



**United Methodist
Communities**
Foundation

3311 State Route 33, Neptune, NJ 07753
732-922-9800 | UMCommunities.org

A Time to Bloom

Dear friend of UMC,

At United Methodist Communities, we know that this season of blossoming isn't just for flowers.

Every day, we witness compassionate, person-centered care transforming lives. In the spirit of Mother's Day, we would like to share about one special mother, Norma, her daughter Amanda, and the role that United Methodist Communities has played in fostering hope and new growth in their situation.



Norma moved to United Methodist Communities at Pitman almost three years ago, after experiencing a severe stroke. Norma's sudden physical decline and limitations were devastating, as she had always been active, enjoying a wide variety of hobbies, such as cross-stitching, gardening, and PlayStation video games.

"Mom's mindset was very grave," her daughter Amanda explains. **"It was a very difficult, upsetting time for all of us."**

The entire staff at UMC at Pitman rallied to lift Norma's spirits. In addition to assisting her in regaining physical strength and day-to-day health, their main goal was to help Amanda's mom embrace what she **could** do, instead of focusing on her limitations.

Pastor Kim, UMC at Pitman's director of mission and pastoral care, calls Norma **"one of Pitman's miracles,"** due to the profound positive improvement she's experienced. Norma's first year in the community was a time of tremendous transition. Slowly but surely, with help from her UMC at Pitman family and support from her children, this beloved mother flourished. Norma is once again living an abundant life. She now enjoys coming out of her room to socialize, has regained her healthy appetite, and looks forward to group activities and crafts.

"And her smile comes so much easier now," Pastor Kim adds, with her own smile.

"People make the difference," says Norma. **"I'm comfortable and very happy to be here."**

Through her mother's journey, Amanda has seen firsthand the difference that living at a United Methodist Community can make.

Continued on back

Yes! I want to help UMC flourish and bloom this spring season! I'm enclosing my year-end donation of:

\$500 \$100 \$50 Other \$ _____

In memory of / In honor of _____

Church Name: _____ City/Zip: _____

Credit Card

Visit foundation.umcommunities/42 to make a secure online donation or call 732-922-9802 x2121, and we will process your credit card donation over the phone.



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“If you’re in a good place, you naturally thrive,” she says. “Pitman has been that place for Mom. I know she wouldn’t be in such great condition if she were living somewhere else, and because I know she’s taken care of and doing so well, I finally feel at peace with myself.”

UMC strives to create that peace for residents, as well as the residents’ family members. We are proud to have served thousands of older adults like Norma, each with their own distinct stories. By joining United Methodist Communities’ Gift of Care Circle, you can become part of these powerful life transformations, and create an opportunity for residents to blossom, having security and peace of mind.

As our residents are blessed to enjoy longer, healthier lives, healthcare costs rise. Some residents outlive their financial resources and find themselves unable to afford the cost of their care at UMC. That is where you come in.

Many moms (and dads!) can continue experiencing long and healthy lives at our communities, thanks to your generous donation.

In this year alone, generous associates, local church congregations, business partners, families, and individuals like you have united to help us keep more than 40 such residents comfortable and active in the communities they call home.

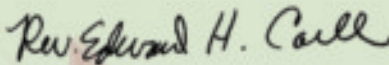
“Living here, the benefits to the residents’ mental capacity, their physical conditions, their spirits – it’s amazing,” Amanda says. “The Gift of Care Circle is a great cause to support because it helps those residents who otherwise wouldn’t be able to continue benefitting from what communities like UMC at Pitman provide.”

Your donation provides comfort and reassurance – not only for our residents but for their loving families as well, allowing each family member and resident to flourish and bloom in a new season.

Sharing in your spirit of generosity,



Larry Carlson, *President & CEO*



Rev. Ed Carll, *Chair, UMC Foundation Board of Trustees*

**Visit our website to watch some
Mother’s Day-themed videos!**

<https://foundation.umcommunities.org/mothers-day-videos/>

Hear residents and their children talk about Mother’s Day traditions and memories, and why UMC is so special to their family. You can hear more from Norma and Amanda about Norma’s wonderful story of transformation!