

GRACE HOME NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2019



THE WORTH OF A SOUL

What is the worth of one soul? Does it make a difference if they are Mennonite, Catholic, Jehovah's Witness, Muslim, Buddhist, Jewish, Atheistic or Secular? Just how much is a soul worth? How about if they are white, black, Hispanic Chinese, Indonesian or Asian? What about their age? Young or middle aged or old- does that make a difference on how much their soul is worth? If they are in school or raising a family or running a business- does that increase the value? What if the soul lives on in the body of the aged- does that make it worth more or less?

It really makes no difference who you are. Jesus showed us the worth of a soul when He died on Calvary. He would have died for only one of us if that is all He could save. One soul is worth everything to Him. Are we limiting the worth of a soul to what we can give of our time and money after we have hung out with all of our friends, had all the fun we wanted, ate at all the restaurants we wanted, bought the newest shoes, purchased a new vehicle and a more than adequate house to live in? Do we try to figure out a way to reach out to those around us after we are in debt "up to our noses"?

This seems like an unusual article but I hear the cry of souls every day at work- let's be inspired by the wonderful opportunities to share the story of Jesus at Grace Home. Often it looks like an insurmountable mountain to build the new Grace Home. It may seem impossible to come up with the funds needed, but the chances to share with seeking souls so they can spend eternity in Heaven shows us that no price is too high. He who can feed five thousand with two fishes and five loaves of bread will provide our needs if we truly trust Him and put Him first.

We had an elder awhile back who had never read a Bible even though she dearly loved to read. A Bible was purchased for her which she eagerly read cover to cover. Soon, she asked for a minister to speak with her, so one was called in. There seemed to be a clear testimony before she passed away of her assurance of salvation. I was very blessed to be one of the ones around and to witness and hear from her the wonderful news that her soul had been redeemed. This story is one of many that we have been privileged to experience at Grace Home. The mission of Grace Home is the Lord's and may we listen to God's gentle promptings that we might be able to continue the great work God has put in our hands.

The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. -2 Peter 3:9

COMMUNITY SALE

RUMMAGE/ BAKE/ CRAFTS

OCTOBER 12, 2019 at 8:00 AM

LIVINGSTON MENNONITE CHURCH

The employees at Grace Home are hosting this event to raise funds to remodel the atrium area. We want to make this area into a place for the elders to get some quiet time, a semi-outdoors visiting area, and a place to enjoy the pets.

We recently removed an old derelict fish pond and the area is looking rather rough right now. Pavers will be installed to make the floor friendlier for older feet and wheelchairs. An outdoor table with umbrellas will be added for a sitting area out of the sun. The estimated cost is about \$2800.

We are accepting rummage sale items and crafts for this fundraiser starting 10/7/19. Storage for these items before the sale will be in the women's overflow at the Livingston Church. Baked goods will need to be brought the evening before or the morning of the sale. If you don't have access to the women's overflow, employees at Grace Home can help you with that.

There will be coffee and cinnamon rolls with a box for free will donations!

Prices on the items you bring would be great! Otherwise, everything will be priced by us.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



25 YEARS!!!

On May 3, Yolanda Parra (CNA) reached 25 years of employment at Grace Home. She started out in housekeeping and after two years she began working as a CNA. Within the last year or two, she became our RNA.

Robert Isaac (administrator at the time) hired her and she worked as a CNA with Lena Moody, Audrey Kane, Glendon and Sandra Koehn, Jeff Baize, Sharon Pitt and many others.

Some of her charge nurses would have been Lou Deming, Ruth Helen and Adrienne Schmidt. While working in housekeeping she worked with Orreda Yost and Neoma Amoth with Norma Koehn being her boss.

On August 8, we held a party for Yolanda to celebrate such an incredible amount of time that she has given to Grace Home. Robert and Barry both made speeches and Yolanda received a gift before everyone magnetized toward the homemade ice cream, cake and punch. Yolanda is well loved by everyone, staff and elders both. She has such a bright, coaxing way of working with everyone, making each person feel special. Thanks, Yolanda!

FEELING
GRATITUDE
AND NOT
EXPRESSING IT
IS LIKE
**WRAPPING A
PRESENT**
AND NOT
GIVING IT.

~WILLIAM ARTHUR WARD~

Honeybear Lane

VOLUNTEERS

For eight weeks this summer, Grace Home has been buzzing with volunteers. We did things differently this year and I heard a lot of positive things about the way it went. Last year, the volunteers got here and were given a list of things to do. Once they were done, there was no one to tell them what to do next, so they sat around and got bored. This year, there was a longer list of things to do but they weren't given the list. They started by always doing juices (except for the Teen volunteers), next the ones that came in the morning helped with exercise. On Tuesdays, they washed the railings in the halls. Wednesdays found them washing the pink board below the hand rails. Thursday was the day to wash windows outside and Friday was the day to check with laundry to see if they could be of assistance. One day, the girls even helped me set up for Candlelight Dinner. In the afternoons, we didn't have so many volunteers. On Tuesdays, they helped dust ceiling fans and helped with Bingo, Wednesdays were a little harder to keep them busy. The first and second Thursdays they helped with Dessert Social and Birthday Party. Other Thursdays they helped with the 3:00 activity. The Teen Volunteers helped with Coffee Shop. The boys cleaned the Grace Home van and car. One of the girls typed up the daily announcement pages for activities and another one came the end of the month to help put up calendars and other things that have to be done the end of each month. The boys just entering the program came each Tuesday and played a game with the elders. We played Legos, Hunting, Balloon Tennis, Bowling, Football Challenge, and Penny Toss. The same age of girls came each Friday to do a craft with Kara.

The last two years of training has been different as well. Prior to that, the girls received their training throughout the summer with about 15 to 30 minutes of training each session. Now, we have all the new volunteers come on one day in June, provide pizza for lunch and make as many games as possible out of the training. They give each other rides in the wheelchairs and hopefully they don't end up in a tree. Kara brings a light that can "see germs" and she checks to make sure they have washed their hands well enough after she instructs them on the proper technique. With mouths full of marshmallows and earplugs in, everyone is asked a question. It is quite difficult to understand at times. Passing on stories of the new volunteers is a sure way to teach confidentiality. A tour of the facility must take place as well as teaching each one how to work a fire extinguisher and what to do in the event of a fire. The "No Pass Zone" must be explained and the charge nurse must be found. Each one must learn the importance of wearing a name badge and signing in to the volunteer book. By the end of the day they have signed their names at least twenty times (which is amazingly quite an undertaking for children of that age) and I have signed mine that many times per volunteer to say that each person was trained on each topic.

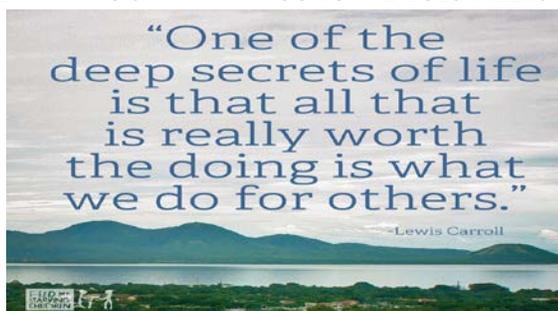
All the volunteers enjoyed spending time with the elders. There are obviously a few favorites. One of them especially, really enjoys the boys coming to sing with her. Another one enjoys telling stories about living in Germany during World War II.

I tried my best to be available and accountable for what happened when any of the volunteers were here and I tried to make sure they always had things to do. Charity usually took my place on Wednesday mornings when I had to go to meetings and any other time I couldn't be available. Although it was a huge challenge and made me work quite a few split shifts, it was well worth it!!!

August 12, the Junior Volunteer girls and their moms were invited to John Esau's for the annual Friendship Picnic which is to show Grace Home's appreciation for all they have done the past year. There were three gifts the moms could win as a thank you for all the miles they have driven over the past year. For the girls, instead of getting little gifts for them, we had a game to play called the Human Pinata. In this game, each girl put on a T-shirt with about 20 things glued on to them. At the given time, they chased each other around and pulled what they could off the other girls' shirts. The winner was to be the last one with anything left on their shirt. There was no winner. It was time to go before anyone could win.

-Laura Koehn with the help of several volunteers

THE EMPLOYEES OF GRACE HOME WANT TO SAY THANK YOU TO THE VOLUNTEERS FOR ALL YOU DID THIS SUMMER!!!





WELCOME TO GRACE HOME:

Amy Koehn- Dietary
Sandra Koehn- Dietary
Emma Giesbrecht- Dietary
Tiffany Shell- CNA
Mayela Alvarado- CNA



Activity Highlights JULY

FOURTH OF JULY PARTY- We set up a canopy on the front lawn and had homemade ice cream with lots of toppings and chips and cheese dip. Then Calvin Sommers lit some fireworks that had been donated by some of the employees for the elders. We also had games available to play outdoors. We watched the fireworks around town for a while before going back inside.

POPSICLES- We enjoyed popsicles on a hot day.

SHERBET FLOATS- Fire pit social was the original plan but it was too hot still in the evening so we had yummy floats instead.

SNO CONE BASH- Sugar free sno cones and several different flavors.

AUGUST

SUMMERTIME PARTY- Beach ball volley ball across the table, airplane target (a destination was chosen by each person where they would fly to for summer vacation), sand bucket dessert, blue jello cups with teddy bears in inner tubes or diving off a diving board made of graham cracker sticks, gold fish crackers because who doesn't like to go fishing

WATER TARGETS- 4 targets were set up on a bath towel and elders were given water guns to try to hit the targets

MILKSHAKES- A choice between vanilla, chocolate, or strawberry

WALKER SLING SHOT- An exercise band was tied across a walker which became our slingshot which was used with a tennis ball.

WATER SQUIRT GUN RACE- We cut a hole in the bottom of a solo cup, strung yarn through it and strung the yarn across the room. We did two sets of these and then with a squirt gun raced to see who could get their cup across the room first using only the water.

WATER BALLOON TOSS- Using the frame from football challenge, we tried to get our water balloons through the hoops to get points.

WATERMELON SOCIAL WITH A BEACH BALL- The beach ball has different questions on it to stimulate conversation while watermelon is enjoyed.

CHERRY LIMEADES- Something cold for a hot day

SEPTEMBER

LADIES' GROUP- An activity to work on different sewing projects

TEA PARTY- Put on by the volunteers

FINISH THE PROVERB- Snug as a bug in a ?, Sharp as a ?

COLORING- What else is there to do on National Coloring Day?

WOODWORKING- Building a trash can cabinet

FINGER TWISTER- Twister with fingers, obviously

APPLES TO CHANGE THE WORLD- Johnny Appleseed Day- celebrating by coming up with little things we can do to change the world

NATIVE AMERICAN DAY- Naming Ceremony, Mold Clay, Make feather necklaces, play Native American games that they would have played

Randy's Train Set:

On August 26, we woke up bright and early. Today was the day we are taking the train all the way to Vancouver, British Columbia! Going on this trip are: Randy, Wendy, Rod and I. We are all excited. It takes 28 hours to get there. We all packed the night before, so we are ready to go. Rod drove with Randy as co-pilot. The ladies sat in the back of the pick-up. When we arrived at the train station, we got out luggage tagged and we got on the train. Twenty-eight long hours later we arrive at our destination, safe and sound.

- Randy Ward and Cierra Loewen

(used with permission)



August 30 found the Grace Home car headed to Mariposa with two riders. This was the long awaited day for the August outing and even though all the other residents had backed out or had not been up to traveling the distance, we were looking forward to seeing this O SCALE railroad. Mr. Bob met us at the door and we were soon amazed at all the detail in the building. This building was built just for the railroad and had been designed with tubes that ran under the building for all the miles of electrical wiring that would need to be installed. There were so many, many details! There was a McDonalds where hamburgers were 15 cents. There was a section of Chicago, a coal mine with donkeys or mules bringing coal out of the mine. A lumber mill, theater, running elevator, Kansas grain elevators, alien space ship abducting a cow, pink Cadillac pulling a pink camper, a car like the one Mr. Bob and his wife got married in, the town and even house that Mr. Bob grew up in, the hospital where one of the sons was born, a ship yard, construction site, diner, log trucks, a car pulled over by the police, an actual turning windmill, an airplane, many trestles, a man panning for gold, a guy riding a motorcycle, another guy on his horse, an apple orchard, a house being built, a bakery, gas station, many different restaurants and churches and houses, an interstate, a man driving a fork lift, lots and lots of bill boards, a Kenworth shop, fire station with multiple fire trucks, an old drug store, train depot, a man and his wife holding a baby, an auto salvage, and railroad crossing arms that came down at the proper timing when a train was coming up to a road crossing. There were so many cars and other things. Right now they are adding people to the passenger cars. Just yesterday, they added a bunch of horses. They are continually adding to this amazing exhibit. So many people are placed in the set that it is easy to believe it is real.

This is a family hobby that they started 30 years ago. Bob and Elizabeth have three sons. One son does the electrical wiring, another paints and the other helps with building the buildings and the trains as most of what you see is hand made by them. This knowledge makes the visit much more overwhelming to the mind.

There is no way to catch all the detail in one trip.

How are Dementia and Alzheimer's Different?

This is a question I get asked quite a bit. Although I am far from being a professional, I have studied different types of dementia a fair amount so I will do my best to answer this question. Dementia is only an umbrella covering or a syndrome. A syndrome is a bunch of symptoms that are not diagnosed. It is like saying "I am sick". There are quite a number of different types of dementia. Alzheimer's is the most common type accounting for 50- 60% of dementia cases. There is Vascular dementia, Lewy body dementia, Mixed dementia, Parkinson's disease, Frontotemporal Lobe dementia, Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus, Huntington's Disease, and Wernicke-Korsakoff Syndrome. There are other types as well, some genetic and some brought on by other diseases. These types of dementia are incurable and will only get worse. They may stay the same and give the false hope that it won't get worse, but it will. There is no way around that. A lot of people have a problem understanding that this is not just forgetfulness and especially not willful forgetfulness but is a symptom of missing links in the brain. The bridge is out and the information absolutely cannot get to where it needs to go. Their brain is actively dying. Even with this being said, no two cases are alike. One person may be pleasant while the next person has used every bad word in your vocabulary and even come up with some new ones. One person sits down and doesn't get back up early on while the next one walks for several years. One might make eye contact with you while the next one shuffles along looking at the floor. It is like a group of people eating bowls of ice cream. Each bite takes a little more ice cream out of the bowl but no person has the exact bites left in their bowl. So it is with our brains. Each "bite" of our brain contains different memories whether it be the memory to swallow or the memory to walk or talk. These dementias also can begin as early as age 25 but are most common in age 65 or older. By the age of 85, over 50% will have developed some type of dementia. A very high number of people with the diagnosis of Down's Syndrome will develop Alzheimer's though this is just being discovered because they have not lived long enough to develop it until lately.

There are also two types of pseudo dementia or problems that appear to be dementia. These are delirium from a sickness noticed often when an elder has a UTI or other infection going on or from depression or stress. The great thing about pseudo dementia is it is reversible. Treat the infection, stress, or depression and take care of the "dementia". Those that have had delirium seem to have a weaker brain and are more susceptible to dementia a few years down the road.

This is sort of a wild assortment of information but maybe in the next newsletter I can expound a bit on some of this. It is far too vast for a little section of newsletter. -Laura Koehn



IN REMEMBRANCE

RUTH TOEWS



Old fashioned school house

M E M W M I M U N C T D M C A P H T V W L I L G
 R A P A E S U O H T U O R W C I L A N T E R N E
 I E V D R A O B K L A H C A D Q Y L S O J J W P
 R M V O N E R O O M Q R D E L D L K I Q V B R U
 T C Y O J D G S K V A X A M O R U L S J F T W Y
 O L H C T X R A S P K N V H E J N L K E R K G P
 J O U G J S I I D E D I A T M U C I B B D S E Q
 Y A K E L S D U N S L N F U Z V H F Y F C T R E
 N K I E A C W E E K D B X M B R P O V J N I E T
 J R S B T Y B E I B I A R N F N A X Y P V W M A
 N O L G D M K L E L P N E A U W I G C J E N I L
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 P N M L R E V O R D E R B S U U Z E A D C Y W X
 A C U L N J O D L L K J U T C P Q K A I B H N J
 C R V E O I T O C W W B O R O B A Z F P A Y Z U
 E S G P L J Y Q Z U T R K I A P E H P P I U M M
 C W L S U T M D W R E D K R M F N V I E B O X P
 M C T I P A K O A H F M E B C A E S B R Y R Q R
 U O Z O V Z L C C Y R F H F Q F A D G J Y B I O
 D K W R B D T A E N O H L P E T I C E R G T B P
 N P D N F I E C J O X S H O P S C O T C H A L E
 D I E G O T Q E T I G Q N V F S W O D N I W T K
 Y R A N P Q I G F O F K Y A A Y A D D I T I O N

Barefoot	Marbles	Hide and Seek	Red Rover
One room	Spelling Bee	Hop-scotch	Windows
Desk	ABCs	Cloakroom	Drinking cup
Lantern	Primer	Recite	Outhouse
Dumcecap	Pot bellied stove	Lunch pail	Jump rope
Ruler	Chalkboard	Hand bell	Dipper
Teacher	Subtraction	Addition	Slate