

WORDS OF WORTH

Worth Hartman, Chaplain

“Garden Variety Faith: Trusting Not Judging”

It's half way through the summer and I'm enjoying getting fresh, locally grown vegetables from the farmer's markets and stands springing up all over. Some years I have even picked cucumbers and scallions out of those terraced garden beds I was telling you about last week. They didn't seem to be as affected by the toxins from the walnut tree. Every time I plant a garden these same doubts come over me. Are these tiny, dead looking seeds really going to bring forth life? Will they make it through burning summer drought, too much rain, hail storms, weeds that want to take over or even my neglect?

Paul writes in Hebrews 11:1, “*Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things unseen.*” Planting a garden is an act of faith. I look at the picture on the seed package. I imagine how that plant will look or think how good that vegetable will taste. I have conviction about something not yet seen. My past experience with gardens, especially other people's gardens, gives me assurance, in spite of my doubts, of things hoped for.

Our gospel stories these last weeks have been all about sowing seeds, good soil and bad soil, harvesting splendid crops and burning sinister weeds. We want to be fertile soil for God's Word to grow. We trust God's seeds will grow. We believe in the generosity and faithfulness of the Sower. We trust God to bring us the good fruit (and vegetables) and sort out and protect us from the bad.

This week's gospel parable describing the kingdom of heaven is called “The Weeds and the Wheat” (Matthew 13:24-30).

Another sower plants good wheat seed in his fields. When the wheat sprouts there are weeds all mixed in, threatening the crop. Apparently “an enemy” has sown weeds in with the wheat. The farmworkers that are caring for this crop are upset and want to tear into the fields ripping out the weeds. The sower says, “No, wait, hold it, let wheat and weeds grow together for now. If you try to pull up the weeds you will uproot the wheat as well. Let the reapers at harvest time do the sorting, burning up the weeds and harvesting the grain.” Again Jesus reminds us in the face of adversity, challenges, the “enemies” in life that we need to let our faith and trust be in God. We may want to accuse, name, or get back at those who oppose us. We want to stamp out those who we think are blocking God's will and way. This parable warns us that we should be careful in our judging. The wheat can be confused with the weeds. In attacking weeds we are in danger of harming the wheat. We may want God, a wiser, more discerning, more compassionate judge to weigh in here and do the sorting. We need to live, let go and let God.

Here is a verse from one of this week's hymns, “Come, Ye Thankful People Come”:

*All the world is God's own field, fruit unto his praise to yield,
Wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.
First the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear.
Lord of harvest grant that we,
wholesome grain and pure may be.*

Visit Appreciation

Thank you and your families for your cooperation and following the guidelines during visits. It can be difficult to remember to wear the mask, or not touch, but when reminded, all have complied and express their appreciation for Shelley and our staff.

Vespers Service

Chaplain Worth Hartman creates a new Vespers service each week which is recorded and uploaded to YouTube. You can watch this week's service by going to: <https://www.youtube.com/embed/uw6h2GDik34>

We are able to monitor the number of times the Vesper's service has been viewed, and we are not seeing many tuning in. Please, ask your activities staff to help you watch the service, or go online in your personal device. Worth puts a lot of effort into creating a spiritual service for our residents and we hope that you all might take 20 minutes to watch the service.

Fun and Useless Facts

- There are 118 ridges on the edge of a dime.
- The eye of an Ostridge is bigger than it's brain.
- There are 293 ways to make change for a dollar.
- Rubber bands will last much longer if they are refrigerated.
- Japan has 23 vending machines per person.
- The dot over the lower case I is called a title.
- There are 7 different types of twins.
- The plastic tips of shoelaces are called aglets
- On average, you use your left hand for 56% of what you type on a keyboard.
- The largest pair of eyes in the world belongs to a giant squid.
- The former flag of Libya was solid green.
- Penguins fly underwater and can reach speeds of 25 mph.
- Minnie Mouse's original name was Minerva.
- April 11, 1954 was recorded as the most boring day in the world.
- A jiffy is a proper unit of time—it is exactly 1/100th of a second.
- Rudolph the Reindeer is female.
- Buttermilk doesn't contain any butter.



Westminster
Village North

Around the Village

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July 17, 2020

Celebrating 70 Years Together!



John and Connie Swan celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on Thursday, July 16. John lives in Elm and Connie lives in the Health Center. Even COVID-19 couldn't dampen their celebration, as they were able to visit each other on their special day. Congratulations to this very delightful couple.



From all of us!



At Last - Construction Begins!

Marty Krug

Groundbreaking for the new social hall is scheduled for Monday, July 20! Due to Covid-19 restrictions, there will be no ceremony – but look out a window here or there and you just might see some action taking place. Hallelujah!

Precautions against COVID

As was reported earlier this week, we have had exposure to the coronavirus in Tamarack. The positive case involves a couple who have been leaving the community to visit family, shop, etc. Since we have no other positive cases among residents or staff, we assume they were exposed elsewhere. Immediately upon learning of this positive case, we began “contact tracing” — contacting individuals with whom the couple had been in contact with — to let them know of the possibility of exposure. These individuals were asked to monitor their symptoms. If you were in contact with this couple, you have been contacted by the time I am writing this newsletter article.

We understand the concern this has caused among residents who live in Tamarack. Please know that we are also disappointed that we have had to cease outside visitation until we are

14 days past the last positive test, but these are state and federal guidelines we must adhere to.

We want to reiterate that we are NOT at liberty to disclose the names of the individuals as this is a HIPAA violation. We ask you to respect their privacy as well.

However, please be proactive to protect yourself! You must wear a mask when you leave your apartment. At all times. You must wash hands/use hand sanitizer after touching items in high-contact areas such as the mailroom or front customer service desk. There will be tables placed at each elevator that contain tissues— please wrap your finger in a tissue before pressing the elevator buttons and discard in trash located in elevator.

Remember, you are not to let anyone in side doors or into your ground-floor apartment. We cannot have guests inside Tamarack. We ask each and every resident to increase their own infectious disease practices to try to keep our community safe. If you don't need to go out, please don't. If you are in the hallway, follow our guidelines. Everyone is responsible for their actions in terms of keeping others safe.

A Week at a Glance... Health Center

Debbi Johnson

Please check with your activities staff for information on daily activities at this time.

Health & Fitness Tip

Kenzie England

Being physically active is one of the best things you can do for yourself as you begin to age. Exercise has been proven to alleviate depression and can also improve energy and memory. Things such as long walks can even work to improve a person's health and can keep senior's healthier for longer. Physical activity often increases a person's happiness level therefore leading to a more fulfilling life.

In Memoriam

Anna Summers
Greta Margit Treiber

Please keep their families and friends in your thoughts and prayers.

Brain Teaser

These are 4 sticks. Move one stick to make a square.



A Week at a Glance... Assisted Living

Jill Armantrout

Saturday, July 18

1:00-3:00-Door to door daily chronicles
Trivia/humor
Bingo prizes delivered

Sunday, July 19

3:00-5:00
You Tube Service Available
See TV listing for spiritual guidance
Devotions distributed

Monday, July 20

1-4:00: Daily chronicles
Delivered
Grocery orders delivered

Tuesday, July 21

1-4:00: Door to door:
Daily chronicles, crafts/art project,
Bingo #'s given
5:30-Wellcheck calls

Wednesday, July 22

1-4:00: Door to door:
Daily chronicles, Cook's corner
snacks/cooking reminisce
Bingo #'s given

Thursday, July 23

1-4:00-Door to door:
Daily chronicles, Popcorn delivery/
movie trivia, Bingo #'s given
5:30-Wellcheck calls

Friday, July 24

1:00-3:00-Door to door:
Daily chronicles, printed devotions,
travel club
Last day to turn in grocery orders
3:15-4:30-Door to door:
Mocktails/cocktails



July Sky

Laurie Wilson

Perhaps you have read this weekend kicks off a stellar month of night sky watching, with a beautiful full Moon lining up with Jupiter and Saturn, but that's only the beginning!

Five planets will become visible to the naked eye, along with the crescent moon. These planets are Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn. And they will appear simultaneously in the night sky Sunday, July 19.

I'm sure you have seen Venus, and Jupiter in the sky previously, but this phenomenon is extremely rare!

On Sunday, try to wake up 45 minutes prior to sunrise, which will be at 6:33 am. This will be the best opportunity for you to see five planets along with the crescent moon without using a telescope.

According to experts, you will see Venus as the brightest light in the Eastern sky. Meanwhile, the thin crescent moon will be very low in the east-northeast part of the sky and will only shine about 1%. Mercury, on the other hand, will be to the right side of the moon as Mars will be about halfway up in the south-southeast part of the sky.

Moreover, looking at the southwest horizon, anyone would see Jupiter as

well as Saturn, which is located to the upper left of Jupiter.

Although telescopes are not necessary to see the planets, it is advised anyone who wants to see the moon, Mercury and Jupiter to use binoculars to help them.

If you just can't manage to get up at that hour, you may still see the five planets in the sky for a few mornings this month, but no longer with the moon. And it will cost you—earlier time!

"On successive mornings, look 3-4 minutes earlier each day. You should be able to see the five planets in the sky July 25.

Furthermore, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto can also be spotted in the sky between Venus and Jupiter this month. However, a telescope might be needed to



do that.

BUT...there's more....

Comet Neowise Also Visible

Earlier this month a comet named Neowise, after the telescope that was used when it was discovered, was spotted in the morning hours. Now, the same comet can be seen in the evening sky.

What's so special about this comet? Well, first it can only be seen in the northern hemisphere and this comet won't be back for 6,800 years, according to NASA.

Opposite of the 5 planets aligning, you will want to view the comet 45 minutes after sunset.

The comet made its closest approach to the sun July 3 but was only visible before dawn until now.

The comet has gotten higher in the sky since then. You will want to look northwest right under the Big Dipper.

Both amazing sights—don't miss them!!

A Week at a Glance... Independent Living

Laurie Wilson

Crossword Puzzle Challenge!

Congratulations to the 2nd Floor of Tamarack! Their puzzle was the first completed—thanks in large part to Irene Yacko who stayed up very late one night until it was finished! You will receive a private floor party to celebrate...soon, I hope!

If anyone would like the answer card to the Crossword puzzle, now that the contest is over, please pick it up from my office. I will leave the puzzles up until July 24. Thanks for playing.

Whomever left the beautiful **hummingbird** in Emily's garden, she is very appreciative and wishes to thank you. She'd prefer to do it in person, but know she will enjoy it as she sits on her patio every day.

Barbara Wood has moved into Tamarack 2029.

Raggedy REMINDER: wear your mask properly, covering nose and mouth, whenever outside your door.



Raggedy Ann belongs to Charlie and Charlene Case.