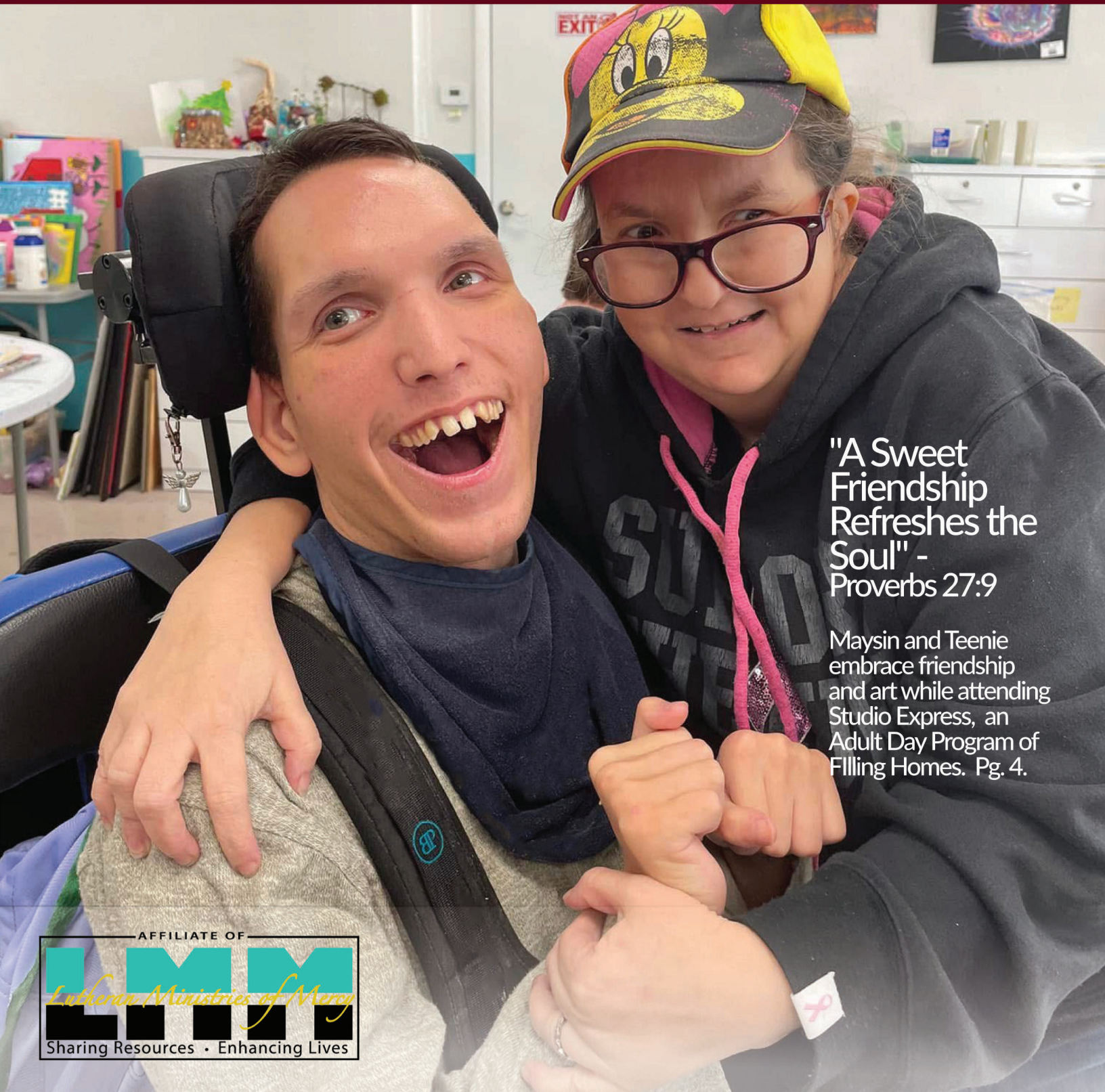


FOCUS ON FILLING

Winter 2025



"A Sweet
Friendship
Refreshes the
Soul" -
Proverbs 27:9

Maysin and Teenie
embrace friendship
and art while attending
Studio Express, an
Adult Day Program of
Filling Homes. Pg. 4.

Lutheran Ministries of Mercy

Dear Friends, Families, and Supporters,

Our LMM ministries are rooted in the belief that transformation begins with compassion. We strive to create spaces where individuals can find not only assistance, but also a renewed sense of purpose. Through collaborative efforts and tireless commitment, our agencies address pressing issues such as hunger, the need for care for people with developmental disabilities, substance use disorders, and mental health issues, ensuring that no one is left behind. In the midst of sometimes overwhelming challenge and adversity, we encourage people to rejoice in the hope that change is possible, even when the road seems long.

The impact of our ministries extends far beyond immediate relief, nurturing a spirit of resilience in the individuals we serve. The diverse expertise of all those connected with our ministries provides the tools for empowerment. Whether through education and counseling or through love and compassion in caring for daily needs, we plant the seeds of long-term hope. It is within this nurturing environment that people are able to rejoice, not just in the help they receive, but in the new possibilities that emerge.

Grounded in our shared faith and tradition of service, the daily practice of hope grows stronger with every act of kindness, every step toward progress and every moment spent in unity. We are thankful to all those who join us in this journey.

In appreciation,

Terri Rodriguez

Rev. Juli Lejman-Guy



Terri Rodriguez
President and CEO
Lutheran Ministries of Mercy



Rev. Juli Lejman-Guy
Board Chair

Rejoicing in Hope

2025 Annual Meeting

Monday, March 10

2:00 PM

The Pinnacle
Maumee, Ohio

\$20.00 for guests
(clergy at no charge)

R.S.V.P. today!



lutheranministriesofmercy.org

Filling Homes • Luther Home of Mercy
Lutheran Social Services

2025 Annual Meeting

Guest Speaker

Ohio Senator
Paula Hicks-Hudson



Senator Paula Hicks-Hudson proudly serves the people of Ohio. As the first black female mayor of Toledo, state Senator Paula Hicks-Hudson has always exhibited a commitment to empowering and helping children, adults and families improve their quality of life. She currently represents Ohio's 11th Senate District.

During her 35-year professional career, she has worked as assistant Lucas County prosecutor, assistant public defender and assistant state attorney general. Prior to her election to the Senate, she served as a state Representative for Ohio House District 44.

Outside of her dedicated, successful professional career, she enjoys many rich connections and activities with family and friends. She was married to her husband, Freeman W. Hudson, from 1973 until his passing in 2018, and is the proud mother of two adult daughters, Patricia Hope and Leah Free Star, and grandmother of seven grandchildren. An accomplished musician, Hicks-Hudson serves as minister of music at Redeemer Lutheran Church.



Filling Homes, Luther Home of Mercy and Lutheran Social Services of NWO are working together under the Lutheran Ministries of Mercy umbrella to share resources. These combined efforts allow us to foster hope, create change and meet the needs of individuals and families in our care. Visit our website at lutheranministriesofmercy.org to learn more.

A Message from Carol Slight

Vice President, Filling Homes

Kicking Off a Promising New Year!

Happy 2025! As we step into the new year, I'm filled with gratitude and excitement for all that lies ahead for Filling Homes.

This past year, we celebrated milestones, witnessed growth, and deepened connections within our community. From enriching activities and events in our day programs and employment sites to providing personalized care in our homes, we've seen firsthand how our work transforms lives - not only for the individuals we serve but for their families and loved ones as well.

None of this would be possible without the dedication of our staff, the generosity of our supporters, and the trust of the families who partner with us. To each of you, thank you for being part of this journey. Your contributions of time, resources, passion and prayers make a world of difference.

As we continue through 2025, I invite you to stay engaged with us - whether by volunteering, attending our events, or simply spreading the word about our mission.

Warm regards,

Carol Slight



You Shop, Kroger donates!

The Kroger Community Rewards program lets you select a favorite nonprofit to receive donations based on your shopping activity.

There's no extra cost to you, and it's as easy as 1-2-3.

1. Create a digital Kroger account or log in to your current digital account on the Kroger Community Rewards page.
2. Link your Kroger Card to The Filling Homes
3. Go Krogering!

Visit the Kroger Community Rewards page to get started or to update your chosen nonprofit to Filling Homes if you chose to support our mission in that way!



Leadership Team

Carol Slight
Vice President



Amy Krassow
Director of ICF Services



Jenny Borgelt
Director of Community Services



Jean Cohrs
Director of Mission Advancement



Enriching Lives Through Purpose, Connection, and Growth in Our Adult Day Service Programs

At Filling Homes, we believe that every individual—regardless of their abilities—deserves the opportunity to live a fulfilling and meaningful life. Our Adult Day Service (ADS) Programs do just that by providing safe, engaging, and supportive environments for adults with disabilities. We have seen firsthand the incredible impact these programs have had on the lives of those we serve, fostering independence, social connections, and personal growth.

Started in 1995, **Filling Homes Habilitation Center**

is an ADS site located on the north end of the base facility next to the Chapel and serves 34 clients. In the Hab Center, Filling Homes' residents are assisted in learning skills through direct experience.

Meaningful goals are set through each person's Individual Habilitation Plan, and Hab Center staff strive to help individuals achieve these goals as independently as possible. Another part of the HAB Center is the Abilities Bistro, which offers daily lunches prepared by staff and clients. On-the-job training is offered to clients, teaching important restaurant skills with the goal of them obtaining employment in the community and being successful at it, while also receiving a paycheck!

Filling Homes Community Center (FHCC) opened in 2015 and served 14 clients. FHCC serves as a hub for social interaction, where friendships are formed, and participants experience a strong sense of belonging. Now



serving 31 clients, through group activities, games, and outings, participants have the chance to bond with peers who share similar experiences and interests.

These social connections are invaluable, as they provide emotional support, reduce isolation, and help participants develop

communication skills that carry over into other areas of their lives. FHCC provides document shredding as part of supported employment training and also offers Durable Medical Equipment rental as well as on the job janitorial training. Clients participating in the job training clock in and out and receive paychecks for their work.

Opening in April of 2009 serving 16 clients, today **Soaring Arts Studio/Studio Express** serves 47 artists and serves as an outlet for adults interested in creative expression and is another site for supported employment training. When Soaring Arts Studio began, clients were enabled to paint beautiful and unique canvases that soon began to serve as the foundation for items where clients' original artwork designs were applied to each item creating one-of-a-kind, functional works of art. Now, Soaring Arts has blossomed into a full-fledged art studio where artists pursue any art medium they desire. Community art classes are offered and led by the Artists, and a large variety of handmade specialty gifts are available.

Studio Express, opened in 2022, allows more people the opportunity to attend the program while opening up the world of pottery to the artists, teaching them the art of sculpting and throwing clay. Each are encouraged and taught how to create many different things, collaboratively and independently. Family members often share with us how meaningful it is for them to see their loved ones forming new friendships and becoming more engaged in social activities. The sense of community and camaraderie at our program is something that many participants look forward to each day.

Trinity Place is a Filling Homes' ADS center in Bryan, Ohio opened in October of 2011 and served 8 clients. They now serve 15 clients. Here, clients are supported

in reaching their greatest level of independence in a very person-oriented environment that nurtures the individual interests and desires for achievement of each client who participates. Also offered at Trinity Place are paid employment training opportunities where clients may choose to participate in the secure document shredding program or janitorial services program. In addition, they also offer gardening and bird watching/feeding on the beautiful, three-acre grounds of the center as well as a newly started art program.

How can you support the Adult Day programs of Filling Homes? Pray for our programs, (staff and clients), volunteer, attend a community art night. See our needs list in this issue. For more information on our ADS programs please contact Jenny Borgelt, Director of Community Services.



Filling Fall Fling 2024



The Fall Fling Committee: seated Carol, Dille, Donna Drewes, Carolyn Schlade, Kathy Genter standing Jean Cohrs, Kathy Lieb, Micky Baker, Arlene Freytag, Lillian Wachtman

Nineteen years of the Filling Fall Fling and still going strong! Presented by the Filling Homes Guild, the 2024 event was held Saturday, November 2nd and is an annual fundraiser for the transportation fund of Filling Homes. Transportation is crucial for our organization, allowing residents and clients access to healthcare, social activities, employment and other necessities to live an enriched, fulfilling life.

"It's done. It was successful. I expected nothing more. We made our challenge of twenty-thousand dollars, plus a few extra. I'm just tickled pink that we managed to get this done for their year celebrating their 65th anniversary" stated Mrs. Carol Dille, Fall Fling Chairperson. We were blessed once again with Mrs. Mary Ellen Nerod, in memory of her daughter, Cathy Dennison, pledging matching funds of \$20,000 - dollar for dollar - bringing the fundraiser total to over \$42,000!

A heartfelt thank you to the Guild, Mrs. Nerod and all of the donors, volunteers and all those who supported the '24 Filling Fall Fling!

THE FILLING HOME FOUNDATION

WE SINCERELY THANK OUR FRIENDS WHO GENEROUSLY SUPPORT OUR MINISTRY.

In Memory of

Ian Pozarzycki

Janet Paule, Bryan, OH
Carol Opdycke, Grover, CO
Julia Rhodes, Bryan, OH
Todd & Carol Slight, Napoleon, OH

Addie and Rich Darr

Molly Pocock, Toledo, OH

Dan Shining

Rob and Renee Timbrook, Perrysburg, OH
The Andersons, Maumee, OH

David Thieryoung

Clare Thieryoung, Parma, OH

Douglas Meyer

Helene Meyer, Defiance, OH

Family Members

Kevin & Kathy Sonnenberg, Napoleon, OH

Leif Teig

Benton & Monica Bassett

Olmsted Township, OH

Loved Ones

Jeff Mires, Archbold, OH

Michael Green

Richard & Francey Green, Berlin Hts, OH

Rev. Ronald Claussen

Martha Webb, Lincoln, IL

Amy Beverly

Todd & Carol Slight, Napoleon, OH

Jenny & Jim Borgelt, Defiance, OH

David & Nancy Owens, Defiance, OH

Lindsey Bailey, Defiance, OH

Arlene Gerken

Wilma Keller, Napoleon, OH

Thomas Bailey

Jenny and Jim Borgelt, Defiance, OH

Betsy Long Mix

North American, Sioux Falls, SD

Bob Jones

Lindsey Bailey, Defiance, OH

The Sanctuary of Williams County, Bryan, OH

Friends and Family of Bob Jones

Todd and Carol Slight, Napoleon, OH

Carolyn Uhlik

Anthony & Madeline Doble, Delta, OH

Barbara Pokornik, Lyons, OH

Carolyn Uhlik Living Trust, Fayette, OH

Jan Bratton, Delta, OH

Casey Karnes

Amy Cox, Bryan, OH

Clara Kennedy

Wilma Keller, Napoleon, OH

Connie Rose Klinger

Sylvia Titgemeyer, St. Louis, MO

David Schott

Mary Ann Schott, Richmond, CA

Emily Collins

Chad Digby, Malita, OH

Carol Dille, Napoleon, OH

Tim & Marty Behrman, Deshler, OH

Rupert & Rita Schweinhagen, Napoleon, OH

Joyce Fahringer, Napoleon, OH

Rick & Lori Kigar, Delta, OH

Paul & Betty Mowery, Napoleon, OH

Dennis & Cindy Johnson, Napoleon, OH

Robert & Tina Wachtmann, Napoleon, OH

Terry & Jean Cohrs, Napoleon, OH

Alan & Shelly Storch, Napoleon, OH

Deb Butler, Napoleon, OH

Emily Collins (cont.)

Kent & Faye Badenhop, Hamler, OH

Cindy Bennett

The Guilford Family

Ryan and Ashley Franz

Todd and Carol Slight, Napoleon, OH

Eric and Jerry Holzer

Ameriprise Certificate Company

Minneapolis, MN

Harriet Schroeder

Wilma Keller, Napoleon, OH

Janie Dietsch

Todd and Carol Slight, Napoleon, OH

Joan Schriner

Mark & Lynda Cramer, Napoleon, OH

Linda & Lauren Boff

Anne Davidson, Sherman Oaks, CA

Lois Bicker

Todd and Carol Slight, Napoleon, OH

Marlene Buchop

Wilma Keller, Napoleon, OH

Marlene Swick

Wilma Keller, Napoleon, OH

Matthew Maahs

David & Anne Maahs, Brighton, MI

Norma Rosebrook

Kenneth & Karen Pope, Pandora, OH

Paul Hemmeter

Glenn & Patricia Alexander, Miamisburg, OH

James Frey, Springboro, OH

Vicki Thompson

Jeff & Lois Thompson, Heath, OH

Todd & Carol Slight, Napoleon OH

William "Bill" Giesige

Kathy Giesige, Defiance, OH

Sue Ellen Davis

Todd and Carol Slight, Napoleon, OH

In Honor Of

Abba Chen

Andrea Chen, Orange, CA

Eldor & Jane Gerken's 50th

Wedding Anniversary

Jennifer Gerken, Napoleon, OH

Eldor & Jane Gerken, Napoleon, OH

Geri Alexander

Chris & Cindy Schubart, West Chester, OH

Dan & Connie Vonderhaar, Blue Ash, OH

Marian Dickmann's 90th Birthday

Marian Dickmann, Napoleon, OH

Paul & Theresa Sheiver

Kathleen Iott, Sarasota, FL

Rebecca Lynn Eddington

Audrey Sutton, Clyde, OH

Individual Gifts

Barry & Virginia Behnfeldt, Napoleon, OH

Benton & Monica Bassett, Olmsted, OH

Beverly Costello, North Olmsted, OH

Carol Schroeder, New Bavaria, OH

Charles & Jeri Campbell, Toledo, OH

Cheryl Huffman, Napoleon, OH

David & Denise Matthews, Fairfield Twp, OH

David Proctor, Bryan, OH

Deborah Wesche, Napoleon, OH

Individual Gifts (cont.)

Dennis & Cathy Price, Delaware, OH

Donna Fickel, Defiance, OH

Duane Shively, Bowling Green, OH

Earl Huelner, Antwerp, OH

Esther Oberhaus, Napoleon, OH

Grace Peterson, Toledo, OH

James & Betty Kerr, Bluffton, SC

James & Miriam Wagel, Georgetown, OH

Karen Keith, Napoleon, OH

Kay Baird, Hicksville, OH

Lillian Otte, Napoleon, OH

Mary Ellen Nerod, Kingman, AZ

Meghan & John Pelton, Delta, OH

Melissa Gregg, Martin, OH

Michael Miller, Spencerville, OH

Nancy York, New York, NY

Randolf Germann, Napoleon, OH

Rosemarie Cole, Napoleon, OH

Timothy Hoops, Napoleon, OH

Todd & Carol Slight, Napoleon, OH

Walter & Lisa Kellogg, Edgerton, OH

William Cohara, McClure, OH

In-kind Gifts

Christ United Methodist, Evansport, OH

Deborah Wesche, Napoleon, OH

Gilson Screen, Inc., Malinta, OH

Glenn & Patricia Alexander, Miamisburg, OH

Hope Lutheran Church, Hamler, OH

Lonnie, Theresa, and Brittany Mason,

Wauseon, OH

Marlene Oxender, Montpelier, OH

Mary Lou Yohe, San Antonio, TX

Michael & Kimberly Cushman,

Napoleon, OH

St. John Lutheran Church, Paulding, OH

St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Wauseon, OH

St. Paul Women Of Life, Napoleon, OH

St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Defiance, OH

Stacy Buraszkeski, Waterville, OH

Suzanne Johnson, Archbold, OH

Trinity Lutheran Church, Delta, OH

Union Chapel Church Of God, Bryan, OH

Veronica Marckel, Defiance, OH

Wauseon Women's Guild Of Filling Memorial

Home, Wauseon, OH

Zions Lutheran Church, Defiance, OH

Congregational Gifts

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Lydia Circle

Defiance, OH

Grace Lutheran Church Women,

Fremont, OH

Hope Lutheran Church, Hamler, OH

St Paul Lutheran Church WELCA,

Marblehead, OH

St. John Lutheran Church WELCA,

Briceton,

Paulding, OH

St. John's Lutheran Church,

Montpelier, OH

St. John's Lutheran Ladies Aid, Stryker, OH

St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Wauseon, OH

St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Defiance, OH

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

Defiance, OH

Congregational Gifts (cont.)

St. Paul Lutheran Church,
Sulphur Springs, OH
St. Paul Women Of Life, Napoleon, OH
St. Peters Lutheran Church, Holgate, OH
Trinity Lutheran Church, Bryan, OH
Trinity Lutheran Church Piece Corp.
Delta, OH
Zion Lutheran Church,
Ridgeville Corners, OH
Zion Lutheran Church, St. Marys, OH
Zions Lutheran Church, Defiance, OH

Organizational Gifts

Civista Bank, Napoleon, OH
Delta Eagles #2597 Auxiliary, Delta, OH
Henry County Christmas Cheer,
Napoleon, OH
Knights Of Columbus Council 1344,
Napoleon, OH
Lutheran Ministries Of Mercy, Williston, OH
Panorama, Reston, VA
Pulaski Garden Club, Bryan, OH
Women's Guild Of Filling Home Of Mercy,
Napoleon, OH

Thrivent Choice Gifts

Jane Greene, Ridgeville Corners, OH
Lawrence Van Karsen, Powell, OH
Carole Darr, Ann Arbor, MI
David Darr, Ann Arbor, MI
David Crandall, Napoleon, OH
Matthew Garrow, Morenci, MI
Anna Norris, Wauseon, OH

Grants

Pamela Hershberger, Maumee, OH
Ervin E. and Kathleen T. Hanson Charitable Fund At The Community Foundation Martin - St. Lucie, Stuart, FL

Giving Tuesday

Albert and Judith Lambert, Ottawa, OH
Amy Waisner, Napoleon, OH
Andy Anderson, Napoleon, OH
Ann Vreeland, Marco Island, FL
Arnulfo and Terri Rodriguez,
Sylvania, OH
Automatic Feed Company, Napoleon, OH
Barb, Ben, and Jake Shining,
Defiance, OH
In memory of Dan and Richard Shining
Beverly Koenig, Napoleon, OH
Bradley and Marla Wonderly, Bryan, OH
In memory of Russell "Gene" Cline
Carol Chatham, Defiance, OH
Carol Whittaker, Midland, MI
Carolyn Callahan, McRidian, ID
In memory of Daniel Callahan
Charles and Jeri Campbell, Toledo, OH
Charles Sheller, Malinta, OH
Colleen Dotson, Whitehouse, OH
Colton & Beth Wagner, Holgate, OH
David & Esther Plassman, Napoleon, OH
In memory of Linda Varano

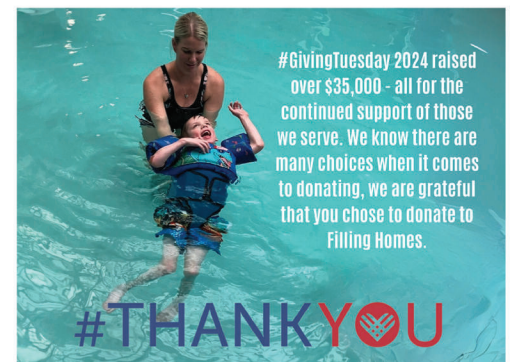
**#GIVINGTUESDAY**

David & Lori Beakas, Waterville, OH
David & Mary Ann Schott, Richmond, CA
In memory of David Schott
Denise Brown, Montpelier, OH
In honor of Filling Home Residents
Don & Terri Grimm, Grand Rapids, OH
Donald Wiff, Poland, OH
In memory of Devin Drew Wiff
Dorothy Parks, Montpelier, OH
In memory of Michael Parks
Edna Martin, Rocky River, OH
In honor of Robin Martin
Elnora Hohenbrink, Holgate, OH
Filling Homes Staff, Napoleon, OH
Glenn & Patricia Alexander,
Miamisburg, OH
In honor of Jean Cohrs
Jan Bratton, Delta, OH
Jean Batt, Napoleon, OH
Jean Plassman, Defiance, OH
In memory of Alan Behrman
Jeannette Ogilvy, Cos Cob, CT
Jenny & Jim Borgelt, Defiance, OH
Jerry Hillis, Napoleon, OH
Joan W. Myers, Toledo, OH
John & Renee Adams, Marietta, GA
In memory of Jackie Unland
John & Wanda Schimpf, Bloomville, OH
John Lusch, Napoleon, OH
John Speiser, Napoleon, OH
Katherine Steingass, Hilliard, OH
In honor of Filling Home Residents
Kathleen Binning, Montpelier, OH
Kenneth & Arlene Freytag, Napoleon, OH
In memory of Amy Burkholder
Kenneth & Janet Meyer, Napoleon, OH
Kevin & Antoinette Wilhelm,
Maryland Hts, MO
Kevin & Kelli Gerken, Napoleon, OH
Kurt Meyers, Toledo, OH
Linda Meyers, Kettering, OH
In honor of Geri Alexander
Lola Nelson, Perrysburg, OH
In memory of Walter Nelson
Marie Baker, Wauseon, OH
Marvin & Martha Dietsch, Edgerton, OH
In memory of Maurice Dietsch
Megan O'Brien, Williston, OH
Mel Lanzer Family Trust, Deshler, OH
Mildred Sigg, Napoleon, OH
Napoleon Lions Club Project Fund,
Napoleon, OH

Gifts listed were received from October 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. If you have failed to list your name or have listed your gift incorrectly, please accept our apologies and contact Jean Cohrs at 419-599-6901 or jcohrs@fillinghome.org.

Giving Tuesday (cont.)

Philip and Barbara Cochran, Napoleon, OH
Grace N. Cox and Betty Lou Moose Memorial Fund of the Greater Toledo Community Foundation,
Ray & Marie Cox
Indian Rocks Beach, FL
Ray Gottschling, Maumee, OH
In memory of Judith Gottschling
Ric & Carol Brandt, Edon, OH
In memory of Brandt and Amspaugh Loved Ones
Robert & Anne Rethmel, Defiance, OH
Robert & Cathy Jones, Napoleon, OH
In honor of Stephanie Jones
Roger & Connie Sell, Napoleon, OH
Rosemary Rial, Coldwater, MI
In memory of Linda Traxler
Rupert & Rita Schweinhagen,
Napoleon, OH
Sandy Friedle, Rhodes, MI
In memory of Hailee Friedle
Sharon Dailey, Northwood, OH
In honor of Carol Schroeder
Shirrel & Janet Petzoldt, Holland, OH
St. James Lutheran Church, Payne, OH
St. John Lutheran Church (Hopewell Twp),
Celina, OH
Steve and Tina Parsons, Napoleon, OH
Steven and Amy Thieroff, Holgate, OH
Susan Drewes, Memphis, TN
In memory of Betsy Long Mix
Terry and Jean Cohrs, Napoleon, OH
In memory of R. George Wagner
Terry Riggs, Bryan, OH
The Kroger Company, Cincinnati, OH
Timothy & Kimberly Schumm,
Napoleon, OH
Timothy and Lois Hancock,
Malinta, OH
Timothy Robinson & Brenda Rigdon,
Adrian, MI
Todd & Carol Slight, Napoleon, OH
Treva Kigar, Houston, TX
Walter & Lorna Hougland, Napoleon, OH
William Barnes, Hamler, OH
Women's Guild Of Filling Home Of Mercy,
Napoleon, OH
Mary Ann Schott, Richmond, CA
In memory of David Schott
Mark O'Reilly, Exter, NH
In memory of Christine O'Reilly



Mission Advancement Outreach to Students

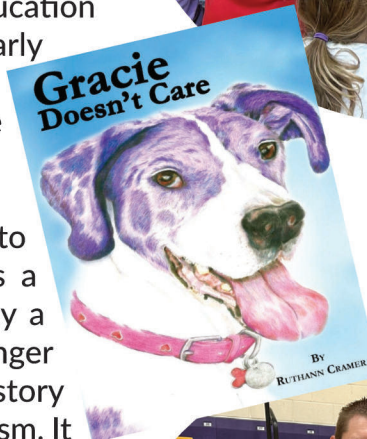
Educating elementary students on direct support care and the importance of working with individuals with disabilities serves multiple purposes in advancing our mission of enhancing the lives of those in our care.

We had an opportunity to gather with students at Holgate Elementary School, hoping that early education would help students better understand the experiences and challenges faced by people with disabilities. Not only can this early education lead to more welcoming schools and communities, early exposure to the importance of working with people with disabilities can inspire students to become future advocates or professionals in the field.

Our visit included hands-on challenges for students to participate in, a conversation with David, who utilizes a communication device to speak, and a book, written by a former Filling Home employee, being read to the younger students. *Gracie Doesn't Care* is a heart touching, true story book about a dog that connects with a child who has autism. It was a perfect read, promoting inclusion and kindness towards people who are unique.

Lessons on supporting individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities teaches skills like teamwork, patience, and effective communication - and we are happy to do it and include those we serve in our presentations and events. They enjoy the inclusion and making new friends!

For more information on our outreach availability, please contact Jean Cohrs, Mission Advancement Director.



Above, Jean Cohrs and Amanda G. read *Gracie Doesn't Care* to students and below, Colton Wager, Jenna Blue and David pose after a lesson on communication devices with the students.



Michael Dean Short

May 4, 1949 - December 16, 2024

We remember Mike with fondness and appreciation, he was a valued member of our team and will be greatly missed.

It is with great sadness we share with you that Michael Short has passed away.

Mike was an integral part our or team, dedicated to our mission, our staff, and those we serve. He was more than just a coworker to many of us. Mike was a friend, a mentor, and a loyal member of our Team. His contributions, kindness, and unwavering dedication to Filling Homes will be remembered for years to come. We are grateful for the time we had with him and for the positive impact he had on each of us, both personally and professionally.

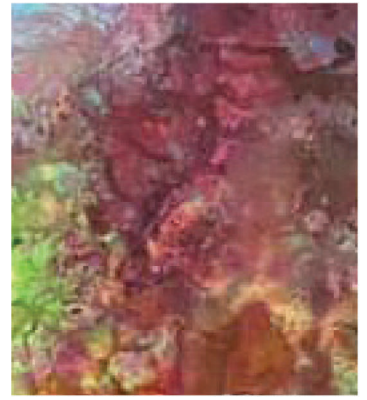
We ask that you keep Mike's family and friends in your prayers through this difficult time. A memorial will be held at a later date, which we will share at that time.

INCLUSIVITY IN THE ARTS

Soaring Arts Studios had four Artists who had their pieces accepted into the Accessible Expressions Ohio Exhibit for 2025! This exhibit is put on by Art Possible Ohio and features Artists from all over Ohio. The exhibit will open at the Columbus Metro Library in April. Accessible Expressions will then travel to galleries around the state of Ohio throughout the year.

Art Possible Ohio was founded in 1986. They work together with artists of all ages who have disabilities to advocate for accessibility and inclusivity, advance careers in the creative sector, build community, and improve the academic achievement of Ohio's students through arts integration. Please join us in congratulating Maddie Lutts, Tara Murphy, Amanda Laver and Jen Nofziger, whose pieces will be on exhibit.

Please follow us on Facebook to keep up on all of the amazing things they are doing. You can access their online store, see upcoming events and register for Community Art Classes on their website, soaringarts.org.



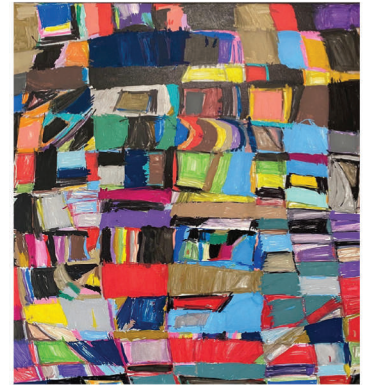
"Painting Splattered" By Amanda Laver



"Hiding Behind Myself" - By Tara Murphy



"An Explosion of Emotion" - By Jen Nofziger (Face-painting, Photography, Digital Collage)



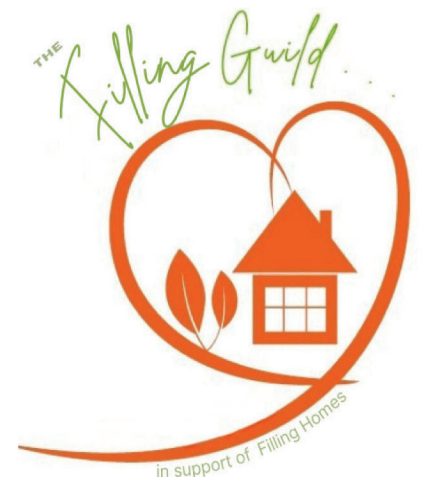
"Just A Line That Went For A Wee-Little Walk Through the Up's and Down's of Life" - By Maddie Lutts

GUILD SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Filling Guild has two scholarships open from now until March 31st of 2025. The \$1000 Moser Nursing Scholarship will be granted to a 2025 high school graduating student who aspires to become a Licensed Practical Nurse or Registered Nurse.

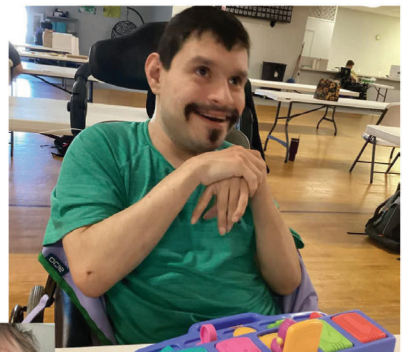
The \$1000 Employee Scholarship is awarded to an active employee of Filling Homes who is interested in pursuing advanced education in the Health and Human Services field with the intent of employment serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

If you would like to help support the Filling Guild, please contact Jean Cohrs, Mission Advancement Director, for more information.



MISSION

INSIDE THE



Change of Address

Please clip and return this form, if you or someone you know has changed addresses. Thank You!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ email _____

- ☐ Please make address/name correction
- ☐ I am receiving two copies
- ☐ I would like to receive the newsletter via email

Return form and address label from this newsletter to:

Filling Homes

N160 State Route 108

Napoleon, OH 43545

Email concerns to :

maggieburt@fillinghome.org

Presenting/Diamond Sponsors

 **CIVISTA BANK**
Focused on You

 **VFW**
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
Post 8218

Purses for a Purpose
DESIGNER PURSE BINGO



We invite you to
STAY CONNECTED



April 24, 2025

Filling Homes Community Center

Tickets: \$45

20 Games of Bingo

Designer Purse for Each Winning Card!

Basket Raffles - Wine Pull - 50/50 -

Grand Prize Bingo - & More!

Benefitting
People Served by



- Kate Spade
- Coach
- Michael Kors
- and More!

Details and Tickets @
fillinghome.org

Doors Open at 4:30 - Bingo Begins at 6:00

BEVERAGES: LUMBERYARD WINERY &
HORS D'OEUVRES: BAVARIAN CATERING

Filling Home of Mercy
a Ministry of
Lutheran Ministries of Mercy

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Rob Giesige, Stephen Lutz
Amy Merkel, Jeff Mires
Jeffrey Schwartz, Becky Stewart
Chester Trail, Charles Winters
Kathleen Winters



† Filling Memorial Home of Mercy †

N160 State Route 108
Napoleon, OH 43545

419-592-6451
fillinghome.org



Change Service Requested

Supported Living & Adult Day Services Needs List

Thank you for considering supporting these programs.

Sticky Notes
Printer Paper
Pens/Sharpies
Tape
White Out
Coffee
Peanut Butter
Wheat Flour
Paper Towels
Planting Pots

Watercolors
Acrylic Paints & Markers
Paint Markers
Sketch Pads
Frames
Dish Soap
Washcloths
Aprons
Hair Dryers
Cactus/Plant Potting Soil

Jiffy Organic Seed Starting Mix
Travel Size Hand Sanitizer
Hand Lotion
Paint Brushes
Blank Canvas – Any Size
Fresh or Dried Flowers
Laundry Detergent
Toilet Paper & Tissues



Questions about donations? Please contact us!