

Volunteer Connection

Our Mission

To continue the healing ministry of Jesus by providing compassionate care that respects the dignity of each person we serve.

Our Vision

Our vision is to lead the community in offering seniors personalized services that are life-enriching and wellness focused.

Our Values

Respect for Human Dignity
Compassion
Transformation
Solidarity for Those in Need
Justice and Peace

President/CEO

Luke Schubert

Membership & Volunteer Supervisor, Lauren Daun



Marketing Specialist

Kim Christoffel, *Editor*



Felician Village

Sponsored by the Felician Sisters

Thank you Volunteers

This past year volunteers donated over 7,500 hours to Felician Village. That's equivalent to nearly three and a half years of full-time work. We celebrated our volunteers with an appreciation social on Wednesday, April 23 in the Village Hall. The FV Culinary team prepared an eye-catching and tasty appetizer buffet. Several volunteers won raffle prizes that included potted flowers and gift certificates.



Congratulations!

Mark and Suellen Reiff were named the 2025 Volunteers of Year at Felician Village!

Mark and Suellen have logged over 250 hours in the last two years, providing smiles and assistance at a plethora of Felician Village events like galas, happy hours, casino nights, and concerts. They log hundreds of miles on our Trishaw bikes, burn thousands of calories leading weekly exercise for our residents, push wheelchairs, and are willing to help where and when they can. Their dedication to our residents is evident, appreciated, and selfless. Residents are grateful that Mark and Suellen have chosen to share their talents and time with everyone at Felician Village. Thank you for all you do! You are appreciated beyond measure!



Spring-Summer 2025

The volunteer newsletter of Felician Village

1635 S. 21st Street • Manitowoc, WI • 54220

920-684-7171 ext. 276 • felicianvillage.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Our Aging Brain

June 10 @ 10:30 a.m.

FREE Community Dementia Workshop

Village Hall - Felician Village



Scams

Presentation:

Protect & Prevent

June 10 @ 6 p.m.

Sergeant Krockof the Manitowoc Police Department will explain current scams to be aware of, scammer trends and tips on how to spot scms.

Village Hall - Felician Village



Flag Day Celebration

June 13 @ 11 a.m.

Flag Raising Ceremony
& Patriotic Songs

The Gardens at Felician Village

RSVP by 6/12 (920) 684-7171, ext. 402



Car Show

June 26 @

4:30 - 7 p.m.

Any car or truck can attend for free, no RSVP needed.

Cars, food, beverages and music!

The Gardens at Felician Village



It is important to log your volunteer hours and activity you shared. There are two areas on campus to log volunteer hours. At the Gardens there is a binder outside of the Gardens offices. The other binder is located in the Volunteer Nook near the 21st Street main entrance. FV at Home volunteers should contact the Volunteer Supervisor, Lauren Daun, with their hours.

Volunteers logged over 7500 hours in 2024. Independent Sector, with the Do Good Institute at the University of Maryland, announced on April 23, 2025 that the estimate for the value of each volunteer hour in Wisconsin was \$34.00. This adds up to be an estimated \$255,000 in value to our mission. These numbers represent far more than time and dollars - they reflect the commitment and compassion of every volunteer who gave their time to make such a difference here at Felician Village. Thank you to YOU for the countless hours, the energy you give and your support. We are unmeasurable grateful for YOU!

Jesse Bruckschen

Volunteer Position: FV on the Go Driver, Handyman & Special Events

Start Date: February 2020

What inspired you to become a volunteer at Felician Village?

I wanted to help older adults in some fashion. Whether it be driving them somewhere, moving furniture, or planting plants.



What motivates you to continue giving your time?

It just feels good knowing I can impact someone else's life even when it is a simple task.



What's a fun fact about you most people don't know?

I used to grow my own mushrooms and hydroponic vegetables in my basement.

If someone was hesitant to volunteer at Felician Village, what would you tell them?

I would tell them to try it out and see how it makes you feel. If you don't find joy in it then you did something wrong.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

- Companions
- Bus Driver and FV on the Go Drivers
- Cafe Assistant

EARTH DAY

Children from St. Mary/St. Michael School, Clarks Mills visited Felician Village for Mass, followed by a social with residents in late April. The kids did a great job picking up trash around the grounds, sharing a meal and conversation with residents and presenting an earth day creation.



"The gift of service leads to a life of love."
~ Mary White



Giving Opportunity

We are so grateful for the time, energy, and heart you dedicate to Felician Village. Your work is at the core of our mission and we couldn't do it without you.

Your time is already a generous gift and makes a HUGE difference in the lives our residents and our campus as a whole. This invitation is simply another way to be involved and support our mission.

If a financial gift is something you feel moved to do, please scan the QR code and you will be directed to our donor development webpage for more information. Contact Renee Thompson for an offline donation at (920) 684-7171, 381 or rthompson@felicianvillage.org.



Mission Message



In 1 John 3:18, we read, "Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." Our faith is an active faith, not a passive one. We share the gospel in our words, but we really show our love through what we do. I enjoy hearing the stories of volunteers and why they choose

to give the gift of their time. For so many, service to the Lord through volunteering is not an additional thing they do, but a reflection of who they are as God's children. Our service allows us to know God more deeply and to love all of God's creation more fervently.

We learn that we have many gifts that can be shared, some we probably didn't even know about before we were asked to spend some time in service to others! Sharing those gifts builds our relationship with Jesus and with His children. Joy breaks out when we love in this manner. We become the visible instruments of God's love in a world that is so in need of our care.

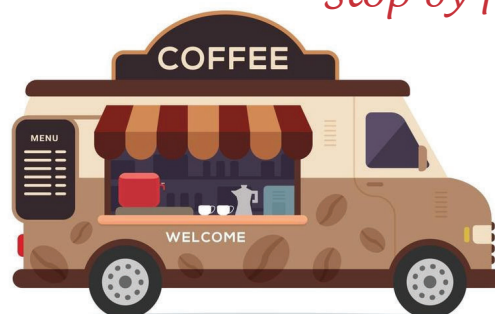
1 Peter 4:10 tells us, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." We are called to this service! Isaiah (6:8) said, "Here am I, send me," and so did you! When I read the prophets, especially their stories where they are called by God into service, I imagine what it must have been like to say "yes" to God in their circumstances. Some said to God that they weren't the right one to do the job. Moses said he wasn't a great speaker. Jeremiah said he was too young. Isaiah said he was a man of unclean lips. Yet, they answered the call to serve. Imagine the group of women who followed God's call 150 years ago, coming to Wisconsin to respond to the needs of a Polish immigrant community! That must have been a difficult "yes" to say. The Felician Sisters offer a model for us of how beautiful it is to answer affirmatively when God reaches out to us to serve.

So, bless all of you who serve God's people. It's not easy! You give your time and sometimes you don't hear words of gratitude. But when you pour out your gifts for the care of others, you participate in the interconnected world that God created, showing your love. I pray that you are filled with delight and joy at the importance of sharing your gifts and resources. That you, who see the needs set before you, will find strength and courage to continue your work, is my hope. May you be blessed in all that you do, in loving God's children, in walking with Jesus, and in caring for all of creation.

Written by Barb Spies, OFS, Director of Mission Services and Pastoral Care

Watering Hole Mobile Coffee Bar

Stop by for a FREE beverage!



Wednesday, July 16
9-11 a.m.

*By the main entrance at
1635 S. 21st St.*



MISSION SERVICES UPDATE

At the end of June, the three Felician Sisters currently residing at Felician Village in Manitowoc will be leaving the campus. This marks a significant moment in our ministry's history, as we will be without Felician Sisters for the first time since our beginning in 1887. Felician Village will continue to carry out the work of the Sisters with the support of our more than 225 lay staff members and continued guidance from Felician Services Incorporated. At this time, Sr. Bernadette, Sr. Bernetta, and Sr. Rosalie will be relocating. While we deeply feel the weight of this transition, we remain grounded in gratitude for their presence, ministry, and legacy of compassion and care.

Since 1887, the Felician Sisters have served in Manitowoc at Felician Village, originally called St. Mary's Home. They have labored and prayed to bestow peace, happiness, and comfort. Their work has been blessed. In these years, they have provided a beautiful witness of dedication to the gospel message of caring for the most vulnerable. Their service to the community, including orphans, diocesan priests, Franciscan friars, and the aging members of Manitowoc County has provided warmth, love, and generous hospitality. They have brought the charism of Blessed Mary Angela Truskowska from Poland to North America in a complete and tangible manner. The Sisters continued to carry on the traditions begun by their pioneer Sisters who arrived in North America 150 years ago. They have given life, nourishment, shelter, and care to generations of residents. They have welcomed lay people to share in their mission of continuing the healing ministry of Jesus by providing compassionate care that respects the dignity of each person they serve.

Opportunities to celebrate our Felician Sisters at Felician Village will be announced in the near future. Our ministry will faithfully welcome other Felician Sisters to serve our ministry in a day-to-day capacity if that opportunity presents itself in the future. Please keep our Sisters in your prayers.



Volunteer Dinner Outing

Wednesday, July 30
Timeout Sports Bar & Grill
5 p.m.



T I M E O U T

An opportunity to meet or get to know better other FV volunteers!

**Please RSVP to Lauren at
 920-323-4364 by
 Friday, July 25th.**

**You are responsible for the cost of your drinks and meal.*

2nd Annual Mrs. Roper's Romp

A grand THANK YOU to all the Helens, Stanleys and company who "came and knocked on our door" at the second annual Mrs. Roper's Romp event on Friday, April 11. There were tables filled with raffle baskets from amazing donors, many, many BINGO games played, 50/50 raffles, new this year, a wine pull and delicious food catered by the Felician Village Culinary Department.

THANK YOU! to our sponsors, raffle basket donors, planning committee, volunteers, attendees and all who helped make this unique, fun-filled fundraiser a huge success. Proceeds will support the new patio and pub at Felician Village.

