



Staff and residents lined the edge of the tank for an afternoon of fishing.

The sun was shining, the birds were chirping and the fish were biting on the day of our annual Grandparent's Day fishing event. This celebration is always a huge hit with our residents, and this year was no different. Thanks to the KidFish Foundation, we were able to host this event for the tenth year in a row.

Even though we had to limit the activities to residents only due to safety precautions, everyone enjoyed the fresh air and the beautiful Friday afternoon weather. Lots of fishing tales were exchanged and root beer floats were served.

Grandparents are such an important part of our lives, and we are glad we were able to honor and celebrate them in such a fun way!

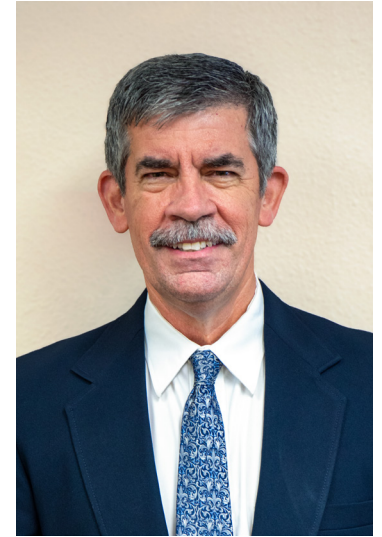


Sunset Home
College Hill Assisted Living
Rainbow Retirement Community
Hospice Sunset
Sunset Companion Services

Message from the President

“The thrill of victory and the agony of defeat.”

Those words were in the opening lines for ABC’s Wide World of Sports for many years. If you recall, the thrill of victory was George Foreman celebrating an unexpected boxing victory over Muhammad Ali. The agony of defeat was Vinko Bogataj, an Austrian ski jumper, losing his balance speeding down the ski jump ramp, hurtling uncontrollably off the side of the ramp and ending up in a crumpled position somewhere down the slope.



Now put yourself in the position of our staff here at LSM. COVID is the opponent no doubt. When our cases started going down and we were COVID-free for a time after many of our residents and staff got the vaccine, we felt like George Foreman defeating an undefeatable foe. We did a happy dance. Took a victory lap. High-fived each other. Everything was going back to normal. Visitors — in addition to the essential caregivers — could come in and see friends and relatives they had not seen in person for months.

Then calamity struck when the highly contagious Delta variant came along. In spite of the weapons we now had, from vaccines to effective treatments and the experience we gained from last year’s COVID battles, it seemed as though we lost our balance and went off the end of the ski jump only to wind up in a tangled mass. You could really see the demoralizing impact a new round of COVID was having on everyone — staff and residents alike — as well as families. The agony was real. But everyone got up, dusted themselves off and went back to the COVID battle. The “break” was over. If you do not live this battle up close and personally like we do, it would be difficult for you to fully understand what this roller coaster is truly like. Today, COVID is waning again so we are cautiously optimistic once more.

I want to publicly thank all of our “Healthcare Heroes” who come to work every day and provide various services or take care of those who cannot fully take care of themselves, in spite of their own personal challenges because of COVID (like closed daycares and infections and deaths in their own families). The dedication they have to our residents and our ministry is unsurpassed. So to you, “Healthcare Heroes”, on behalf of our families, residents and myself: THANK YOU for your hard work day in and day out — no matter what!

Everyone please continue to pray for our staff, residents and families as we continue the fight. Thank you for all your support and understanding. It really does make a difference!

Rodney Rueter, CEO/President

Grandparent's Day



For National Car Wash Day, we removed pads and power washed, scrubbed and polished wheelchairs for deep cleaning. As a final touch, we added license plates with names and room numbers!



Sunset Spotlight

Director of Nursing Adrienne Potts

We are thrilled to introduce Adrienne Potts as our new director of nursing! Adrienne graduated with her Associate's Degree in Nursing from McLennan Community College. She recently graduated with her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Texas at Arlington.

Adrienne has a deep desire to care for the elderly and was drawn to Lutheran Sunset Ministries because of our "vision to be the recognized leader in caring for the older population." She has been with LSM for four years.

"Adrienne is a dependable, talented clinical team member and we are fortunate to have her leading our nursing department at Sunset Home," said Sunset Home Administrator Lance Allen. "She has high standards, a deep love for our residents and a steadfast commitment to the mission of LSM."

In her spare time, Adrienne enjoys spending time with her husband and her two children.



Companion Services Manager Shelbi Dickinson

Born in Clifton and raised in Meridian, Shelbi originally came to LSM in 2012, returning in June to serve as the companion services manager.

"God has a way of bringing us back home when the time is right," she said.

Shelbi appreciates the values that everyone at Lutheran Sunset Ministries shares and she enjoys working with the older population.

"When I am around our clients and residents, it feels like I'm home. I love the stories they tell and there is so much history we can learn from them."

Rainbow Retirement Independent Living Manager Michelle Lueck is grateful to have Shelbi as part of the team, saying, "Shelbi comes to us with knowledge of the senior population and demonstrates not only leadership for this position, but the heart."

In her free time, Shelbi enjoys camping and spending time with her husband and their three kids.



It's All in the Hands

Our Sunset Home activities team created an incredible photo project of our residents' hands holding something special to them — a Bible, paintbrushes, an American flag, a bingo card — you name it!

For Grandparent's Day, these photos were displayed in our halls so everyone could see them, but these photos aren't just meant for us to enjoy. These photos have proved to be meaningful for those our residents care about the most: their family.

"For the residents it is a special gift to give to loved ones and for the families it is a gift to have for a lifetime," said Activities Director Amy Arthur. "Consider all those hands have done throughout our lives!"

"Y'all have no idea how much that means to us. That photo is priceless."

Jamie Jones-Middleton, granddaughter of longtime nurse and Sunset resident Faye Wallace, let us know how much the photo of her grandmother holding a stethoscope meant to her family, especially after she passed.

"Y'all have no idea how much that means to all of us. That photo is priceless. There aren't enough words. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you."



Thanks to you, we were voted

#1 Retirement Living

#1 Assisted Living

#1 Skilled Nursing Care

Honorable Mention: Senior Living and Private Residential Care Home

by the 2021 Waco Tribune-Herald's Readers' Choice Awards!

Friends of LSM

Thanks to generous donors, Lutheran Sunset Ministries is able to provide Christ-centered care based on Christian values. The following gifts were given between May 1, 2021 and September 31, 2021.

Memorial Gifts

All memorials, whether directed or not, go to the care and services provided. The residents served going forward are blessed by your thoughtfulness.

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PAM & RON HUBBARD FOR THEIR LEADERSHIP AT THE POT O' GOLD

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Your gift means we can continue to provide the highest standard of care, based on Christian values, for those who need us most.

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OR

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