

# 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

## The Power of Presence in Winter

Winter brings so much beauty: crisp air, snowy landscapes, seasonal traditions. But it also brings challenges that go beyond bundling up in coats and boots. With the temperatures low and days shorter, many in our community face increased isolation and loneliness. Older adults are limited to the amount of social interaction they receive and opportunities for connection are scarce which can all contribute to feelings of disconnection.

These feelings aren't just 'winter blues'. According to health data, social isolation is linked with serious health risks including a 50% increased risk of dementia and a 29% higher risk of heart disease. This is where the power of your presence becomes so important. When volunteers show up to visit, share a cup of coffee, or take our residents to an appointment, you help break them through winter's isolation. This also reduces isolation risks for you as the volunteer. Research shows that volunteering more than 100 per year can significantly reduce the onset of loneliness compares to non-volunteers.

Human connection matters. A simple conversation, a warm greeting, listening ears, they might all seem small, but they carry bigger health benefits than you might realize. You bring light into a time of year that can often feel quiet and dark for so many. You remind others that they are seen, valued, and not alone.

Thank you for not just doing work but for being this comfort, connection, and companionship for our residents.

## Advent Celebration

On Friday, December 5, residents, staff and volunteers gathered to pause, reflect, and embrace the true meaning of Christmas. Through scripture, song, and heartfelt conversation, we were reminded of Christ's love and the greatest gift of all—His Son.



Winter 2026

The volunteer newsletter of Felician Village

1635 S. 21st Street • Manitowoc, WI • 54220  
920-684-7171 ext. 276 • felicianvillage.org



## Special Request



We are seeking compassionate volunteers who would be willing to sit with residents who are nearing the end of life. This role is not needed often, but it is a deeply meaningful one – ensuring no one passes alone, particularly for residents without family. You would simply be present to offer comfort.

Please reach out of Lauren if you are interested in this position.

## ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



**Saturday, April 18**  
Felician Village

Opportunities available between  
8:30am-2:00pm



### SET SAIL FOR WHEELS FUNDRAISER

Raising funds for the FV  
Transportation Program

**FRIDAY, APRIL 10**  
SILVER VALLEY HOSPITALITY

OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE BETWEEN  
4:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.



*Kathy Wilson*

**Volunteer Position:** Activity Helper at The Gardens  
**Start Date:** May 2023



### What inspired you to become a volunteer at Felician Village?

I like helping. The dice game and Wii bowling I help at have been fun and I like associating with people. That's my thing.

### What do you enjoy most about volunteering?

Being with the people and playing games with them. I have met so many different people and I continue to meet new people. I like being helpful.



### Can you share a memorable moment or experience from your time as a volunteer?

I bowled a 300 on Wii bowling while I was volunteering and playing the game with the residents.

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

Go for it! You get to meet new people. Just go for it. You can always decide you don't like it but you should at least try.



**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.**



## Christmas Came on Wheels: Our New Bus Has Arrived!

Santa and his helpers made a very special stop at Felician Village, delivering a fully donor funded, brand-new ADA bus. This incredible gift will offer our residents endless opportunities for meaningful experiences. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you to our very generous donors who made this incredible gift possible.



### 7 Benefits of a Transportation Program for Older Adults:

1. Maintains Mobility and Freedom
2. Reduces Social Isolation and Loneliness
3. Cost-Effective Alternative to Car Ownership
4. Reduced Stress and Anxiety About Travel
5. Improved Cognitive Function Through Community Engagement
6. Reducing Caregiver Burden and Stress
7. Allows Working Family Members Peace of Mind



**ATTENTION All Volunteer Bus Drivers:** An official training on the new bus, specifically to become certified with the wheelchair lift and straps will be scheduled. Lauren will contact all approved drivers to schedule a time.

## The True Spirit of the Season was on Full Display



**Thank You** to our community, staff, family, friends, and everyone who helped make our residents' Christmas extra bright. Your generosity brought smiles, joy, and meaningful moments that will be cherished all season long. We are so grateful for your kindness.







## Volunteer Social Outing

Thursday, March 19th

Pet Skull Brewing Co.

1015 Buffalo Street, Manitowoc

4:30 - 6:30 p.m.



*Come eat or just have a beverage, but most importantly meet fellow volunteers that also serve at Felician Village*

*\*You are responsible for the cost of your drinks or food.*



We are so grateful to everyone who sold and purchased raffle tickets! Your support made our Holiday Raffle a wonderful success, raising \$1,846 to benefit our transportation program.

## Holiday Poinsettias

Residents at Felician Village were once again delighted with beautiful holiday poinsettias, generously donated by Carla, Geoff, and Emma Liban.

The Liban family has supported and participated in our annual St. Nick tradition for many years, and their kindness continues to brighten our community.

From The Gardens to our skilled nursing home, the vibrant flowers are adding cheer to residents' rooms everywhere.

If Carla looks familiar, it's because you'll often see her at events throughout the year—she also serves as chair of the Felician Village Donor Development Committee.



## Advice from a SNOWFLAKE™

Keep your cool

Appreciate small wonders

Let your plans crystallize

Take time to chill

Sparkle!

Celebrate your uniqueness

It's OK to be a little flaky!



## Volunteer Coffee Connection

Tuesday,  
February 10th 9:30am  
JENN'S JAVA

1124 Washington St,  
Manitowoc

*Breakfast and coffee are your responsibility.*