

Creating Connections

Stories Across United Methodist Communities

A swe approach the holidays, we love to share meaningful stories of the impact of your generosity. This year, we just couldn't decide which story! Because each of our communities and offerings are unique, we are sharing brief vignettes so you can truly experience **all the ways UMC brings abundant life to seniors.**



BRISTOL GLEN

Bristol Glen residents enjoy a bond with students from nearby Newton High School, who visit with their job coach from the ACHIEVE transitions program. They shadow the team to gain insight into a career serving seniors. Recently, an English class visited residents to interview them about their lives, specifically living through historic events like the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and World War II. UMC's commitment to community makes these joyful relationships possible, and your gifts support abundant life, meaningful connections, and rich opportunities for our residents.

COLLINGSWOOD

Sometimes a shift in seasons yields even more connections. Joyce Albrecht, former president of the Haddonfield Lions Club and teacher at Haddon Heights School District for over 35 years, recently moved to UMC at Collingswood. Joyce is beloved by the local community, so several team members organized a Lions Club lunch in her honor. Joyce's former colleagues and Lions Club friends attended to express their gratitude for her many years of service. Joyce's new home at UMC at Collingswood is helping her maintain her connections to the community she has always loved. This has led to maintaining old friendships, forging new ones, and being empowered to live an abundant life!

PITMAN

Strangers become neighbors and neighbors become family at Pitman. Longtime resident Margretta's husband Andy would read the Bible to her every day before his passing last summer. It was a cherished and meaningful part of Margretta's day. Her neighbor, Patti, understands the comfort and encouragement scripture provides. Realizing Margretta was missing this in her life, Patti stepped up! She not only frequently reads scripture to Margretta, but she provides her with companionship and a steady connection to her faith. "Life here is delightful," Patti says. And one of the most delightful things is how connections amongst residents foster abundant living.

Continued on back

Yes, I will partner with you in creating and celebrating connections!

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THE SHORES

When Gavin Gershon began volunteering at The Shores, he was thrilled to share his passion for languages with our residents. As a student of Italian, he was excited to converse with several Italian residents. "It was meaningful to give them someone they could speak to in their native language," Gavin remembers. He created the Culture Club, where residents gathered every week to learn about different countries, cultures, and languages. "I formed connections with the older generation, while they were given someone to connect with over their heritage," Gavin shares. All club members agreed that they love when Gavin visits. When friends share their time, talents, and treasures with our residents, it makes abundant life a reality!

SENIOR HOUSING

Before coming to UMC, Richard Freeman lived in a third-floor apartment. When his landlady noticed that he had a difficult time managing the stairs, she helped him fill out an application for Bishop Taylor. When he moved in, residents and teammates banded together to make him feel welcome. One resident donated a microwave, the Social Service Coordinator gave him prepared meals and arranged home health visits, and the team loaned him a walker until he could get one of his own. His former landlady is thrilled with the compassion, support, and connection he's found. Richard is thankful to be living at UMC at Bishop Taylor.

HOMEWORKS

HomeWorks provides in-home care for seniors who choose to stay in their homes. HomeWorks teammates build rapport and form strong relationships with their clients. They provide vital connections and socialization, which enhances the lives of those they serve. Our mission to provide abundant life is not limited to those who live in our buildings; it extends to serving people living in whatever setting they choose.

Your gifts make an impact in the lives of all those served by UMC. By giving, you play a valuable role in creating the meaningful connections that make UMC so special - meaningful connections that empower our residents and clients to live abundant lives full of joy and community.

This holiday season, partner with us in creating and celebrating connection!

To update your contact information, change your communication preferences, or opt out of communications, please call us at 732-731-2121 or email foundation@umcommunities.org. Thank you! United Methodist Communities

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