

SunsetNews

January - April 2024



Residents and staff all over our campus got to experience the total solar eclipse!

It's only a once in every 300-400 years occurrence that a total solar eclipse can be seen right here in Clifton, Texas, so we made it an unforgettable event for our residents, families and staff!

The festivities started at Sunset Home with residents making commemorative t-shirts to be worn for the big event. On the day of the eclipse, you could feel the excitement buzzing in the air! Armed with protective glasses and Moon Pies, we marveled at this celestial miracle.

"All around our ministry, groups of residents and staff gathered to view the eclipse," said LSM President/CEO Rodney Rueter. "There were oohs and aahs as the moon covered the sun, and the view was stunning, to say the least!"

[See more photos on page 3](#)



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

Message from the President

It takes an incredible team to keep LSM running and to provide the best possible experience for our residents.

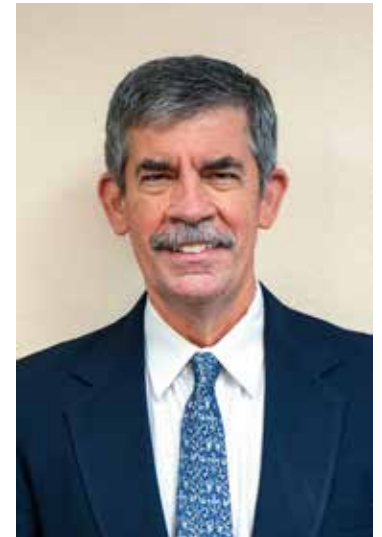
I'm proud of how our team handled the once-in-a-lifetime solar eclipse event. Many people were involved in planning ahead to ensure the safety of our residents and staff and to avoid interruption of services in case Clifton received a large influx of visitors. Our activities team hosted some awesome watch parties so that everyone on our campus would have a great time on this momentous occasion. The way our staff worked together to make this an unforgettable experience was just another example of the teamwork that goes into our ministry each and every day.

Another integral part of our team is our Board of Directors — which you can be a part of! Their role is to guide the direction of LSM and ensure its fiscal viability. The Board functions within a set of by-laws to act in a fiduciary capacity and assure strong and effective chief executive leadership. Our board meets quarterly in February, May, August and November.

Each board member is expected to prepare for and attend board meetings. This is done by reviewing materials, sent out in advance by the President/CEO, that help the board to monitor the overall operation of LSM. Each meeting also has an education component to help the board better understand our industry and changes that may be taking place that will impact LSM positively or negatively.

Board members also serve on at least one of our five committees, which meet the week prior to the board meetings. These committees are finance, human resources, program and planning, culture change and public relations.

A board term is three years in length with a maximum of three terms served. After three terms, the member will rotate off the board for one year before they can be considered to return to serve additional terms. Our board is always looking for folks willing to serve. If this is something that interests you and you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at 254.675.8637 extension 2223 or email me at rueter@lutheransunset.org.



Rodney Rueter, CEO/President

Total Solar Eclipse



Best of Bosque 2023

Best Retirement Community

Lutheran Sunset Ministries

Best Consignment Shop

Pot O' Gold

Thanks for voting!

Sunset Spotlight

Stacey Watson - Manager of Heckmann Assisted Living and Sunset Companion Services

Stacey Watson originally came to LSM as a hairdresser in our beauty shop, but she quickly realized her passion lies in the caregiving side of senior living. Since then, she has worked as a CNA at Sunset Home and now leads our Heckmann Assisted Living and Sunset Companion Services programs.

She has a passion for helping others and compassion for the senior population. “I helped my family take care of my grandad towards the end of his life, and then my grandmother after his passing. I knew in that time that this is what I am meant to do — this is where my heart is.”

She says LSM is a great fit for her because she appreciates the faith-based values and the “amazing teamwork across the entire ministry”.

Stacey is a graduate of Clifton High School and has been in the senior living/healthcare field for about six years. Last fall, she received her Assisted Living Manager Certification. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family, including her four-year-old son, and traveling.

“LSM has my heart,” Stacey says. “God works in mysterious ways and always leads you to exactly where you are meant to be, doing exactly what he intended for you to do.”

We’re so glad to have Stacey on our team!



In April, Rainbow hosted a retirement party for Barry Strickland, a member of our maintenance team. Barry was presented with a 10 year service award for his years of faithful service and he was honored with gifts from co-workers and residents.



The Outlook

When John Degiorgio fell and broke his hip in December, he needed somewhere to stay that would help him get back on his feet – literally. That’s why he came to Sunset Home.

Over the course of ten days, John progressed quickly and was able to safely walk with a walker unsupervised and he was sent home. For the last three months, John has been participating in our outpatient therapy department at The Outlook. He hasn’t completely recovered yet, but he is walking without an assistive device and is able to do many activities again. He credits LSM Director of Rehab, Eugene Galbreth, with his recovery.

“I trusted that Eugene knew what he was doing and I have progressed with remarkable speed,” John said. “His supportive attitude and approach has helped me do the needed work to be on the healing path.”



The Outlook at Sunset Home offers inpatient and outpatient services, featuring state-of-the-art equipment like an antigravity treadmill that helps those who can’t bear full weight on their lower extremities, three low-impact Nustep machines that work both the upper and lower body (ideal for those who may have joint pain with weight-bearing exercises) and a staircase with different size steps.

To learn more about our rehabilitation and therapy program, call 254.675.8637.

LSM Resident Art Show



Friends of LSM

Thanks to generous donors, Lutheran Sunset Ministries is able to provide person-centered services based on Christian values. The following gifts were given between January 1, 2024 and April 30, 2024.

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.

OLEE BAKKE

Virginia Heinley, Clifton.

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Duke, Clifton; Karen & Niels Bentsen,
Meridian; Linda Tainowitz, Canton
GA.

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ROSE CATES

Hope Lutheran Church, Comanche.

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WILLIAM GILBERT

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REV. MEL HAMMER

Wilma DeSoto, Marshall.

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BLAND HARRISON

Joyce Heckmann, Waco.

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Sheryl Parrish, Victoria.

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JACK ROWLAND

Kelly Payne, Morgan; Wayne &
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CONNIE O SMITH

Gerry & Cindy Thies, Clifton.

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Clifton.

THOMAS WOMACK

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton;
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Clifton.

KENNETH ZENKNER

First Methodist Church Wesleyan
Workers Chapel Class, Woodway;
Amy & Casey Robertson, Aurora IL.

Honor Gifts

These gifts are given to honor and appreciate special people, events, celebrations and/or achievements. All gifts help provide care to those served by LSM.

W. BELLAMY BERTELSEN

By: Christabel Jorgenson,
San Marcos.

**HOSPICE SUNSET
EMPLOYEES**

By: Mrs. Elmer Kelso, Clifton.

General Gifts

All gifts help LSM in its work and mission.

Dr. & Mrs. James Bowden,
Cranfills Gap

Mrs. Nancy Bratcher, Meridian

Calvary Lutheran Church,
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Central Lutheran Church, Dallas

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Pastor & Mrs. Paul Krupicka, Waco

Ms. Kathleen Kruse, Waco

Mr. Gerald Nelson, Cranfills Gap

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St. John Lutheran Church – Coryell,
Gatesville

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Waco

St. Paul Lutheran Church WELCA,
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Mrs. Charlene Tergerson, Meridian

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans,
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the highest standard of
care, based on
Christian values, for
those who need us
most.**

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www.lutheransunset.org

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Lutheran Sunset Ministries is a not-for-profit organization sponsoring programs of skilled nursing care, assisted living, retirement living, hospice services and companion services.

Sunset provides services to qualified individuals without regard to race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, national origin or other protected statuses according to applicable federal and state law.

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