicothe.
May 15 **Donald Thompson,** Highview Baptist, Chillicothe.
May 17 **Mildred Kaye,** Englewood Baptist, Gladstone.
Jun 9 **Ruth Marlay (IL),** First Baptist, Chillicothe.
Jun 17 **Edwin Corzette,** Dawn
Jun 24 **Rowena Staples,** Chillicothe
Jun 27 **Loreen McDonald (IL),** Jamesport Methodist, Jamesport.
Jun 28 **Judith Mora,** Coon Creek Baptist, Trenton.

### OZARK BIRTHDAYS

Apr 1 **Polly Medley,** First Baptist, Salem.
Apr 2 **Margaret Woolley (IL),** South Haven Baptist, Springfield.
Apr 2 **Carole Tarrant (IL),** First Baptist, Springfield.
Apr 3 **Anna Wright (IL),** First Baptist, Springfield.
Apr 4 **Alan Langston (IL),** First Baptist, Springfield.
Apr 14 **Donald Tarrant (IL),** First Baptist, Springfield.
Apr 15 **Shelley Napier (IL),** Crosspoint Fellowship, Republic.
Apr 28 **Maxine Williams,** Hopedale Baptist, Ozark.
May 16 **Jim Martin (IL),** Ridgecrest Baptist, Springfield.
May 19 **Marzelle Perkins (IL),** First Baptist, Ozark.
May 20 **Allan Crader (IL),** First Baptist, Shell Knob.
May 20 **Elanda McCoy,** Ridgecrest Baptist, Springfield.
May 26 **Kathleen Ricard,** Briar Street Baptist, Springfield.
May 28 **Joyce Bewley,** Ozark Assembly of God, Ozark.
May 29 **Carolyn Crader (IL),** First Baptist, Shell Knob.
Jun 4 **William Sutherlin (IL),** Ridgecrest Baptist, Springfield.
Jun 7 **Marjorie Crum,** First Baptist, Ozark.
Jun 11 **Linda Harper (IL),** Schweitzer United Methodist, Springfield.
Jun 13 **Maxine Rhoades (IL),** First Baptist, Ozark.
Jun 15 **Paul Harvey,** South Haven Baptist, Springfield.
Jun 17 **Delbert Dickson (IL),** Hopedale Baptist, Ozark.
Jun 18 **Eula Bunch,** Glenstone Baptist, Springfield.
Jun 21 **Maxine Hartley,** Grandview Missionary Baptist, Springfield.
Jun 23 **Pat Wertz,** John Knox Presbyterian, Kansas City.
Jun 28 **Pamela Benton (IL),** Second Baptist, Springfield.
Jun 30 **Harlan Spurgeon (IL),** University Heights Baptist, Springfield.

(IL) Independent Living Resident

### ARCADIA VALLEY ANNIVERSARIES

May 22 **Homer* and Myrtle Becker,** First Baptist, Arnold.
May 30 **Dimas* and Shirley Esparza,** Arnold Baptist, Arnold.
Jun 19 **Bill and Jo Ann Davis (IL),** First Baptist, Ellis Grove, IL.

### ASHLAND ANNIVERSARIES

Jun 6 **Larry and Joyce Hendrickson (IL),** Southridge Baptist, Jefferson City.
Jun 8 **Luther and Mary Caldwell (IL),** Memorial Baptist, Columbia.
Jun 9 **Robert and Wanda Boyd (IL),** First Baptist, Marion, IL.

### CHILLICOTHE ANNIVERSARIES

Jun 1 **William and Joanna Smith (IL),** Cornerstone Baptist, Chillicothe.

### OZARK ANNIVERSARIES

May 13 **Donald and Sue Hall (IL),** Selmore Baptist, Ozark.
Jun 1 **Paul and Betty Swadley,** South Haven Baptist, Springfield.
Jun 5 **Thomas and Sally Harper (IL),** First Baptist, Ozark.
Jun 11 **Harvey and Anna Wright (IL),** First Baptist, Springfield.
Jun 12 **Ivan and Norma Nyberg (IL),** First Baptist, Ozark.
Jun 26 **Tracy* and Susan Onnen,** Ozark.
Jun 29 **Jim and Tibby Martin (IL),** Ridgecrest Baptist, Springfield.

(*) Not a resident of The Baptist Home

# Campus **New Residents**

### ARCADIA VALLEY NEW RESIDENTS

Dec 8 **Carol Craig (IL),** St. Paul's Evangelical, St. Louis.
Jan 29 **Linda Brooks,** First Baptist, Lesterville.

### ASHLAND NEW RESIDENTS

Nov 15 **Don Hinkle(IL),** Concord Baptist, Jefferson City.
Dec 1 **Larry Hendrickson (IL),** Southridge Baptist, Jefferson City.
Dec 1 **Joyce Hendrickson (IL),** Southridge Baptist, Jefferson City.

### CHILLICOTHE NEW RESIDENTS

Nov 5 **Victor Borders,** McCroskie Creek Baptist, Carrollton.
Nov 27 **Arlene Borders,** McCroskie Creek Baptist, Carrollton.

### OZARK NEW RESIDENTS

Dec 7 **Carolyn Best,** Tupelo, MS
Dec 14 **Shirley Tucker,** South Haven Baptist, Springfield.
Dec 28 **Charlene Davis,** First Baptist, Branson.
Jan 11 **Claudia Mallard,** First Baptist, Buffalo.
Jan 18 **Margie Cravens,** Methodist, Columbia.
Jan 27 **Joyce Bewley,** Ozark Assembly of God, Ozark.

(IL) Independent Living Resident

# Deceased **Residents**

### ARCADIA VALLEY DECEASED RESIDENTS

Nov 6 **Nina Hensley,** First Baptist, Camdenton.
Nov 7 **Charlene Puckett,** Highland Park Baptist, Jackson, TN.
Nov 9 **Betty Miller,** Kirkwood Baptist, Kirkwood.
Nov 9 **Angielee Huddleston,** Fee Fee Baptist, Bridgeton.
Nov 26 **Gladys Wilkerson,** First Baptist, Ironton.
Dec 24 **Nancy Senter,** First Baptist, Ferguson.
Dec 29 **Julia Lindsey,** De Soto
Dec 30 **Homer Hughes,** First Baptist, Ironton.
Jan 3 **Norma Fisher,** First Southern Baptist, Troy.
Jan 7 **Carroll Jennings,** First Baptist, Poplar Bluff.

### CHILLICOTHE DECEASED RESIDENTS

Nov 5 **Richard Ponting,** Hale

### OZARK DECEASED RESIDENTS

Nov 1 **Mary Maxine Edwards,** Ozark
Nov 6 **Emma Jean Barker,** First Baptist, Springfield.
Nov 16 **Bertrice Mills,** Nixa Church of the Nazarene, Nixa.
Nov 19 **John Butts,** Broadway Baptist, Springfield.
Dec 9 **Marianna Smith,** Cantwell Baptist, Desloge.
Jan 13 **Virginia Riddle,** South Haven Baptist, Springfield.

# Residents **Who Moved**

### ASHLAND RESIDENTS THAT LEFT THE FACILITY

Oct 31 **Wayne Johnson (IL),** Family of Christ Lutheran, Ashland.
Oct 31 **Vicki Johnson (IL),** Family of Christ Lutheran, Ashland.

### OZARK RESIDENTS THAT LEFT THE FACILITY

Nov 11 **Margie Sowers,** First Baptist, Norwood.
Nov 20 **Ruby Ballew,** Christian, Columbia.
Jan 18 **Mae Gilbreath,** Assembly of God.

**For Campus Needs, visit our website.**

# Stay **Connected**

Facebook: www.facebook.com/thebaptisthome

YouTube: www.youtube.com/thebaptisthome

Newsletter: www.thebaptisthome.org/contactus

Email: desk@thebaptisthome.org

Website: www.thebaptisthome.org

Phone: (866) 454-2709 (toll free)

## 3 Steps to Becoming a Resident

### What you need to know

**STEP 1:** Complete an Application

The first step in applying for residency at one of the Baptist Homes is to complete and submit a short application. Upon receipt, your Administrator will review the application, request additional information if necessary and contact you confirming that your application is being processed. Apply for residency at www.thebaptisthome.org/application-for-residency.

**STEP 2:** Meet with a campus administrator

Your application will be reviewed by the campus administrator. A short interview will be required to assess if the Baptist Homes are able to provide for the applicant's welfare and medical needs. A review of finances will also be required if the applicant needs benevolent care assistance. Very few applicants are ever denied admission to the Homes for inability to provide care or because of limited financial resources. Applications that fall outside of normal admission guidelines must be reviewed by the Executive Committee of the Baptist Homes.

**STEP 3:** Begin your lifecare journey

Once your application has been reviewed and approved, we will assist you with the move-in process. We understand this move may be difficult. It is our greatest desire to provide assistance every step of the way and make the process as stress-free as possible.

**Final Prep:** Necessary Documents

When entering one of our Homes, you will need to sign a resident agreement and complete an Advance Healthcare Directive. We also encourage you to have a legal estate aging plan in place. A legal estate and aging plan defines contact persons and responsible parties and may be comprised of a Durable Power of Attorney for financial health decisions, a will and/or a trust. You can develop these documents with your own advisors, or the Baptist Homes' staff can assist you.

**Learn More:** Understanding Costs

Each level of care (dependent upon the campus) has an established rate which provides stability for the resident, family and budget. The Baptist Homes understand that being able to forecast and budget the costs of care is vital to financial stability for the resident and/or family.

**Making the Right Choice for You**

The Baptist Homes want you to make the right choice when choosing a facility and level of care.

For assistance, contact the Baptist Homes at (866) 454-2709 or visit www.thebaptisthome.org/MakingTheRightChoice for a form to guide you through the process.

# *What* to do When a Loved One is *Uncooperative*

***"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs." 1 Corinthians 13:4-5 (NIV)***

Dealing with people who have dementia is not always easy. It is especially hard when it is your parent. As our parents age, it hurts when we are faced with their physical and mental frailties. We want to FIX them...we want them to be okay. The problem is, we cannot fix them. What we CAN do is provide them with love and understanding in a way that gently accepts them where they are.

Probably one of the most effective ways of accomplishing this is by using a communication method called Validation Therapy, developed by Naomi Feil, MSW. The basic premise of Validation is changing the focus from FACTS to FEELINGS.

This may sound easy and logical, but we tend to get caught back in the trap of trying to FIX people so often that we revert to insisting our loved ones with dementia face reality and remember painful facts. Really, Validation is not complicated, and does not require a college degree. It DOES require that we think about things differently. It does require that we use empathy (putting ourselves in our loved one's place and feeling what they might be feeling) to help us identify the feelings behind the words and behaviors. Put yourself in their shoes. What do you think your loved one is feeling? Ask yourself why are they being uncooperative. Perhaps fear?

Now is not the time to be in conflict with your loved one. Now is the time to love and enjoy them, because the days are short. Identify and address their feelings. Are you overlooking what they are feeling? Do not reinforce fear.

Stop trying to FIX them. Listen! Just ask questions. You do not have to offer a solution because there usually isn't one. We, as caregivers, tend to think they want a solution, but they don't. They want someone to validate their feelings.

***Remember: It is not our job to FIX them...it IS our job to LOVE them.***

Sherri Snider, Administrator

## Expert Advice: Who They Appointed

When dealing with dementia-type diseases, loved ones can make hurtful accusations regarding choices made on their behalf. It is helpful to remember that when your loved one was able to make sound decisions, who did they KNOW they could trust to respect their wishes and make decisions on their behalf? **The one they appointed.**

## Ways to Help a Caregiver

***Learn about the needs of the caregiver and care recipient's condition***

***Provide caregiver with emotional support***

- *Visit regularly and often*
- *Be an empathetic listener*
- *Be a good conversationalist - include topics other than the care recipient's condition and caregiver's concerns*
- *Volunteer to do (or arrange for) respite care*
- *Invite or arrange caregiver social outings*
- *Help connect them with a caregiver's support group*
- *Remember caregiver on their birthday or other special days*

***Provide caregiver with spiritual support***

- *Pray with and for the caregiver and care recipient*
- *Share an inspirational reading or read Scripture with caregiver*

***Provide caregiver with physical support***

- *Prepare a meal (Pay for Meals On Wheels or delivery from church fellowship meals)*
- *Lawn service*
- *Auto care - washing, oil change, repairs, inspections, licenses*
- *Help with house cleaning/minor repairs*
- *Go shopping or run errands*
- *Provide transportation*

# *And Grandma:* Stories of Caregiving

When my dad passed after an eight-year battle with cancer, it left my mom a younger-than-most widow at the age of 63. My husband and I had moved back to my hometown a couple of years earlier, so it was just natural to incorporate her into our lives more. As the years passed, we had more and more conversations about her moving in with us once she had retired and was ready. Fast-forward to spring of 2020, and those conversations of "someday" changed overnight. We had a second baby on the way, mother's retirement was a little over a year away and COVID-19 hit. With all the uncertainty, the possibility of Grandma seeing much less of her 2-year-old granddaughter and soon-to-be born grandson, "someday" became "today!"

In June of 2020, we both sold our houses and, together, bought a house large enough to accommodate a three-generation home. In a small town finding a home to meet our needs wasn't easy, but there was one, and one is all we needed. We found a place that allowed mom to have her own walkout basement apartment (she even has her own doorbell) but also indoor access to the main floor of the house. So, our family of three (very soon to be four) moved in and two days later, Grandma joined us.

I would have loved to have allowed our family to adjust in the home first, but both of our homes sold within days of being listed so we didn't really have much choice. Practically overnight, my husband and I became caregivers of two very small children and my mother. Even though my mother is active and in good health, we've had to recognize and admit that we are her caregivers. In addition, she has taken on a new role of caregiving for our family as well. One thing I've learned while researching and creating "Caring for the Caregiver" (left) was that you are more likely to care for yourself once you've recognized that YOU are a caregiver. Whether the burden is heavy or light, caregiving is part of being a family. The sooner we acknowledge it ourselves, the healthier we'll all be for it, and take steps to develop healthy self-care habits.

Yes, there were a lot of adjustments and still are. Yes, we've had a lot of surprises and a lot of conversations about family responsibilities and the logistics of how it will all work. Yes, it is challenging as my mom and I work to reestablish relationship roles that are far different than the last time we lived together over 20 years ago. And yes, it has been beautiful to watch my daughter grow more and more comfortable with having Grandma be a part of her daily life and to see my infant son light-up when Grandma says hello. For me personally, it has been great to know that my mom isn't sitting in her house alone. I like not wondering if she is eating healthy meals, having enough social interaction, feeling well or any of the many other worries an adult child can have regarding an aging parent. Our life now incorporates Grandma. When I tell my daughter we are going somewhere, she always adds, "And Grandma?!" Mom doesn't always go everywhere with us, but most of the time the answer is "Yes, and Grandma!"

*Amanda Evans and her husband Nathan own Blue Duck Marketing, a communications contributor to the Baptist Homes since 2007. In addition to their service to the Baptist Homes, the Evans Family collects encouraging stories of caregiving and chronicles lessons-learned from multi-generational living on their website www.AndGrandma.com.*

Learning to cut apples with Grandma

## Be An Effective Caregiver

**Take care of yourself first**

- Know your Caregiver's Bill of Rights *(www.caregiver.org)*
- Eat Well, Exercise, Rest, Avoid Personal Pitfalls
- Balance Your Schedule
- Maintain a Social Life

**Don't Help Too Much**

- Goal - Empower the care recipient

**Don't Do It Alone**

- Involve Family Members
- Use Community Resources
- Use Respite Services
- Join a Support Group
- Educate Yourself on Recipient's Condition
- Seek Spiritual Support

## The Caregiver Facts

- $375 billion a year estimated value of caregiver services.*
- Over 90% of caregivers become more proactive about seeking resources after they identify themselves as a caregiver.*
- 60% are employed outside the home, at least part-time*
- 49 average age of caregiver**
- 60% are women**

**caregiveraction.org*
*** caregiver.org*

# New Year Resolution: Estate Planning

Many people use the new year to set goals. A goal worthy of starting and completing in 2021 is developing an estate plan or reviewing the plans already prepared. It is a task that demonstrates one's love, care, and respect for family and beloved charities and ministries. There may be no more strategic time to develop or review current estate plans than the beginning of a new year. Once tax returns are filed, people have an up-to-date picture of their financial affairs. What happens to those hard-earned resources at death?

As a Christian, you know that a heavenly eternity awaits you upon your death. However, your death will cause a great sense of loss to those you love. They will be faced with the reality of continuing life on earth without you. Can the blessings given by God in your earthly life be a way to care for the people you love and provide ongoing support to ministries that share God's love?

### Why develop an estate plan?

Estate planning is not just for the wealthy. Everybody can benefit from making sure their assets and finances are taken care of properly at death. Without proper planning, probate court may lead to unintended distribution of assets. Estate planning also involves giving permission to a trusted person(s) the authority to carry out your financial and health care wishes should you become incapacitated while still alive. Vital estate planning tools consist of:

- Will/trust
- Durable power of attorney for finances
- Health care power of attorney
- Guardianship designations
- Beneficiary designations

These valuable tools can assist in making a smooth transfer of assets to heirs and beloved ministries upon death. They can also bring structure and peace of mind in the event one becomes incapacitated due to an illness or accident.

### Have an estate plan?

Do you have an estate plan? If yes, now is an opportune time to review and make changes. How long has it been since these plans were made? If it has been several years since you made these plans, there may be needed changes. Have any additions taken place in your life through birth, adoptions, or marriage? Have you experienced a loss due to death, divorce, mental incapacities, a handicap, serious injury or health problems? Have estate planning laws changed? Do you currently live in a different state than when estate plans were made? Are the people you named to fulfill the roles of executor or trustee of your estate plans or agents of power of attorney for finance and healthcare still living and in good health? Do you still have trust and confidence that these people can carry out your plans?

Your estate plan will most likely include a bequest. This is property given by a will or trust to a person, or a charitable bequest to a ministry or charity. Bequests through estate plans are important gifts that support and strengthen ministries that touch people's lives. Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries has the expertise to ensure a donors' charitable bequests make the biggest impact possible. Baptist Homes will work with a donor's attorney, accountant, and financial planner to provide specific language to include in estate planning documents that safeguard the bequest to be honored.

### Professional Assistance

The best way to begin the estate planning process is to connect with a knowledgeable and experienced estate planning attorney or estate planning professional. These professionals will walk alongside you in gathering important information and asking the important questions to clarify your wishes. Baptist Homes has the knowledge and expertise to assist donors with estate planning. Missouri Baptist Foundation, a ministry partner of the Baptist Homes, has a proven record of assisting people with estate planning expertise, too.

Keep in mind your estate plans will be the most important legal document that you will ever sign. Think of it as protection for your most precious assets – personal and financial. Estate planning is also an act that honors the Lord as a Christian steward taking care of the blessings received and offering care and support to others.

Begin a new year with the peace of mind to develop an estate plan or update the plans you have.

Nick Davis, Director of Advancement

# Legacy of Faith

## The Fellowship of Wildwood

*"We are grateful for the ministry of the Baptist Homes and the partnership we have together."*

Recently I had the opportunity to visit with Ryan Bowman, pastor of The Fellowship of Wildwood, formerly First Baptist, Ellisville. His church has a long history of supporting the Baptist Homes financially, but also, they have had and still have members that chose the Baptist Homes for their home.

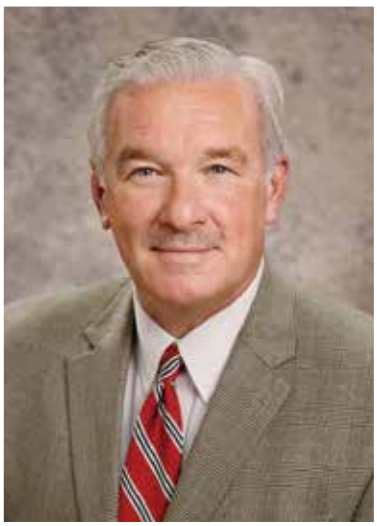
"Our church is fully supportive of the Baptist Homes," Pastor Ryan shared. "You all are helping to fulfill the mandate to care for people as they have been created by God and valued by Him (Ephesians 2:10)." Pastor Ryan also stated that his church is especially grateful for the residents of the Baptist Homes, "As they are the ones who have served the church in the past, and we are recipients of their sacrifices." One of their members, Ray Giles, is a resident at the Baptist Home-Arcadia Valley (Ironton). Mr. Giles represents those who have served Christ and His church well through the years. Pastor Ryan said, "Their legacy of faith is evident."

In addition, one of their former staff members, Ken Ragsdale, was a long-time resident of the Baptist Home-Ozark until he went to be with the Lord in 2019. Ken was for many years the Minister of Music at First Baptist, Ellisville, now Fellowship of Wildwood. When Ken was a resident in Ozark, he recorded a song on video which he sent to the church. The song was "It Is Well With My Soul." "It sure resonated with our church family as we were once again blessed by his gifts and testimony of faith in Christ even when battling health struggles," Pastor Ryan shared. Ken's wife, Betty, is still a resident in Ozark and members of the congregation have regularly visited and ministered to her through the years.

The story above shows us that though church members go to live at one of the Baptist Homes, they still have vital ties back to their home church and can, indeed, still be a blessing to their home church. Pastor Ryan states, "We are grateful for the ministry of the Baptist Homes and the partnership we have together. May God bless your continued service to Him and to His people."

Spencer Hutson, Church Relations Specialist

*Ken Ragsdale*



## Nick Davis Selected to Serve as New Director of Advancement

We are pleased to announce that Nick Davis has been named the new Director of Advancement for the Baptist Homes. Nick is succeeding Ron Mackey who was recently promoted to Vice President of Community Engagement. Nick has served as an Advancement Officer for the Homes since 2019 and has over 14 years of experience in estate planning and philanthropy expertise. In addition to general advancement work and estate planning for the Homes, Nick will oversee all development and fundraising efforts across the state. His reputation, knowledge and experience will serve the Homes well.

Nick will be working from the Hannibal, Missouri, area where he and his wife, Sherri, call home. You can reach Nick at (573) 822-4319 or by email, ndavis@thebaptisthome.org.

We look forward to having Nick serve in this new role, and we believe he will bring strong leadership to this position.

# Being Distinctively Christian

> *"Therefore, whatever you want others to do for you, do also the same for them."*
>
> *Matthew 7:12*

As a benevolent healthcare ministry of the Missouri Baptist Convention, the Baptist Homes campuses in Arcadia Valley, Ashland, Chillicothe and Ozark adhere to seven core values that distinguish these continuum of care senior communities from other healthcare providers in the industry. Common to each core value is our commitment to be a distinctively Christian ministry. What does this mean for the residents, staff and churches we serve? First, it means that our leadership are born-again believers who are active in their faith as followers of Jesus Christ. Moreover, our senior leadership, administrators and campus pastors annually affirm The Baptist Faith & Message. Likewise, every trustee is a member of a cooperating Southern Baptist Church.

Being distinctively Christian means we seek to live out Jesus' words in Matthew 7:12, "Therefore, whatever you want others to do for you, do also the same for them." Growing up, my parents and public-school teachers referred to this as "the Golden Rule." Being distinctively Christian demands we treat one another with Christlike dignity, respect and truth.

Being distinctively Christian means we provide care for the body, soul and spirit. Each campus employs a campus pastor who is an active member of a Missouri Baptist congregation. Weekly Bible studies and chapel services are provided for residents. In a year where the coronavirus closed nursing homes to outside visitors, these weekly opportunities provided our residents an occasion to sing, pray with others and study God's Word despite the visitor restrictions. Campus pastors are also instrumental in keeping residents connected to family and their church.

Finally, being distinctively Christian means we exist for a higher purpose. Michael Hodson of the Marketplace Institute writes, "Is there any such thing as a distinctive Christian enterprise? I think there is… [through] practicing Christian believers who consciously set out to design their enterprise in a Christian way that is in accordance with their perception of the will of God. How might we compare the design of a Christian enterprise with one of another type? Chiefly vision and purpose." In 1913, Dr. Milford Riggs laid the foundation for this ministry upon Psalm 71:9. Over a century later, the foundation of God's Word still resonates this higher purpose in our mission to "…joyfully serve in a Christlike manner by educating, advocating, and caring for the aging for the glory of God."

It has been nearly 2000 years since the followers of Jesus Christ were "first called Christians" in the city of Antioch (Acts 11:26). Those early believers boldly spoke of Jesus and what he had done for them. They lived and worked together as a diverse community from many backgrounds. Bound by God's grace, they genuinely loved one another and honored the lives of all people, including women, children, the poor and the aged. It is my prayer and desire that Missouri Baptists, and more specifically the leadership and staff of the Baptist Homes will faithfully demonstrate what it means to be Distinctively Christian.

Dr. Rodney Harrison, President/CEO

# What's Old is New and New Again

The Baptist Home Corporate office is pleased to announce that as of January 19, 2021, The Baptist Home can operate as Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries. While not a legal name change, the ability to do business as (DBA) Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries will pave the way for expansion into other areas of healthcare which include hospice initiatives. A newly updated logo, illustrating the name change and replacing "the" with a diamond for each campus, has been designed and will be used in all communications.

The decision to pursue a DBA name change instead of a legal name change was not made lightly. Discussions were held to address increasing concerns that The Baptist Home name no longer adequately represented the growth of the ministry to include four campuses. Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries was a more descriptive and effective way to communicate the presence of multiple campuses. Also, a commitment to faithful stewardship was a factor in making the decision to explore the DBA name change. Registering a legal change would have cost thousands of dollars as compared to only $7, the minimal state fee to register a business name as "doing business as."

President Rodney Harrison shared, "One of the most common questions since becoming president has been 'When will the name reflect this ministry has more than one home?' The new logo reflects this ministry is not just one home. The addition of healthcare ministry is a reflection of our desire to expand into areas such as hospice, which will bring our unique brand of Christlike, compassionate care into the homes of Missouri Baptists if and when that need arises."

The Baptist Home ministry has assumed many different names over the course of its 108-year history. The Missouri Home for Aged Baptists was the charter name given to this brand-new ministry in 1913 by its founders, Dr. Milford and Mary Riggs. In his writings, Dr. Riggs would later refer to the ministry lovingly as The Home for Aged Baptists or simply the Home.

> ***"We are accepting the role that has been thrust upon us, to hear and answer the plea of the elderly Baptists in the churches of Missouri for homes in their senior years. It is through God's help that we are here today, it is through His help that we will stay."***

In what is now referred to as the "darkest day in Baptist Home history," April 19, 1935, the 175-acre property of The Home was sold on the Iron County Courthouse steps. R.L. Barger, an episcopalian and partner in Fletcher Barger Ins. Agency, purchased the entire property for $131. On April 25, a group of men and women met at the request of R.L. Barger to discuss the formation of a new corporation to care for the aging members of Baptist churches. Resulting from this meeting was a new name and a new charter for The Home for Aged Baptists which was approved in June 1935. In 1977, the legal name of The Home changed again to The Baptist Home, the same name inscribed on the granite cemetery entrance by founder, Dr. Milford Riggs. *(The Story of The Baptist Home)*

Yet, despite the numerous name changes, the culture of providing quality, Christlike care to the aging has never wavered. Former Administrator and Executive Director of The Baptist Home Ed Goodwin was the first leader to have responsibility for multiple Baptist Home campuses. During the celebration of The Home's 75th Anniversary, Mr. Goodwin spoke eloquently about the parallels between soldiers and Christians. He said, "Today the battle is against the illness, loneliness and loss experienced by aged warriors in The Baptist Homes. We are accepting the role that has been thrust upon us, to hear and answer the plea of the elderly Baptists in the churches of Missouri for homes in their senior years. It is through God's help that we are here today, it is through His help that we will stay." (**The Baptist Home,** Oct-Nov-Dec, 1988)

And, if history is any indication, the distinctively Christian care provided to the aging under The Baptist Home ministry umbrella is, indeed, here to stay.

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Becky Barton, Director of Communications

# Honorariums & Memorials

## IN HONOR OF:

**Jesus Christ** by Ms. Betty Herbel, Lee's Summit.
**Don and Peggy Anderson's Anniversary** by Liberty Baptist Church, Springfield.
**Ruby Ballew** by Donna Seiders, Moberly.
**The Baptist Home Arcadia Valley Staff** by Edward C. Goodwin, Ironton.
**The Boyd Family** by Mr. and Mrs. Larry Phipps, Johnston City, IL.
**Lucille Brown** by Terry and Janet Hudson, Springfield.
**Rev. and Mrs. James Bunch** by Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Bunch, Liberty.
**Opal Griffin** by Philip and Toreca Napton, Drexel.
**Maxine Hartley** by Larry Lovvorn, Springfield.
**Carroll and Eloise Jennings** by Mrs. Glenda Dillon, Lebanon.
**Norma Jones** by Mr. and Mrs. Jim Barton, Potosi.
**Mary Anne Knight** by Bridget King, Denver, CO.
**Kerry Locker** by Mrs. Nancy Locker, St. Louis.
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**Jane Martin** by Rev. and Mrs. Jimmie L. Martin, Lithonia, GA.
**Ruthie Meyers** by Mr. and Mrs. Steven Russell Jones, Chillicothe.
**Dennis and Jennefer Quinn** by Mr. and Mrs. Dennis J. Quinn, Marthasville.
**Josephine Reed** by Nancy Keller, Maplewood.
**Peggy Smith** by Mrs. Cara Harris, Springfield.
**Mary Belle Tedder** by Ms. Brenda McBride, Raytown.
J**uanita Twitchel** by Gary and Karen Hensiek, Warrenton.
**Marilyn Williams** by James and Janie Henry, Springfield; Dolores Sutterfield, Salem.

## IN MEMORY OF:

**Bill and June Abernathy** by Mr. and Mrs. Garland Abernathy, Farmington.
**Byron Adolph** by Mrs. Doris Adolph, Farmington.
**Danny Alcorn** by Patti and Joe Stenger, Matt and Emily Owen, St. Louis; Mrs. Edwina Alcorn, Farmington; Dennis and Debby Alcorn, Sean and Trent Alcorn, TN; Ethan and Kelsey Stenger, Lamar.
**Tim Alcorn** by Kathie Wolff, Patti and Joe Stenger, Matt and Emily Owen, St. Louis; Mrs. Edwina Alcorn, Farmington; Dennis and Debby Alcorn, Sean and Trent Alcorn, TN; Ethan and Kelsey Stenger, Lamar.
**Emil and Berniece Arnhold** by Mrs. Phyllis Saulsbury, Kansas City.
**Edith Ashlock** by Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Sam Harter, Waterloo, IL.
**Robert Atkinson** by Ms. Sandra Atkinson, Jefferson City.
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**Rev. L.L. Barks** by Bobby and Claueda Barks, Oak Ridge.
**Clarence W. Bates** by Mrs. Helen Dean, Raymore.
**Dorothy M. Bates** by Mrs. Helen Dean, Raymore.
**Clyde and Norma Beck** by James and Angie Morgan, Raymore.
**Mary Ann Bergen** by Ms. M. Jill Bergen, Springfield.
**Amos Bishop** by Carol and Randy Robinson, Springfield.
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**Honorariums and memorials received November 1, 2020 thru January 22, 2021.**

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Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries
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