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No

December 16, 2022

To: Families and Friends of Luther Court Society
From: Karen Johnson-Lefsrud, Chief Executive Officer

Dear Family and Friends,

This update serves to bring you up-to-date on life at Luther Court and communicates information that we believe would be helpful for you to have.

Christmas Festivities at Luther Court

It is our sincere wish that you enjoy a wonderful celebration with your family this Christmas that includes those who live at Luther Court. There have been many lovely seasonal gatherings already and our space is once again brightly lit with the joy of the season. The COVID restrictions are lessening – which is something we are all grateful for, but they have of course, not disappeared. As you are aware, we still have protocols by which we must abide. Whereas before the pandemic we could be quite open in including guests for Christmas dinner, it is more problematic in these times. The protocols in place require families to sit at a separate table with their family member, and you can appreciate this limits how many family members can be accommodated in our space. If it is possible, we encourage you to plan a meal with your loved one off-site – in your own home or in a restaurant. If this is not possible, we have a very limited number of spaces to accommodate a guest for our residents. Please speak with Carolyn Hoekstra email; (choekstra@luthercourt.org; phone 250 477-7241 ext. 228) if you require further information.

The Stars Shining in our Hearts

Pastor Ed has written a reflective piece on remembering those who have touched our lives and whose absence at Christmas we feel most keenly. I commend his reflection to you and I also encourage you to look at the “Stars that Light Up the Night Sky” poster which is in our main foyer. Pastor Ed can be reached for conversation and support at 250 477-7241 ext. 223 or by emailing echell@luthercourt.org He is an excellent listener!

Retirements approaching in 2023

We used to joke in our Leadership meetings that in order to be on our Leadership team, you had to be born in 1958. As the coming year approaches that means that both Lori McKenzie and myself will be reaching that banner year – and we are both retiring, Lori in March, and myself in June.

Speaking for myself, Luther Court has been a huge part of my life for over 30 years. It has been a privilege and an honour to serve those who live at Luther Court or participate in the care and

services we provide and to work with a terrific team. Together we have done some great work, and this community never ceases to amaze me in terms of the way people care for one another. Although I will be very sad to leave work that I have loved and most especially to leave the people that have touched my life, it is time. I look forward to having more time with my family, especially as we welcome grandchildren and see how precious that time is. I also look forward to time to volunteer in other capacities. And a change in leadership can also be a fruitful time for an organization to grow in new ways and prepare for the challenges ahead. The Board of Directors has engaged a firm to secure a new CEO, and the Board has had the benefit of time to prepare and plan for a smooth transition. The Society is in good hands!

As this year closes, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of you who surround our community, support us, encourage us, and work with us to ensure the health and safety of those who make their home here or access our services. We couldn't do any of this without you. In the midst of a troubled and hurting world, may the Christmas message of peace and hope, goodwill to all, envelope and surround you, and bring you joy.

We are grateful for your prayers. You are in our prayers