

The FRIEND

GENACROSS LUTHERAN SERVICES



VOLUME CVII No. 1 WINTER 2021

SAVE THE DATE

161st Annual Meeting of Member Congregations

Thursday, June 10, 2021

Hope Lutheran Church
Toledo, Ohio

6:30 p.m.

The annual meeting will be held in a hybrid model with delegates having the option to attend virtually or in person. In addition to President/CEO Rick Marshall presenting his annual report on current Genacross operations, delegates will vote on several business items and elect new members to the Board of Directors. More details to follow as the date of the meeting approaches.

To RSVP, call Bev at 419.861.4954 or email BApel@Genacross.org. Please indicate attendance preference when making a reservation.

VACCINES OFFER HOPE IN ONGOING FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19

As an unprecedented 2020 came to a close, the fight to end the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic began in earnest as vaccines received emergency authorization and started rolling out to health care workers and older Americans.

At Genacross Lutheran Services, the first vaccine clinic was held at the Genacross Lutheran Services-Napoleon Campus a few days before Christmas 2020. In the new year, vaccine clinics continued through our pharmacy partners, CVS and Walgreens, at the Bethany Place, Napoleon, Toledo and Wolf Creek campuses. Nursing care and assisted living residents and employees had the option to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.



Wolf Creek Campus assisted living resident Dorothy Riehl gets a shot.



Napoleon Campus MDS Coordinator Pamela Goll rolls up her sleeve.

In addition, Genacross Family & Youth team members were able to receive the vaccine either at our care campuses or through a local health department. Overall, reactions to the vaccines were mild, with some individuals reporting such symptoms as tenderness in the arm where the shot was administered, fatigue, and low-grade fevers.

"We are very grateful to the residents and employees who have opted to get the COVID-19 vaccine as it has become available to us," stated President/CEO Rick Marshall. "Our staff and residents

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OUR MISSION

Inspired by the Christian faith, we embrace individuals and families with compassionate care and services throughout life's journey.

OUR VISION

Through our faith and work, we strive to be a forward-thinking, compassionate organization that improves the lives of current and future generations.

OUR VALUES

Faithfulness to Christ

Equality and Justice

Wholeness of Life

Integrity

Quality of Service

Stewardship of Resources

OUR MINISTRIES

Genacross Lutheran Services
Napoleon Campus

Genacross Lutheran Services
Toledo Campus

Genacross Lutheran Services
Wolf Creek Campus

**Genacross Home & Community
Based Services**

Genacross at Home

**Genacross Family &
Youth Services**

**Genacross Lutheran Services
Foundation**

Connect on Social Media:



A note from RICK MARSHALL

President and CEO



Holding On to Hope

For nearly one year, our team at Genacross has been working in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis. For much of this time we persevered, not knowing what was ahead, but praying and holding fast to God's promises. As the New Year dawns, the virus is still very much with us. However, 2021 brings with it light in the form of new vaccines for our residents, patients, and team members.

Beginning in late December, we received the first doses of the vaccine at our Napoleon Campus. It was a happy and historic day as our residents and team members received their shots. We continue to roll out the vaccines as they become available and anticipate reaching all of our residents and staff at our four care campuses by the end of March. We are also working diligently to make the vaccine available to residents at all of our independent living communities.

Throughout this issue, you will see pictures of our vaccine distribution. However, I am not sure they can fully capture the excitement among those who have persevered for so long. I was particularly moved by the scenes at our Toledo campus, where our residents and team members made personal signs to say why they were receiving the vaccine and what it meant to them. Sentiments such as "I got my COVID-19 vaccine to help protect my residents and loved ones" and "because of my care and respect for the well-being of others" are indicative of the compassion our team members feel for each other and those we serve.

While we are thrilled to see the availability of vaccines, we cannot let down our guard. It will still take several months for the vaccine to reach most Americans. Genacross remains committed to protecting those we are called to serve. Just as we have never wavered in our diligence, we also remain steadfast in our hope for a future without COVID-19. We continue to lift our prayers to the God who can be trusted to keep his promise and work all things together for good.

Blessings,

**"Let us hold tightly
without wavering
to the hope we affirm,
for God can be trusted
to keep his promise.**

- Hebrews 10:23

Vaccines offer hope- continued from front page

are very fortunate to be among the first to receive the vaccine, as it is the best tool to protect against the virus and to halt its spread.”



Luther Ridge resident Nancy Lee helps stop the spread of COVID-19.

As vaccine administration moved along in February, clinics coordinated by the Ohio Department of Aging and the Ohio National Guard were held at several Genacross senior independent living communities. Vaccination clinics have been held for Luther Crest and Luther Woods residents in west Toledo; for Luther Grove, Luther Hills, and Luther Ridge in east Toledo; and Luther Pines residents in Lima, Ohio.

Additional updates of the Genacross COVID-19 response include:

- Scheduled and supervised indoor visitations for assisted living and long-term nursing care residents continue at the care campuses, as internal conditions and external community spread have permitted.
- The state-certified isolation units at the Toledo and Wolf Creek campuses were utilized for COVID-19 patients being discharged from local hospitals and needing further rehabilitation. The units are closed now, as COVID-19 activity decreased in the surrounding communities. However, Genacross is committed to re-open the units if community need rises again.
- To date, Genacross care campuses have cared for more than 75 residents who have tested positive for the virus. Currently, there are no active resident cases at the care campuses.
- Genacross has received over \$3 million in stimulus funds. These funds have enabled the organization to remain financially stable during the pandemic.
- Genacross continues to maintain adequate levels of personal protective equipment to ensure proper infection control.

- COVID-19 testing of employees in long-term care and assisted living continues as required by the community positivity levels and organizational cases. Currently, employees are tested at least once per week.

“We are grateful for the heroic efforts of our team members throughout the pandemic and are confident in their abilities to move forward as our operations slowly return to more normal routines,” said Lorinda Schalk, Senior Vice President of Finance & Operations.



Having had the virus once, Wolf Creek Campus Bus Driver Marvin Brock Sr. was eager for the protection of the vaccine.

Talks to join Benedictine end

Genacross Lutheran Services and Benedictine have ended their partnership discussions, and Genacross will not be joining the Benedictine organization. The two organizations were not able to reach agreement on commitments that would ensure that the partnership would be beneficial to both parties.

“While this news is not as expected, I am confident it is in the best interest of both organizations,” said Rick Marshall, Genacross President/CEO. “As we progressed through the due diligence process, it became apparent that the strategic alignment of the two organizations was not as originally hoped.”

When the signing of the Letter of Intent to merge into Benedictine was first announced in February 2020, it was noted that the process was being engaged in while Genacross was in a position of relative financial strength.

“Genacross continues to be financially stable,” Mr. Marshall stated. “While we will continue to evolve and change to meet needs in the future, we have no immediate plans to seek another partnership.”

2021 FOCUSES ON EQUALITY AND JUSTICE CORE VALUE

Welcome to 2021, a year with promises of new opportunities and challenges, and a focus on Genacross' second core value, "Equality and Justice." Of course, these words bring to mind our nation's Declaration of Independence and amendments to the Constitution, but for Genacross they mean even more.

"As we think about this value, the best place to start is with our first core value, 'Faithfulness to Christ,'" said Dr. Jim Dumke, Vice President for Mission Integration. He defined this first value as the true foundation of all the Genacross values, calling "every person connected to Genacross to use Jesus' teaching as a guide while they do their jobs and relate to all with whom their work brings them into contact – residents, their families, co-workers, and volunteers, alike."

Genacross' second core value builds on that foundation. According to Dr. Dumke, "Our Lord was challenging us to treat everyone with equality and justice when he spoke these memorable words: 'I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.'" (John 13:34).

Notice there are no qualifications given for recipients of Jesus' love. "After all, the reason for this love lies not in any of us but solely in God; our worth is not determined by what we have or what we are able to do, but by the one who made us as we are, in the first place," Dr. Dumke explained.

Each individual is a creature of God, lovingly gifted with different talents, abilities, and interests. Add to that different experiences, relationships, and challenges, and the results are totally different individuals, all equally loved by the Creator. The call for justice is that Genacross employees will treat them with the same care and reverence Jesus did.

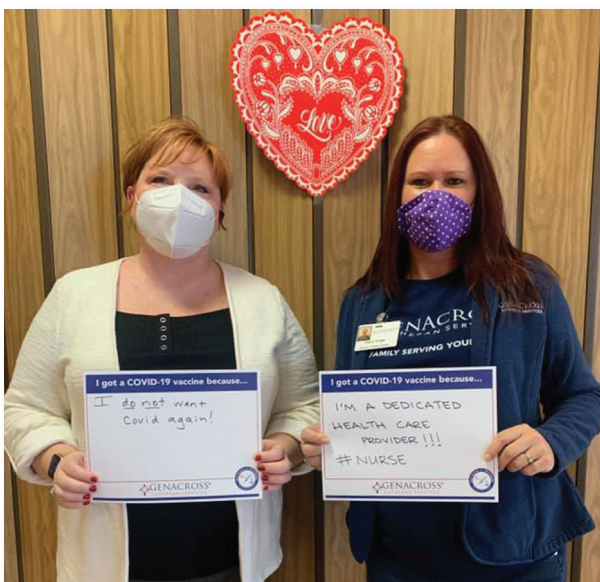
"Hence, faithful obedience to our Lord's command to love will lead to equality and justice in all we do," Dr. Dumke stated. "It is precisely what we see in the care and service provided by our staff, along with volunteers, family members, congregations and others from the community, especially as they have struggled with the pandemic."

Indeed, the value of "Equality and Justice" is God is at work, sharing His love for all through Genacross Lutheran Services.

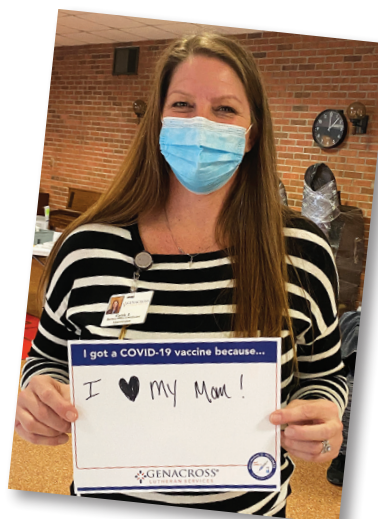
Toledo Campus workers share reasons for vaccine

When the Genacross Lutheran Services-Toledo Campus held its COVID-19 vaccination clinics in January and early February, employees had a very visual way to share why they chose to get the vaccine.

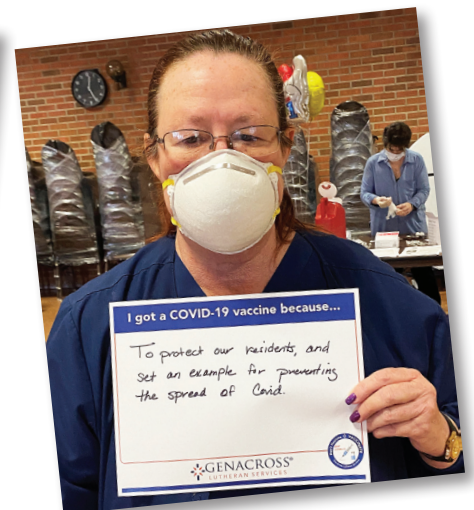
When employees arrived at the clinics, they were given a hand-held sign with space to write in their thoughts. The signs gave employees the opportunity to share the many reasons they were getting the vaccine, to inspire others to receive it, and to celebrate the historic milestone in the fight to end the pandemic.



Genacross at Home Clinical Manager Ronda Campbell (left) and Executive Director Tanya Trapp share their reasons for receiving the vaccine.



Business Office Coordinator Carrie Larrow gets a shot to protect her family.



Assistant Director of Nursing Deneen Parker knows the vaccine will help stop the spread of COVID-19.

NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO LEAD FOUNDATION

Genacross Lutheran Services welcomes Michael A. George, CFRE, as Executive Director for the Genacross Lutheran Services Foundation. As a member of the senior leadership team, Mr. George will be responsible for leading and strengthening a comprehensive fundraising program in support of the organization's mission and goals.

"Mike joins Genacross after an extensive search to ensure we found the perfect person to fill this valuable role," said Rick Marshall, President/CEO. "He comes to us with many years of philanthropic experience with mission-focused organizations."

Most recently, Mr. George served as Vice President for Philanthropic Services & Advancement at the Greater Toledo Community Foundation, where he led the fundraising department and was a member of the executive leadership team. Prior to his work with the Toledo Community Foundation, he was Director of Development & Annual Fund at Lourdes University.

"I look forward to working with our current supporters and also sharing the incredible work the Genacross ministries accomplish with those who may not know what we do," said Mr. George, who resides in Perrysburg, Ohio.

Mr. George is a graduate of Miami (Ohio) University with a bachelor's degree in political science and public administration. He obtained his Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) designation in 2016. The CFRE certification program is an internationally recognized course of study for fundraisers dedicated to setting professional standards in philanthropy.

In addition, he is past president of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Northwest Ohio Chapter and is a member of the Toledo Estate Planning Council and the Society of Financial Services Professionals.



Michael A. George

Your generosity allows for support of youth at all times

Where were you at 11:57 p.m. on Christmas Eve 2020? Like most of us, you were probably at home, with family, enjoying fellowship and thanking God for all your blessings. Perhaps your children or grandchildren were anxiously awaiting the arrival of Santa Claus, and the presents he would bring for them.

But at 11:57 p.m. on Christmas Eve 2020, Genacross Family & Youth Services staff at our Maumee Youth Center were performing an intake of a teenager in desperate need of a place to stay. Her physical needs were met immediately: a safe place to stay, a bed to sleep in, and food to sustain her. More importantly, her spiritual and emotional needs will also be met for the duration of her stay.

What strikes me most as a new member of the Genacross family, is the support so many of you give to the Genacross Lutheran Services Foundation. Because of your generosity, our ministry doors are open 24/7/365. Though our name

has changed over the years, our story has not. We reflect God's love and mercy in all our ministries. We become His hands to do the work, His eyes to see and correct the injustices, and His heart to remind the hopeless that someone loves them.



So, where were you at 11:57 p.m. on Christmas Eve 2020? I would say that because of your generous support of the Genacross Lutheran Services Foundation, you were right there, enabling the staff to help this young girl find a place to have hope on the eve of the most holy of days, the birth of Christ.

Thank you so much for supporting all of our ministries. Without your gifts, it could not happen. I look forward to working

with you and learning about your stories of why you support Genacross.

Thanks,

Michael A. George, CFRE
Executive Director

IN MEMORY OF

Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2020

Mr. Bernie Albert by
Jim & Rachel Nissen

**George & Gladys
Ardner** by Carol Ardner,
Georgia Ardner

Dean Asmus by
Jim & Judy Hill

Arnold & Elsie Baden by
JoAnn McCally

Wylodene Baughman
by Anonymous, Gayla
Baughman, Cheryl &
Gary Daman, Mr. & Mrs.
Ralph Geil, Douglas &
Monica Mangas, Janien
& Roger Rathge

John & Amelia Beins
by Michael & Sandra
Liningier

Kenneth & Louise Beins
by Michael & Sandra
Liningier

Craig Bentley by
St. Paul WELCA, Clyde

**Bethany Place residents
who passed away in
2020: Vincent Gangle,
Jane Grob, Dorothy
Hoelzie, Jeanne
Hoffman, Bernadine
Kirwen, Peggy Reed,
Elizabeth Strang &
Mary Stuckey**
by Sandra Vance

Don Biehler by
Marjorie A. Biehler

Glenn & Dorothy Boos
by Jeff & Nancy Wellman

Vicky Chambers by
Don & Karen Holmes

Betty Christiansen by
Ed & Karen McCormick

**Dale & Betty
Christiansen** by
Mary Finch

Betty Bostater Clark
by Howard & Dolores
Oestreich

Dorothy Clark by
Paul Clark, Sr.

Departed loved ones
by Roland & Marilyn
Henderson

Hazel Deuble by
Beth Labuhn-Allan

Marlene J. Devasher by
Don & Sue Gerke

**Clarence & Edna
Dierksheide** by
Rose Mary Schroeder

**Herbert & Julia
Doerfler** by Miriam &
Ted Benner

Marie Eberle by
Mark & Janice Crock

Rolland Fickel by
Donna Fickel

Jim & Celia Findlay by
Dave & Pam Roberts

Rosemarie Fisher by
Ken Fisher

Phyllis Frey by
Karen Frey

Mary Lou Gabel by
Anne Biel

**My dear husband,
Orville**, by Dorothy Mae
Garst

Lawrence Gruetter by
Elaine Gruetter

**Vince, Verna & Roger
Haas** by Mr. & Mrs. Bill
Hundt

**Rev. Fred & Dorothy
Hagen** by DeAnna
McCashin

Debrah Hammersmith
by Gary & Darlene
Carstensen

**My husband, Bert
Hardin**, by
Nancy Hardin

**My father, Gary
Hesburn**, by
Kari Bucher

Ann Hill by
Jim & Judy Hill

**My second son, Stanley
E. Hubbard, & his wife,
Helen**, by Athole G.
Hubbard

**My parents, Julius &
Emma Kahrs**, by
Lillian Keller

**Rev. Gerald & Mrs.
Ilean Labuhn** by
Cindy & Dave Herrera,
Mr. Misael & Mrs.
Roseanne Martinez

Donald Lange by
Irene Glore

**My son, Christopher
Kent Libke**, by
Sharon Libke

Loved ones by
Bob & Linda Knight,
Mary Schimming, Mr.
Melvin Schumann,
Sharon Ann Wheeler

Kay McColley by
Cheryl & Gary Daman

Beth Meyer by
St. Paul WELCA, Clyde

Ed & Anna Miller by
Esther Speck

Rosemary Moore by
Jean Winkelman

Alma Mueller by
Lynn & Joyce Olman

**Henry & Luella Mueller,
my parents**, by Weldon
Mueller

**My husband, Andrew
Nowak**, by Helen Nowak

Henry Oberhaus by
Lois Oberhaus

Robert Panning by
William & Cindy Mann

**My husband, Glenn D.
Pocock**, by Molly Pocock

**My daughter, Sonia
Quincy**, by Athole G.
Hubbard

Sheryl A. Rayl by
Rev. Jerry Rayl

LaVerta Rayman
by Wesley & Carole
Walters

James Richason Jr.
by Barbara Bamm

**James & Evelyn
Richason Sr.** by
Barbara Bamm

Ralph & Irene Roder by
Herb & Jackie Roder

Ernest Rosebrock by
Marilyn Rosebrock

Connie Saffran by
James Saffran

John & Brodie Schmich
by Debbie, Brandon &
Brenton Schmich

Fred & Mary Schroeder
by Rose Mary Schroeder

**My husband, Harry L.
Schroeder**, by
Rose Mary Schroeder

The Schwarzes by
Friedel & Ursula Helms

Neysa Ellen Seed
by Milton & Jill
Calcamuggio

Mark Shepard by Gary
& Darlene Carstensen

Warren Shepard
by Gary & Darlene
Carstensen

Terry Smith by Michael
& Beverly Amstutz

Louis Snyder by
Jean Snyder

James Sommers by Rick
& Jackie Metz

Victor Sonnenberg by
Cheryl & Gary Daman,
Medtronic

Wayne Speck by
Esther Speck

**Husband, Leroy C.
Strausbaugh**, by
Mary Strausbaugh

Sons, David & Mark, by
Mary Strausbaugh

Alfred Stuever by
Doris Stuever

Mabel Marie Sutphin by
Rev. Larry & Becky Trover

Gladys Swingle by
Herb & Jackie Roder

**My sister, Mary Kathryn
Thornton**, by Suzanne
Church

Harry & Laura Warnke
by Michael & Sandra
Liningier

Otto & Marie Warnke
by Jean DeWitt

Richard & Ruth Warnke
by Michael & Sandra
Liningier

**Lowell, Ruth & Daniel
Welling** by William L.
Welling

Mary Wicichowski by
Jean Winkelman

Roy & Frieda Zunk
by Gary & Darlene
Carstensen

IN HONOR OF

Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2020

All our hard-working front line staff by
Lynn & John Warren

Delores Atkinson by Kim & Luke Baker

Dear friends by Sharon Ann Wheeler

My parents, Virginia and Kenneth Favro, by
Sharon Libke

God by Mrs. Thomas Moon

Roland & Marilyn Henderson by
Steve & Joy Hammer

**Jesus, our Redeemer, who suffered and died
for us**, by John Weislmeier

Jesus, Our Savior, by Ken & Arlene Freytag

Todd & Cheryl Kurfess by Mary Strausbaugh

Irene Liechty by Nona & Greg Rupp

Rick Marshall by Pastor Keith & Sue Hunsinger

**Napoleon staff and crew - Thank you for all
you do!** by Bob & Gloria Meyer

Dave Roberts by Pastor Keith & Sue Hunsinger

**Sandy, Samantha, Jon, Stacy, Benjamin, Owen
and Ethan Strausbaugh** by Mary Strausbaugh

James Wing by Jason & Cheryl Fisher

If we have failed to list your name
or have listed it incorrectly,
please accept our apologies and
contact Anne at 419.861.4965
to correct our records.

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS*Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2020*

Anonymous	Marti Huepenbecker
Beverly Apel	Mr. Michael & Dr.
Mr. & Mrs. James	Natalie Jackson
Barton	Jim & Joan Keeler
Rev. Dr. & Mrs.	Jim & Sandy Kersten
Gerald Bauer	Dan & Julie Kunos
John & Julia Bergman	Tamara Dawson
Jason Beyer	Kynard
Patricia Blankenship	Dr. Sandra Laas
Hilde Boes	Michael & Sandra
Chuck & Karen	Lininger
Botzko	Paul Loga
Stephen & Deborah	Burt & Mary Ann
Bowsher	Luring
Lee & Natalie Bredbeck	Rev. & Mrs. Steve Lutz
Kari Bucher	Beverly Mackey
Ruby Burkey	Rick & Janet Marshall
Christina Burnette	Ed & Nancy Mauntler
Rev. Charles & Mrs.	Irene Meech
Jeri Campbell	Carol L. Meuser
Elizabeth Cannon	Blair & Anita Miller
Gary & Darlene	Susan Minch
Carstensen	Callie Minier
Nancy Churchill	Melanie Moore
Angela Clay	Weldon Mueller
Diane Cline	Ivadel Nehls
Bill & Carol Cook	Paul Nelson
Robert & Darlene Cook	Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth
James Cordy	Nungester
Carl & Barbara	Robert & Marie Obrock
Dierksheide	Frank & Diane Paine
Fred Doering	Gary & Julie Paulsen
Alan & Mary Ann Draves	Jim Petty
Dr. Jim & Dawn Dumke	Bob & Sue Pfefferle
Gayle & Sandy Duty	Rev. Dr. Tim & Mrs.
Rev. John & Mrs.	Kate Philabaum
Sherry Ferne	Diane Pojedynski
Doris Forry	Donna Poth & Family
Glenn Geldien	Jeff & Sharon Przysiecki
Donna Genzman	
Robert Haaf	
Victoria & Demetrius	
Harris	
Herbert & Pat Hoehing	
Paul A. Hotmer	
Dave & Vicki Huber	

NON-CASH*Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2020*

Bill Edwards	Inspired Mindz,
Scott & Rebeca	Bowling Green
Halbur	Jeff & Lorinda Schalk

CONGREGATIONAL DONATIONS*Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2020*

St. Martin, Archbold
 Christ, Bowling Green
 Bethlehem, Defiance
 St. Mark, Defiance
 Bethlehem, Defiance (Okolona)
 Hope, Fostoria
 Grace, Fremont
 Grace Church Women, Fremont
 St. Mark, Fremont
 Hope, Hamler
 St. John, Holgate
 St. Paul WELCA - Danbury,
 Lakeside Marblehead
 First, Leipsic
 St. Matthew, Lima
 St. Peter, Norwalk
 St. John, Oak Harbor
 St. Michael, Ottawa Lake, MI
 Church of the Master, Perrysburg
 Shepherd of the Valley, Perrysburg
 Zion, Perrysburg
 Zoar, Perrysburg
 Resurrection, Port Clinton
 St. John's, Stony Ridge
 St. Paul, Sulphur Springs
 Olivet, Sylvania
 First St. John Church Women, Toledo
 First St. John, Toledo
 Messiah, Toledo
 St. John, Toledo
 St. Petri, Toledo
 Zion L.C. Women, Valley City Valley City
 Zion, Waterville
 St. Luke, Wauseon
 Solomon, Woodville

ORGANIZATIONAL DONATIONS*Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2020*

AmazonSmile Foundation, Seattle, WA
 CWS Environmental, Perrysburg
 Enterprise Fleet Management, Inc., Strongsville
 Hudson Community Foundation, Hudson
 James and Mary Bell Charitable Foundation,
 Los Angeles, CA
 Kroger Community Rewards, Columbus
 Stapleton Insurance Group, Sylvania
 Thrivent, Appleton, WI

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Chinese: 注意: 如果您使用繁體中文, 您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 1-888-546-7745 (TTY: 1-888-546-7745)

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NAPOLEON CAMPUS CELEBRATES ITS SUPERHEROES

On February 12, the Genacross Lutheran Services-Napoleon Campus held a superheroes-themed party to celebrate the employees and residents who opted to receive COVID-19 vaccinations. The chapel was decorated for the occasion, and plenty of snacks and beverages were on hand for the guests of honor.

"Every person who received the vaccine is a superhero, because they opted to take a step to protect themselves and their fellow residents or staff members," said Jessica Kirkendall, Executive Director. "Taking photos was a memorable way to mark this huge step forward in the fight against the coronavirus pandemic."



Resident Mel Zehnder
and Activities Aide
Susan Moore



Housekeeping/Laundry
Supervisor Eric Simon
and assisted living
resident Lorna Bremer



Assisted living residents Fred Church
(left) and Isabelle Haas with Dietary
Aide Bailey Flogaus (center)

Chaplain Lee Genter, assisted
living resident Byrde Thielman
and Social Service Coordinator
Chandra Cooper



Connect with Genacross Lutheran Services on social media. We are now on Facebook and LinkedIn, providing new ways you can learn about, share, and comment on the latest Genacross news and events.