

Shepherds folder



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Written by Susan Griffis, Director of Marketing

Now We're Cooking!

Happy memories are made in kitchens...

...Your mother baking homemade macaroni and cheese for your birthday

...Your teenager stirring fudge at the stove while talking with you about his dreams for the future

...Your friends laughing about life around the kitchen table.

These are some of the reasons we, at Shepherds Ministries, feel so strongly that all of our residents, clients and students need to have their own place to cook, with support when necessary, and to grow in Appropriate Independence™.

As of this writing, all homes, cottages, dorms and apartments on Shepherds campus have their own full working kitchens... except for Lamb Cottage.

The kitchen is the place where love is expressed, seen, smelled, tasted and shared on a daily basis.

And life lessons are learned in the kitchen...

...Math and science skills as you measure, mix and bake

...Social skills as you entertain, cook with friends and family, and share the chores

...Health, safety and hygiene as you learn portion size, good food choices, the proper cooking temperatures for meat and how to clean your cutting boards

...Independence as you decide what to stock in the pantry, what to make for dinner, and how much to put on your plate.

Lamb Cottage is part of our long-term residential program called Endeavor. The staff in our Endeavor program provide support for each individual and give them an environment rich with opportunities to grow to their full potential. Lamb Cottage currently serves 24 women with intellectual disabilities who strongly desire to either learn how to cook, or to continue practicing the cooking skills they've learned in the past.

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Now We're Cooking!

We recently constructed a new kitchen area for Cook Cottage, our men's home, and we plan to build a similar kitchen for Lamb Cottage – two refrigerators, two stoves, two dishwashers, sinks, microwaves, other small appliances and lots of counter space.



Our men greatly benefitted with the addition of their kitchen. Many of the men now enjoy helping with the dishes and other kitchen chores, preparing meals, and giving their input on the grocery list. Their skill level, and their confidence, has improved with a kitchen available to them, and we want the same for our ladies.

Karen wants to bake cookies using a real oven. Right now, she's using a toaster oven.

Tonya used to receive homemade monkey bread on her birthday, but she really wants to learn to make it herself.

Nancy misses cooking like she used to do with her mom. She'd like to learn to make an omelet.

Several church groups and organizations have generously contributed to the Lamb Cottage Kitchen Project, and we recently sent out an appeal letter asking for more help to complete this important job. The women of Lamb have untapped potential and the desire to contribute to their communities in new ways. Please pray for us as we move forward with the building, and please pray for them as they seek to attain another level of Appropriate Independence. It will give our women with intellectual disabilities a chance to strengthen their abilities, gain confidence, and share their love for others through cooking.

Watch future issues of the Folder for pictures of the beautiful, new kitchen in Lamb Cottage!



A wonderful example is Larsen's bakery. New alumni Katilin Lehman was hired in the fall of 2015 for a full-time job at the bakery as their main donut fryer. Kati has reported making over 2,000 donuts in a single day, and over 10,000 in a given week! A few months after she was hired, Larsen's also hired 2015 graduate, Alexander Spurgeon, who also hopes to climb the ranks at the bakery in time for their 2016 holiday season.

Our graduates have the skills, knowledge, and experience to do well in these community positions. Employers just need to know they're out there.

the placement specialist



Written by Andrew Kolkman, Placement Specialist

For an individual with an intellectual disability, finding a job is a challenging task. It could be the stigma that they can't perform the job qualifications or that there is no experience or resume to back up their job search. Shepherds College has changed this perception and is continuing to do so on a daily basis.

In the summer of 2015, the Placement Specialist position was created to bridge the gap between local businesses and our alumni. The college has already succeeded in finding student internships, but there was an additional step that needed to be taken. We continued to face the challenge of finding jobs in the community that fit our graduates' newly acquired skill sets.

The Placement Specialist position does just that – connecting local businesses to our qualified alumni to the mutual benefit of both. Several employers have reached out with the desire to hire some of our graduates, not just once, but multiple times.



TOGETHER · ENGAGED · AUTHORITY · MISSION

TEAM: A Winter Retreat for Shepherds College

Written by Lori Konopasek, Dean of Students

When we think of the month of February here in Wisconsin, we typically think of the cold, snow, and winter. At Shepherds College, we have something better to think about. We have our Shepherds College retreat at the end of February each year. The purpose of the retreat is to learn about a set topic, build relationships, and offer some variety to the winter months! This year we focused on the theme of TEAM. Team stands for Together, Engaged, Authority, and Mission. Students work in teams throughout their time at Shepherds College; teamwork is a critical skill for their success. Our retreat took place on February 25 and 26. We started Thursday by partnering with First Stage, a theater company in Milwaukee, to actively teach the students about the different concepts within TEAM and used the verses from Philippians 2:3-4, "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourself, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of others." Thursday evening, students and staff competed in a *Cupcake Wars* event where they demonstrated their baking and decorating skills in small groups.

On Friday we traveled to northern Chicago and had lunch at a classic restaurant called Portillo's. We used our teamwork skills to then serve together with the organization Feed My Starving Children by packaging food for people around the world. Friday evening we attended an Admirals Hockey game where the president of the Admirals spoke with our group about their team and the importance of teamwork. We returned back to Shepherds College for some late night pizza. Retreats are a special time for staff and students to enjoy one another and learn together. We are looking forward to next year – The Amazing Race!

Plan Your Summer



CAMP DISCOVERY: A WEEKLONG ADVENTURE

Camp Discovery is a one-week summer camp opportunity for 13 to 24-year-olds with intellectual disabilities. Campers discover their strengths and realize their God-given potential through fun and purposeful activities designed to foster and grow Appropriate Independence™.

- June 27– July 1Ages 18 – and older
- July 11 – 15Ages 13 – 17
- July 18 – 22Ages 13 – 17

\$450 per week when registered before May 1
\$500 per week when registered after May 1 and pending availability

Contact Kayla Burnett for more information 262.878.5620 X 1282

COLLEGE FOR A WEEK

Mon., June 20 – Fri., June 24

This special program is offered for one week during the summer to young people with intellectual disabilities who are considering attending college in the future. This camp experience not only offers traditional summer camp fun, it also focuses on activities to prepare the camper for a post-secondary education.

- **\$450 for applications received before May 1**
- **\$550 for applications received after May 1 and pending availability**

Contact Brian Canright for more information 262.878.6365

AGE is Just a Number!

Written by Bob Rohm, Ministry Representative and Gift Planning Director

Do you remember when you thought that 30 years old was ancient? I do. I just couldn't imagine anyone being that old.

Recently, I was reading a portion of Billy Graham's book entitled, *Nearing Home*.

The subtitle of the book gives an overview of its contents: *Life, Faith, and Finishing Well*. Rev. Graham begins the introduction of his book with, "I never thought I would live to be this old." At the time he was 93.

In his first chapter entitled, "*Running Toward Home*" he refers to "the great cloud of witnesses" mentioned in Hebrews 12:1. The verse begins, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses...." Who are these witnesses and why are they important enough to be mentioned in Scripture? Most conservative Bible scholars would agree that these people are a vast host of individuals, and are, most likely, men and women who personally stood for the faith and are now spectators witnessing the present generation of Christians.

In his book, Billy Graham makes an interesting point about the ages of these witnesses — they were really old when they died. Not thirty! Adam was 930. Methuselah was 969. Noah was 950. Genesis 25:7-8 states that Abraham was 175 years old (just a youngster) when he died. Verse 8 says, "Abraham breathed his last and died in a good old age, an old man and full of years, and was gathered with his people." Moses 120, Joshua 110, and on the list goes...

Age has its benefits. Someone has said, "Don't resent growing old. Many are denied the privilege." And, yes, age has its challenges as well. The aches and the pains remind us of more youthful times.

The main emphasis of Dr. Graham's book, to my thinking, is that the generations following us are learning about growing old from us, but what are they learning?

What kind of example are we? What wisdom do we want to leave our children and grandchildren?

The greatest lessons of life we can leave behind us are examples of godliness, gratitude and generosity. A well-known pastor and author said this about godliness, "The man of God is known by what he flees from, follows after, fights for, and is faithful to."

Regarding gratitude, someone has said, "The hardest arithmetic to master is that which enables us to count our blessings." Generosity is more often caught than taught. It is said that as the purse is emptied, the heart is filled.

For more than 55 years now, Shepherds Ministries has been the recipient of godly, grateful, generous friends. We are so blessed. Thank you.

Many of our friends are deeper into the calendar of life than others and, as mentioned earlier, age does have its benefits. One of these benefits is the rate at which Shepherds could make income payments to you for as long as you live! The older you are at the time of your generosity to Shepherds (in the form of a **Shepherds Charitable Gift Annuity**), the higher the rate of payout to you. Give us a call and we would be happy to discuss this with you. Please consider contacting me at 937.766.2737 or email brohm@shepherdsministries.org. You can also go to the Shepherds website at www.givetosm.org for more information.

At Shepherds, our purpose is to provide you with profitable insights and information into estate and financial planning. We would count it a privilege to work with you, along with your attorney or financial advisor.

Have you remembered your family, your church and Shepherds in your will or trust?

50
75
93
120

UPDATE TURNING POINT CAMPAIGN

Good progress continues in the effort to complete Phase II of our Turning Point capital campaign. An additional \$10 million goal has been set, over and above the \$15.3 million that was raised in Phase I of this campaign which will meet our overall 50th Anniversary goal of \$25 million. To date, over \$16.8 million has been received in total campaign gifts and gift commitments!

While Phase I provided funding to focus on capital needs for program advancements and campus improvements as well as establish our new Shepherds College program, Phase II of the campaign will be focused on building financial stability for the ministry in the future through scholarship funding, bequests, planned gifts and endowment funds. However, we will also set aside a portion of these funds for additional construction and renovation needs. It is our goal to raise the remaining \$8.2 million needed during Phase II over the next three years to be completed on or before our 60th anniversary in 2018. We will continue to keep you advised of our progress through The Folder newsletter as well as providing updates on our website: www.shepherdsministries.org.

THE SECOND ANNUAL Farmers Appreciation Dinner

Written by Amy DeBurgh, Director of Volunteers and Guest Services



Farmers change the landscape of our country in many ways, both literally and metaphorically. Swaying meadows of gold are found near almost every county highway. Endless green rows captivate our attention as we travel in any direction in America. Landing airline passengers are welcomed to the earth by a patchwork quilt of farmland, reminding them they are abundantly blessed. Everyone benefits from the hard work of farmers. They are the backbone of America. Whether we grab a hamburger on the go or serve up Ziti Al Forno with a spinach salad at home, we can thank a farmer. This is why Dr. Amstutz wanted to start a tradition of holding an annual Farmers Appreciation Dinner.

In January, we held our second annual Farmers Appreciation Dinner for forty- five farmers and their family members. Catalyst clients greeted each guest by the door. Lovely flower pots arranged by Shepherds College Horticulture students decorated every table. Shepherds Kitchen staff made an excellent roast beef and baked chicken meal with several side dishes. The College Culinary Arts students made the desserts and helped to serve each of our guests. After the meal, the College choir sang to entertain the crowd. Our guests were so thankful for everything and promised to return next year.



Shepherds College Scholarship Golf Tournament

Written by Amy DeBurgh, Director of Volunteers and Guest Services



The Shepherds College Scholarship Golf Tournament will be the event of the year! We are thrilled to see what God will do through this opportunity to raise funds for scholarships. Sponsors and participants from all over our local area and beyond will come together to play golf, compete for prizes and enjoy a delicious lunch all to benefit our Shepherds College students.

Approximately 90% of students who show interest in Shepherds College request financial aid. Because Shepherds College is a post-secondary school for young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities so many of our students come to us with a high school certificate of completion rather than a G.E.D. or a diploma. Sadly, the Federal government doesn't recognize students without a G.E.D. or diploma as individuals who qualify for federal aid. We are trying to offer scholarships to help meet this need. That is why we are having this very special event.

All sponsor proceeds of this golf tournament will go directly into our Shepherds College Scholarship fund.

We want to see everyone who is interested in attending Shepherds College be given the opportunity. Will you join us in this very important effort?

WHEN: 7:00 a.m.; Friday, Sept. 9th, 2016

WHERE: Brighton Dale Links Golf Course in Kansasville, WI.

EARLY REGISTRATION: \$99 (by July 30th)

REGISTRATION: \$125 after July 30th

INCLUDES: 18 holes of golf on a beautiful course with a cart, lunch at Shepherds in the Bolthouse Center and fun contests and prizes.

To register as a participant or a sponsor contact Amy DeBurgh at 262-878-5620 ext. 2304 or email Amy at adeburgh@shepherdsministries.org

President's Message

As you read this issue of the Folder, you will sense the themes of change and efficiency. It has been said that "Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything." (George Bernard Shaw) So many changes have happened in our world over the past 50 years, and our minds and hearts also have to change. I am so grateful that our staff sees the need for change that improves our services and impacts more people for Christ.

Here at Shepherds we have been changing over the years in order to minister to those that we are in contact with today. When we began in 1958, we were a wonderful boarding school (elementary and junior high). However as things changed, we could no longer have children and adults

on the same campus, so we maintained our long term care, created an off campus division, and added a college for post-secondary education. Those changes were important and inevitable. Those changes were strategic.

While the age groups we minister to and the services we provide have changed over the years, our commitment to the Word of God has never changed. We serve a God that is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8). Also God says in Malachi 3:6, "For I, the Lord, do not change." For that reason, we are still building on our founding purpose, being a mission agency reaching those with intellectual disabilities and their families with the Gospel of Christ. What a calling. What a wonderful task.



I trust that you will be blessed by the changes reflected in this Folder. God's Word is our final authority for faith and practice. That will never change.

Dr. William J. Amstutz
President...and still a servant

memorials & honorariums

We are grateful to many donors for providing a gift "in memory of" or "in honor of" a loved one or friend. Thank you for remembering Shepherds in such a special way.

**These gifts were donated from March 2015 to March 2016.*

MEMORIALS

Anderson, Herbert L.
Arch, Gladys
Balison, Richard
Banks, Malcom (Mac)
Bartlett, Jerry
Bauer, Bill
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Bernard, Betty Lou
Boersma, Margaret Leone
Borkowski, Otto
Booth, David
Butler, Russ
Cammack, Marion
Cangelosi, Jackie Simpson
Cayton, Arlene
Cayton, Larry
Childress, Marc
Clark, Peter
Cunningham, Donna Ruth
Disch, Walter

Dow, Cheryl
Einer, David
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Gillespie, Evelyn
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Ford, Matthew

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Jones, Reece
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Shaik, Lilia
Shaik, Mr. and Mrs. Holmer
Snyder, Mr. and Mrs. Lester
Thornton, Bruce
Thornton, David and Connie
Thornton, Greg and Sandy
Thornton, Larry and Debra
Twigg, R. J.
Volk, Walter
Weichand, Roy and Jeanne

Praise

- God continues to sustain us in our ministry to people with intellectual disabilities.
- God's continued financial blessing to the ministry during challenging economic times.
- God continues to provide qualified, loving staff to serve in Shepherds Ministries and Shepherds College.
- God brought us new volunteer groups this summer. We thank Him for their support and friendship.
- God blesses us with dedicated volunteers who save us thousands of dollars a year with their labors of love.

Prayer

- For the Lord to continue to call volunteers to work at Shepherds, especially local people who can come regularly throughout the year to serve in the ministry, college and Special Olympics.
- For our local community to continue to open up employment and volunteer opportunities for our college graduates and Catalyst clients.
- For the funds necessary to ensure the well-being, growth and security of all our clients, residents and students.
- For the successful planning and execution of the 2016 Shepherds College Commencement ceremony, that it result in an event that's a true celebration of our graduates' growth and achievement.
- For the success of the new Technology Program to be offered by Shepherds College.
- For the safety of all campers during College for a Week and Camp Discovery 2016.
- For the success of our first annual Shepherds College Scholarship Golf Tournament so that we can offer more scholarships to students with intellectual disabilities.

other ways to give

Campbell's Labels for Education Program Ending

Shepherds is sad to announce that, due to lagging participation in the program at a national level, Campbell's has cancelled their Labels for Education program. Shepherds Ministries has relied on this program for almost three decades. In the few years alone, Shepherds received four mini-vans, fifteen desk-top computers, twenty lap-top computers, three iPads, an iPad kiosk stand for conferences and office supplies through this program.

Campbell's will continue to accept the UPCs and beverage/sauce caps until July 31, 2016. If you are one of the loyal friends who has been sending in these labels to Shepherds over the years, please continue to do so until July 5, 2016, at which time we'll process the UPCs and caps and make our final deposit before the deadline.

Through July 5, 2016, send UPCs and caps to:
Shepherds Ministries, Attn: Day Services Center
1805 15th Ave, Union Grove, WI 53182

Thank you to all of our Campbell's donors from homes and churches around the country. You have blessed us with vital items to run our ministry through your gifts of these labels. We pray that you help support us in other ways, such as GoodSearch, GoodShop or AmazonSmile.

GoodSearch When you search with GoodSearch and choose Shepherds Ministries as your charity, money from Yahoo advertisers will go to Shepherds without you spending a dime! By using GoodShop, a link through GoodSearch, Shepherds will receive a percentage of your purchase. In 2015, your searches and shopping blessed Shepherds with \$198! www.goodsearch.com



AmazonSmile Donate to Shepherds every time you shop on Amazon! Just visit smile.amazon.com and select Shepherds Baptist Ministries as your charity of choice. Every time you make a purchase, Shepherds will receive a percentage of your price. In 2015, your shopping contributed \$134 to our ministry!



Online Donation: Simple, Quick and Secure

Support Shepherds by clicking "Donate" in the menu bar to make a donation online with your Visa or Mastercard. You can also donate "stuff".

Our new Text-to-Give option:

- Type #givetosm to the following number: 262-333-0121
- As you make your first gift, you will receive a message to complete. Fill in your information and add credit card information.
- Once the information is complete, click on submit.
- You will receive an instant receipt on your mobile device as well as to the email address you have provided.
- Future gifts only require texting an amount to our "text to give" number.
- You will also receive the option to repeat this gift on a weekly, monthly, quarterly or annual basis if you so desire.
- You can also cancel or arrange refund if an error occurs in making your gift via text message.

Christmas in July!

Donors, you generously sent in your financial gifts for our Christmas in July appeal to bless our residents with presents, parties and special Christmas outings. We reached our goal of \$18,000! Please, watch your mail at the end of June for your opportunity to once again bring Christmas joy to the residents of Shepherds through the Christmas in July program.



Visit Our Website

www.shepherdsministries.org

Or e-mail: webmaster@shepherdsministries.org

Project Lists can be downloaded as Word documents. Click on "Giving" in the menu bar.

Will the **Gospel Team** be in your area this year? Check under "About Us."

Volunteer Opportunities. Whether your skills are clerical, culinary, domestic or interpersonal, you will find the perfect service opportunity under "Volunteers."

Visit the Shepherds Ministries **blog site**, *Life On Purpose*. Read the stories of God's work through the words of staff, volunteers and clients: www.shepherdsministriesblog.blogspot.com.

Learn more about Shepherds College.

Visit www.shepherdscollege.edu

Read Shepherds Folder online. Click on "Resources" in our menu bar. Then call 262-878-5620 so we can remove your name from our Folder mailing list. You'll help us save on printing costs.

Listen to stories pertaining to Shepherds and/or disability on our OnPurpose Podcast at www.onpurpose.podbean.com.

Do you need answers to your questions about disabilities? Visit Shepherds Resources at www.shepherdsresources.org.

Visit Shepherds

Take a tour of our campus, meet our residents, learn about our ground-breaking college, or volunteer. Tours are Monday through Friday by appointment. If you desire to stay with us, comfortable suites are available at the Findley Center. Please call 262-878-5620 ext. 2304 to schedule a tour or book a suite.



Spring Appeal

By now you should have received our Spring Appeal in your mailbox. We pray you already used the reply envelope to send in your donation to Shepherds. Your generous gift will be used to pay the utility bills, fuel the vehicles used to bring the residents to church and doctor visits, provide around-the-clock care and enable necessary repairs to the residents' homes, among many other things. Your support is vital to this ministry. Thank you!