

# **EXCITING NEWS:**The Suites at Fellowship Community Are Coming!



We're thrilled to share exciting news— The Suites at Fellowship Community, a modern expansion of our Continuing Care Retirement Community. The first of three buildings is set to open in 2026, bringing 24 brand-new independent living residences to our campus.

These thoughtfully designed apartments will range from 1,050 to 1,450 square feet, each equipped with smart home technology to enhance comfort and convenience. With a growing waitlist for our current townhomes and apartments, this expansion offers a much needed opportunity for more individuals to experience life at Fellowship.

Construction is expected to begin this fall, and future plans include exciting amenities like a Maker's Space for artists and crafters and a Visual and Performing Arts Center for live performances, movies, galleries, and a bistro.

Residents will be able to personalize their space, choosing finishes like tile, flooring, and cabinetry, allowing them to create the home they love—Fellowship takes care of the rest!

Each building will also feature community clubrooms for gatherings, meetings, and celebrations. Floor plan options include:

- One-bedroom with den and 1.5 baths
- Two-bedroom with two baths
- Two-bedroom plus den with two baths

This expansion is designed to meet the Lehigh Valley's high demand for independent living and help accommodate our extensive waitlist.

#### Want to learn more?

Contact Laura Long at 610-769-4332 or llong@FellowshipCommunity.com.

#### SCAN HERE FOR







Amanda Laporte, Senior Vice President/C00

When Amanda Laporte joined Fellowship Community as Senior Vice President/C00 in February, it was as if the final piece of a beautifully crafted scrapbook page had been placed—bringing harmony, warmth, and purpose to the layout. Her seamless transition into the team was marked by her friendly demeanor, quick wit, and genuine connection with colleagues. Amanda didn't just join the team—she became part of the family.

With a deep reservoir of experience in the senior living industry, Amanda quickly earned the respect of those around her. Like a seasoned scrapbooker selecting just the right embellishments, she brings thoughtful leadership, a collaborative spirit, and a knack for organizing complex operations with creativity and care.

Amanda is eager to help, determined to educate, and always open to new ideas—qualities that mirror the heart of a scrapbooker who sees potential in every photo, every detail, and every blank page.

She holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a minor in Health Care Administration from Cedar Crest College in Allentown, Pa. Amanda is both a licensed Nursing Home Administrator and a licensed Personal Care Home Administrator.

Her professional journey—spanning roles as a Nursing Home Administrator and Human Resources Director—has equipped her with a deep understanding of healthcare operations. Today, she oversees 345 Fellowship Community employees, bringing "creative order" to every aspect of her work, much like arranging a scrapbook layout that balances beauty with function.

Outside of work, Amanda's life is a beautifully layered scrapbook—each moment a vibrant snapshot contributing to her masterpiece.

She's been married to her husband, Roberto, for 20 years, a love story that fills many cherished pages. Together, they've created a family album full of joy, laughter, and adventure.

Their daughter Mia, a senior at Emmaus High School, is currently crafting the next chapter of her journey. This summer, Amanda was busy helping Mia explore 15 college campuses—each visit a new photo-worthy memory—as Mia prepares to pursue a degree in engineering with dreams of designing amusement park rides.

Logan, their sophomore son, adds action shots to the family collection. A passionate flag football player, he plays on both recreational and competitive travel teams. Amanda, his biggest fan, is often found on the sidelines, cheering

## Dear Friends,

As we enter this season of hope and celebration, I'm thrilled to share a momentous milestone in the life of Fellowship Community—the groundbreaking of The Suites at Fellowship Community is scheduled for December 12. This exciting new chapter is more than just bricks and mortar; it's a testament to our unwavering commitment to providing a luxurious lifestyle filled with the freedom to pursue what you love and the peace of mind that comes from knowing exceptional healthcare in personal care, skilled nursing, or memory support is available on campus, should you ever need it.

With the holidays approaching, we warmly invite you to our Holiday Bazaar on November 21 and 22, featuring more than 30 vendors and a food truck each day. It's a festive opportunity to shop, connect, and enjoy the season.

We'll also be celebrating Christmas at Fellowship on December 7, surrounded by friends, family, and the joy of community. You'll find more details about these events in this newsletter.

The spirit of Christmas is alive and well across our campus throughout the year, but in December, it truly comes to life. From twinkling lights to joyful gatherings, Fellowship is filled with warmth, gratitude, and the true meaning of the season. As we celebrate together, let us reflect on the blessings of the past year and look forward with excitement to all that lies ahead.

Wishing you and your loved ones a joyful and peaceful Christmas.

May Kay M. Maha

Mary Kay McMahon President/CEO

him on and capturing every touchdown moment.

Completing the Laporte family scrapbook is Zoey, their spirited boxer. With her playful personality and queenlike attitude, she's the star of many candid snapshots and keeps everyone on their toes.

Amanda's passion for scrapbooking is more than a hobby—it's a reflection of how she approaches life and leadership. She delights in selecting the perfect photos and memorabilia,

organizing stories, and designing pages that capture meaning and memory. Her favorite getaway each year is a scrapbooking weekend in Pittsburgh, where she can immerse herself in creativity and connection.

"Scrapbooking is my hobby and my passion," Amanda shares. "It is my creative outlet."

And it's that same love for thoughtful arrangement, storytelling, and detail that makes Amanda such a valued leader at Fellowship Community—helping us all put the pieces together, one meaningful page at a time.





The Board of Directors plays a vital role in ensuring Fellowship Community fulfills its mission:

Inspired by the compassion of the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, Fellowship is a caring senior living community committed to enriching the physical and spiritual lives of those we serve.

(L-R) Rev. Tim Schmoyer, Chairman; Dr. Ron Reed, Vice Chairman; Byron Roth, Secretary/Treasurer

### Meet the Officers of Fellowship Community's Board of Directors

We are proud to introduce the dedicated officers of Fellowship Community's Board of Directors, who provide strategic leadership and heartfelt commitment to our mission.

**Rev. Tim Schmoyer**, Chairman of the Board, shares, "It's my privilege to join Fellowship Community in carrying out its mission while providing compassionate care in this wonderful organization." Tim also serves as Chair of the Communications and Development Committee and has been a valued member of the Board since 2021.

**Dr. Ron Reed,** Vice Chairman, has served on the Board for nearly 40 years. His enduring dedication to Fellowship Community is rooted in faith and service. "We're the hands and feet of Jesus," he says, reflecting the spirit that guides our work.

**Byron Roth,** Secretary/Treasurer, is one of the newest members of the Board. "I have the privilege of serving with an organization that delivers excellence in care for seniors in the Lehigh Valley," he shares.

#### Members of the Board of Directors:

Wayne Batten Robert Erland Dr. Glenn Ruoss Henry U. Sandt Jr. Rob Vaughn Hans R. Waldvogel

# From San Giorgia la Montagna to Your Table: A Taste of Italian Tradition

Jessica Dulney, MS, RD, LDN, Director of Dining Services, has kindly agreed to share her family's sacred recipe for Manestra. This flavorful dish has been

passed down through generations, tracing back to Jessica's greatgrandmother, Maria, who brought the recipe with her all the way from San



- Fresh Garlic 6 cloves
- Margherita Pepperoni (Sliced) 1 stick
- Frozen Spinach 4 packets
- · Crushed Red Pepper Pinch
- Bacon (Cooked) 1 pound
- Northern Bean Large 40-oz. can
- Chicken Broth 1 to 2 cups

Giorgia la Montagna, Italy, when she arrived in Ellis Island in 1929. With its rich Italian roots and delicious blend of ingredients, this is sure to bring a little taste of Italy to your table!

#### **Directions**

Heat large pan over medium heat.

Slice 1 stick of pepperoni and place in very hot water. Put to side to soak and allow fat to release.

Defrost spinach, squeeze water out of package and place in a large pan along with drained beans.

Dice cooked bacon and place into pan with the spinach and beans

Add chicken broth until loose. (More liquid can be added in the cooking process if it's too dry.)

Cover and simmer on low for 3 to 4 hours, stirring often.



Jessica Dulney, MS, RD, LDN, Director of Dining Services



### Hats Off to Beth: Fellowship's Own Wins Staff Member of the Year

Beth Royster, a member of our housekeeping team, is feeling waves of appreciation after receiving LeadingAge PA's Staff Member of the Year Award as part of its Distinguished Service Awards. Beth has been working at Fellowship Community for

nearly eight years in both housekeeping and as a CNA in the Manor.

But what makes Beth truly stand out is her signature touch: hats—and lots of them. With her collection of over 75 hats, Beth brings daily excitement to Fellowship Community. The tradition began years ago while working the dayshift at a previous care facility, where she would wear fun Christmas hats around the holiday season. She carried this activity to Fellowship, where one resident jokingly asked what she was going to wear for Groundhog Day. Beth's response? She went home and crafted her very own groundhog hat, and her daily tradition expanded.

Beth was truly moved by the experience at LeadingAge PA's award ceremony in Hershey, Pa. From the early-morning rehearsal to the time her name was called at the ceremony, and even later at dinner, it all felt like a dream to her. "It was like an out-of-body experience," she said. She teared up more than once—especially during the speech given by Mary Kay McMahon, RN, MHA, NHA, President/CEO of Fellowship Community.

"Beth is always willing to go above and beyond, stepping in to help wherever needed. Beyond her infectious positivity, Beth is deeply committed to excellence in her role. She ensures that our personal care department remains immaculate, creating a welcoming, comfortable environment for residents and offering peace of mind to their families. Her attention to detail reflects the high standards we uphold at Fellowship Community," said McMahon.

Beth's favorite part of working at Fellowship is the connections she forms with staff and residents.

"I don't consider them residents; I consider them my friends," Beth says proudly. When they found out that Beth had won the award for Staff Member of the Year, the residents were so excited that they threw her a party with a cake and handwritten card. Her award sits tall in the entry of the Villa, where she says it will serve as a reminder—not just for her, but for the residents and their families who are the real reason she received the award.

## Have you ever considered a tribute gift?

Tribute gifts of any amount to Fellowship Community can be a deeply gratifying way to recognize someone who touched your life, while helping to enhance the quality of life of our residents.

#### THERE ARE SEVERAL TYPES OF GIFTS TO HELP YOU PAY TRIBUTE:

GIFTS IN MEMORY — Create a lasting memorial for a friend or loved one who has passed away by making a gift to Fellowship Community. A memorial gift offers a meaningful way to pay lasting tribute to the memory of a loved one while also extending sympathy to the family.

GIFTS IN CELEBRATION — Celebrate life's milestones (birthdays, graduations, anniversaries, retirements, Mother's/Father's Day, or any special occasion) by making a tribute donation to Fellowship Community, maybe even instead of presents. Your honoree will appreciate the thoughtful gift in support of our ongoing work.

GIFTS IN HONOR — Show those closest to you the important role they play in your life, or recognize your gratitude for a caregiver by making a gift in their honor to support the mission of Fellowship Community.

In addition, tribute pavers, tree plaques and benches provide an opportunity to commemorate your loved one and beautify the Fellowship Community campus.

Another gesture that carries deep significance and makes a lasting impact is to name Fellowship Community as the recipient of obituary gifts in lieu of flowers. More than being the eco-friendly choice, this is a way to carry your loved one's legacy forward, while showing appreciation for the staff and care provided.

For more information on tribute giving, contact Tracy Bozik, Development & Communications Manager, at (610) 769-9198 or tbozik@FellowshipCommunity.com.





## Creating a Brighter Tomorrow Through the Joy of Giving

With as little as one sentence, you can create a brighter tomorrow at Fellowship Community without parting with assets today. Donors can designate Fellowship Community as the beneficiary of a specific asset or the recipient of a percentage of the total estate.

Take, for example, our most recent legacy gift from the estate of Katherine Cole and the Cole family.

After graduating from the McBurney School and Ohio Wesleyan University, Richard Cole spent his entire working career as an accountant at General Electric in Bridgeport, Conn., and Allentown, Pa. His wife, Katherine, received her teaching degree at West Chester State College and earned a master's degree at Lehigh University. Her career included teaching as well as running the family household. They enjoyed many shared interests, including travel and a deep appreciation for nature. The couple instilled a love of hiking and camping in their children, daughters Pam and Barbara and son Robert.

Another trait instilled in their children was the joy of giving, whether it was the donation of time through volunteering or monetary donations to help others in need or where the needs are greatest. "We were taught to take responsibility for our behavior and actions, that we should be forgiving, loving, and compassionate with each other, and that we should develop and use our talents for the good of ourselves and others," said Robert.

Robert shares, "Back in 2006, it was time for our parents to downsize their home in Emmaus, and based on research regarding Lehigh Valley retirement communities, we felt Fellowship Community was the best fit."

In 2007, the Coles moved onto the Fellowship campus as independent living residents in Kauffman Court. Years later, they needed additional help and transitioned to personal care, residing in both the Terrace and Villa. Eventually, they benefited from skilled nursing care in the Manor, with Richard passing away in 2016 and Katherine in 2024.

The Coles were a true illustration of how to navigate the continuum of care. "Our parents had long appreciated the value of a single system, whereby they were able to experience independent living, personal care, and eventually a brief stay in nursing, all on one contiguous campus," says Robert. "Through estate planning, they wanted to express their gratitude by giving back for their many years of residence at Fellowship Community."

The easiest and most direct way to make a charitable gift is by an outright bequest of cash in your will. Making an outright bequest only requires verbiage in your will that names Fellowship Community as the charitable beneficiary and states the amount of your gift. Working with your attorney, you can add gift language to your current document(s) or create an entirely new one. Estate gifts can be made through your will as an outright, residual, contingency, or restricted bequest.

For more information on giving to Fellowship Community and legacy giving, please contact Tracy Bozik, Development and Communications Manager, at 610-769-9198 or tbozik@ FellowshipCommunity.com.



#### **Understanding Your Medicare Options**

We are pleased to offer a free service provided by the Pennsylvania Area Agency on Aging here at Fellowship Community.

As a trained PA MEDI Counselor, our Financial Counselor, Cathy Bogardo, is available to help you understand the Medicare medical and prescription insurance available and assist with completing medical insurance paperwork. She will provide clear and objective advice about available insurance and allow you to make informed, educated decisions.

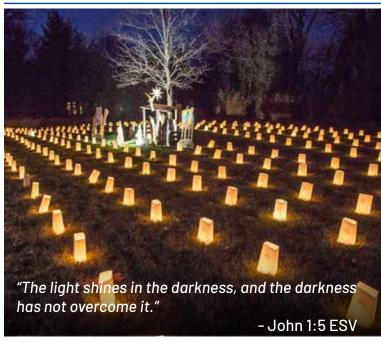
Open enrollment has already begun and is open until December 7. Contact Cathy to schedule an appointment

to review your current benefits and ensure that you are on the best plan available for your individual circumstances. She will assess your plan to make sure you are taking advantage of any of the Extra Help programs that are available to you.

Cathy Bogardo may be reached at 610-769-8124 or cbogardo@ FellowshipCommunity.com.



Cathy Bogardo Financial Counselor



## Join us this holiday season in paying tribute to your loved ones while illuminating the Fellowship campus!

With a \$25 contribution, you can sponsor a luminaria in honor or in memory of someone special, to mark a special occasion, or even for a unique holiday gift! Weather-resistant electric luminarias will be placed around the campus and will be lit beginning December 4.

Proceeds from this project will benefit our Spirit Fund and charitable care for our skilled nursing and personal care residents who have outlived their funds.

To reserve one or more tribute luminarias, make your gift online by November 20 using the QR code.

Or if you prefer, send your donation to: Tribute Luminaria c/o Tracy Bozik 3020 Fellowship Drive Whitehall, PA 18052





Questions? Contact Tracy Bozik at 610-769-9198 or tbozik@FellowshipCommunity.com.





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