

*Where the care of the soul is the soul of care.*

# Impact REPORT

2023

CARING FOR  
125  
YEARS

1898-2023

THE LUTHERAN HOME  
ASSOCIATION



# In Thankfulness and Gratitude

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO, MARK HAYES

***“Give thanks to the Lord for He is good. His love endures forever.”- Psalm 107:1***



Our recent celebration of 125 years of God’s ministry to seniors and individuals with special needs through The Lutheran Home Association fills me with gratitude. Thanks to God for allowing us to serve residents with the Gospel for a century and a quarter.

Thanks to Sophie Boessling who went to her local church in Belle Plaine, MN and donated everything she had to start a home for widows and orphans. Even though her son and husband were gone, she knew God was with her and she wasn’t alone. She wanted to make sure others like her knew they were never alone. She wanted them to be taken care of and nurtured in a place that shared the love of Jesus with them at a very special time in life.

Thanks to our residents and families who entrust their lives into our care and allow themselves to become part of our family.

Thanks to our team members who pour their lives into caring for others. This year we celebrated six team members throughout our organization who have served residents at TLHA for more than 30 years, one of them for more than 40 years. That level of dedication is truly priceless. I am grateful for excellent nurses, caregivers, and leaders. I am thankful for our chaplains who share the Gospel with our residents and staff and provide them support and encouragement. I am thankful for the incredible people that work behind the scenes to prepare meals, provide clean sheets, remove snow, and keep the boilers running.

Thank you to all the people who have made financial contributions and volunteered their time to serve others.

Thank you all for making this ministry a joy.

May God continue to bless all of the care communities of TLHA:

WellHaven in River Falls, WI—The Lutheran Home, Hope Residence, and Kingsway in Belle Plaine, MN - High Island Creek Residence in Arlington, MN

# Jesus Cares Ministries, So dear to our hearts

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO, MARK HAYES

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Moving to a new location comes with a variety of emotions. On the one hand, you are sad to leave the familiar behind and will likely experience a little anxiety about adjusting to a new environment. At the same time, there is the excitement of what's ahead as you think about the possibilities of what could be. These are the emotions TLHA experienced when we decided to find a new home base for Jesus Cares Ministries after 25 years.

COVID has redefined what it means to care for seniors in our country. The number one goal of TLHA is to share the Gospel with seniors and individuals with special needs. But in order to continue to share the Gospel with people, we needed to make sure we could sustain this ministry to serve the people we intend to reach. We found that we needed to do more work with fewer team members while still providing excellent care. The focus on sustaining the ministry to seniors left us with fewer resources to put into the development and expansion of Jesus Cares Ministries. The TLHA Board of Directors recognized that shift in focus and wanted to ensure that JCM was not only maintained but was positioned to thrive.

We are blessed to have a longstanding ministry relationship with Kingdom Workers, who partnered with TLHA to start JCM in Malawi. Kingdom Workers has an excellent track record of empowering volunteers throughout the world to provide assistance to people in need while intentionally making the most of those opportunities to share the Gospel. When we asked our friends at Kingdom Workers if they would consider this ministry opportunity, we were humbled by the genuine excitement and strategically developed plans of the Kingdom Workers staff and board of directors to build a future for Jesus Cares Ministries.

On September 1, 2023, Jesus Cares officially became part of the ministry of Kingdom Workers. While we at TLHA are sad to see JCM step out from underneath from our umbrella, we are happy to know the ministry will continue to thrive. We are grateful to have played a special part in the Jesus Cares journey for 25 years.

***“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.” 1 Thessalonians 5:11***



## Local artist shares 'special ministry of love'

Artist Lana Beck, Belle Plaine native, has been painting murals to represent Kingsway Retirement Living residents for more than eight years. The collaboration began with Lana regularly hosting art classes for residents of our independent and assisted living communities in Kingsway's craft room.

Lana began hosting art classes at Sophie's Suites, our memory care unit, as well, which allowed the artistic abilities of many residents to shine, and seemed to strike a special chord with residents who were experiencing memory loss.

After seeing the positive effect of art on the residents, a former leader at Kingsway asked Lana to personalize a mural near the entrance to each resident's door in Sophie's Suites.

Lana's hope for the murals' impact on the residents is that "even in confusion, seeing something that spoke to [the resident's] life might offer a sense of confidence to know this is where they belong. Their home."

Today, Lana continues to create unique works of art for residents soon after they move in. To Lana, it is a "special ministry of love" that she feels honored to offer. Since its inception, the mural-creating process involves Lana visiting with a resident to chat asking questions in hopes to might spark a strong memory.

In addition, Mary Schmitz, our Life Enrichment Coordinator, reaches out to the residents' loved ones asking questions. Possible questions include:

- What is most important to the resident?
- What does the resident value in life?

Through these questions, and with a better understanding of the resident, Lana begins to paint. With a few swift strokes of a brush, what was once a blank wall becomes a colorful vision into a resident's past.

The resident, along with their peers, often gather to watch Lana paint as she transforms the resident's story into a beautiful image in front of them. The murals are a sense of pride for our residents as they represent both their history and legacy. It's also something they can share with others.

"It never ceases to amaze me, when someone grew up on a farm and I paint a barn or fence or tractor, how the smile and head nod automatically happens," Lana explained. "Sometimes it's flowers or teaching or baking or fishing that brings the smile. Sometimes pride shows up when they see their name or a pretty sky."

The murals in Sophie's Suites are a source of comfort and safe harbor for our residents guiding them to their home. They serve as valuable tools for our caregivers as they interact with the residents. Much like a book, each mural tells a story about the resident it represents.

When Lana is complimented on her artwork, she immediately points upward and gives all the credit to God.

"It's a gift from God that I feel honored to share," said Lana. "I often feel that I am lucky enough to hold the brush, while God guides the process and inspiration."

To read more, visit our [Website](#)





## Recognizing Years of Dedication

Dr. Roger Hallgren served as the Medical Director at The Lutheran Home: Belle Plaine for more than four decades. In this position, Dr. Hallgren oversaw all the medical care of the residents who resided in the care community. Dr. Hallgren also served as a physician in Belle Plaine.

Now, Dr. Hallgren, 93, is ready to receive care as a skilled nursing facility resident.

“Everyone knows me here,” said Dr. Hallgren, who is referred to by most team members as ‘Doc.’

Throughout the decades as medical director, the leadership team would treat Dr. Hallgren to a yearly lunch to express our thanks for his work and donations to our ministry. We also named one of our conference rooms



In front is Dr. Roger Hallgren; from left in back are Mark Hayes, President and CEO of TLHA; Rick Krant, Administrator; Joanne Youngblom, Director of Nursing and Scott Hallgren, son of Dr. Roger Hallgren.

the “Hallgren Room” to recognize his dedication.

In honor of those lunches, our leadership team once again treated Dr. Hallgren to lunch but in a slightly different fashion. We hosted the lunch onsite in the Hallgren Room.

“The key lime pie was delicious,” said Dr. Hallgren, when asked about the lunch.

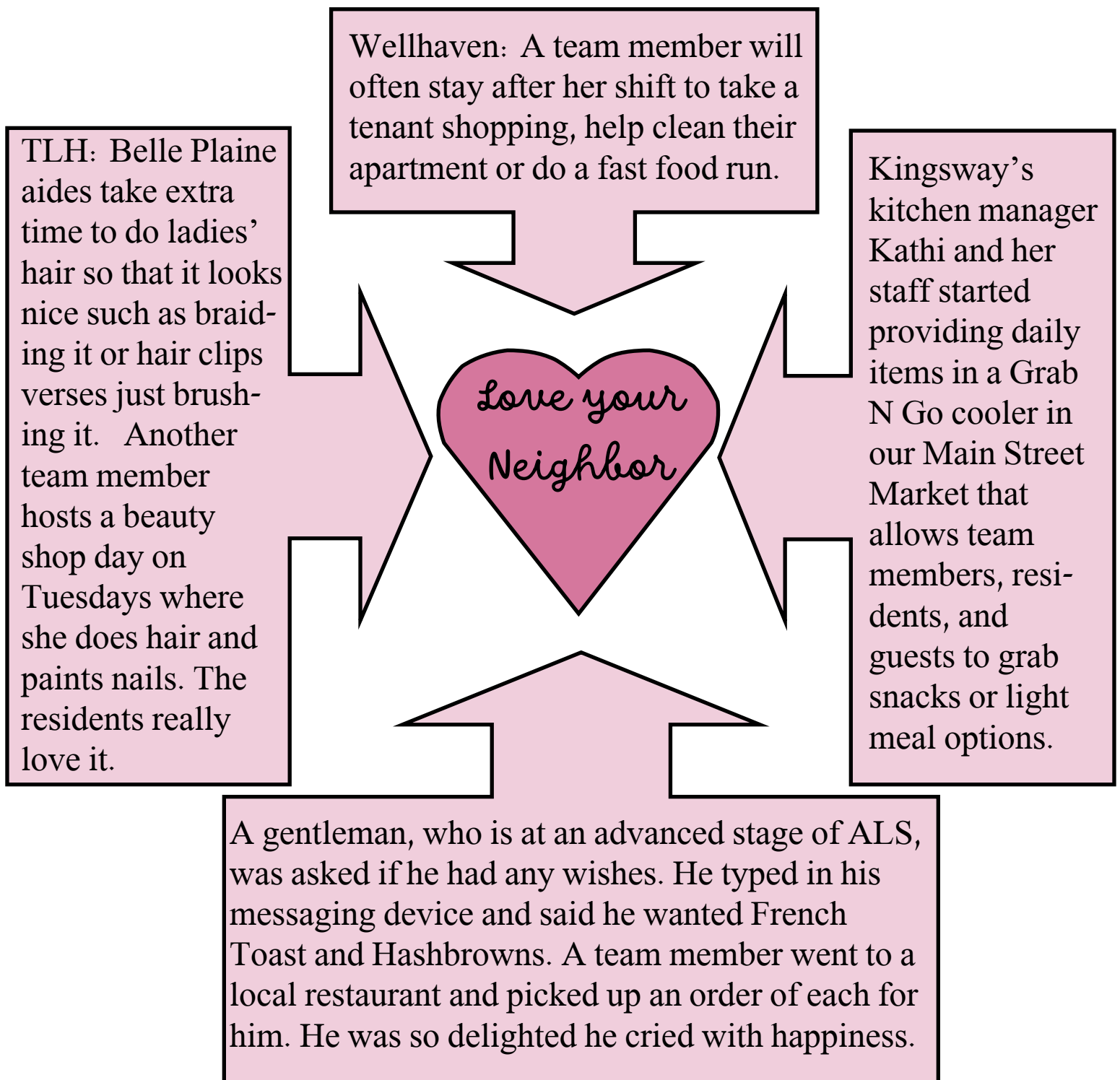
“We love to be able to provide unique experiences to our residents. This lunch, while simple, allowed us to pay tribute to all the work Doc provided for our facility, and community, throughout the years.”

- Rick Krant, Administrator at The Lutheran Home: Belle Plaine

## ALL the Feels

Many days, as the Director of Marketing and Communications of TLHA, I hear lovely stories about our team members going the extra mile for the people in our care.

I want you to know about these stories and feel the love that exists at this Christian ministry.





We belong to the



Lord

Ron had called Hope home for nearly two years. He was nonverbal and enjoyed listening to music. He always attended devotions and Worship at the Cross (a JCM service designed for individuals with special needs) worship services led by Pastor Feldhus. Near the start of 2023, Ron's health deteriorated, and he transitioned to hospice care. One day in January, Pastor Feldhus received a call from his nurse, asking him to come to visit Ron.

"When I arrived at Hope, I went to visit Ron. I shared with him a verse from Romans 14:8, 'If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. So whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord,'" said Pastor Feldhus. "I focused on the comfort and confidence we have in the face of death because we belong to the Lord."

"God's Word has the power to comfort people. The power of Christ's love, his forgiveness, and the eternal life he won for all of us lifts us up."

-Pastor Feldhus, Chaplain at Hope Residence

Pastor Feldhus explained to Ron that this means we don't have to be afraid. Jesus bought us with his life so that we now belong to him. As he looked at Ron, Pastor Feldhus saw the fear melt away and a smile took over his face. Before leaving, he said a prayer for Ron. A few minutes later, his nurse shared that Ron had gone to heaven.



# OUR *impact* IN 2023



## 1000's

### OF LIVES IMPACTED

lives impacted through our health care, housing services and outreach ministries.



MORE  
THAN

## 1,000

### VOLUNTEER HOURS

generously donated to our programs and care communities.



## 608

### CHEERFUL GIVERS

shared, provided, and inspired eternal hope.



## 602

### TEAM MEMBERS

part of the local economies of five communities in two states.



## 60

### VETERANS

served on our team, received care or called a TLHA community home.



## 1,633

### CHAPLAIN VISITS EACH MONTH

Average number of visits with residents by our chaplains.



## 250

### Attended an ALZHEIMER'S PRESENTATION

At their church or Christian Conference

# The Beats of a Drum for Memory

Memory Cafe events allow those with memory loss and their caregivers to share experiences and connect. Each month, one leader from the Aging & Disability Resource Center



(ADRC) of Pierce County, Wisconsin hosts a meeting at Wellhaven for the tenants and community members.

With the funds from a large donation, they have worked with Wellhaven Team Members to host a drumming class in coordination with the Memory Café events.

“Our team at Wellhaven has made an effort to work with various community groups to enhance our reach into the River Falls area. We love hosting seniors and giving them a safe and enriching experience.”

- Stacey Saylor, Senior Living Director

Drumming and other rhythm-based activities focus on a steady and prominent beat. Individuals can express the beat in a variety of ways including body movement, drumming, clapping, singing, chanting, and more. Like listening to music, drumming can provide a joyous feeling and a sense of togetherness for those experiencing memory loss.

Memory Café events are held each month at Wellhaven Senior Living. Events are open to those experiencing memory loss and their caregivers.





## Colorful Pinwheels fill our Gardens

Earlier this summer, team members at Hope Residence [the disability care community on our campus] filled a raised garden bed with wildflowers. When hosting the annual “Stepping Forward for Dementia” walk, we used this garden bed to “plant” our pinwheel garden. This year, the garden bed was so full that we expanded and started to use an additional garden bed.

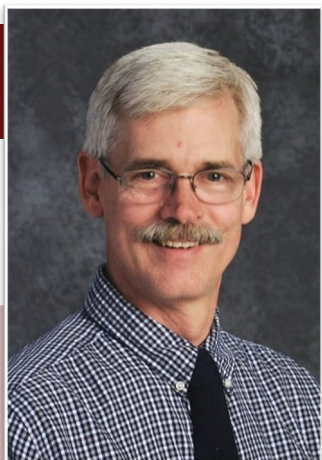
As a pre-walk activity, the 60 participants selected a pinwheel and wrote the name of a loved one on it. The color of the pinwheel represented their connection or relationship in the following ways.

- **Blue:** I have Alzheimer’s or dementia.
- **Green:** I am supporting or caring for someone with Alzheimer’s or dementia.
- **Pink:** I have lost someone to Alzheimer’s or dementia.
- **Orange:** I support the cause and the vision of a world without Alzheimer’s.

As the route for the walk traveled past each care community, participants had the opportunity to interact with the residents who cheered as walkers passed by. Afterwards, residents passed out bookmarks to all of the walk participants.

“It was great to see the participants fill up our garden spaces. I think the activity provided a moment of clarity to really think about why we host this walk. For me, it’s about our residents and how our team can continue to offer them the best care.”

-Emily Bullert, Therapeutic Recreation Director at The Lutheran Home: Belle Plaine



## 125 years of the Lord's Grace

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR REV. MATTHEW RAUH

***"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"*** Matthew 25:40

1898. Robert Allison of Pennsylvania purchased the first American built automobile that year. The USS Maine exploded sparking the Spanish-American War. A laborer earned .15 cents an hour. A carpenter earned .32 cents. Milk was .06 cents a quart and eggs .19 cents per dozen.

Much has changed since then. Wages are twenty or thirty times higher. Prices have risen as much if not more. There are over 275 million automobiles in the U.S. 1898 has also affected the world we live in. Because of the Spanish American War, the United States annexed Hawaii, gained influence in the Philippines, Guam and Puerto Rico, and Cuba gained her independence.

125 years ago, in 1898, The Lutheran Home began. The wish of the widowed Sophie Boessling, she donated the pension of her only son and child who died during the civil war as well as farmland for a home for widows and orphans. Two days after the dedication, Sophie was called to her heavenly home. Sounds like she didn't get a chance to use her new home for widows and orphans for very long.

But that is not why she donated time, land, money, and prayers. It wasn't about Sophie. It was about her Savior, Jesus Christ. His redemption at the cross gave her the hope of eternal salvation. Through that hope she saw things as Christ sees them. She saw a need to care for those who need care. She did something about it. She also saw souls. That is why she worked closely with Trinity Lutheran Church in Belle Plaine.

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Some things have changed 125 years later. Our name is different. We care for more than widows and orphans. We don't get our potatoes from local farmers. Sophie would blush with humble awe at what her donation has become. But our mission has remained the same. We exist to care for the spiritual, physical, emotional and mental needs of any and all who are under our care. It is unfortunately easy to overlook those who grow dependent for the basics in life. There are no high salaries. It is hard work. That is why Jesus equates the lowliest things we do to the highest level. It is real sacrifice. It takes love.

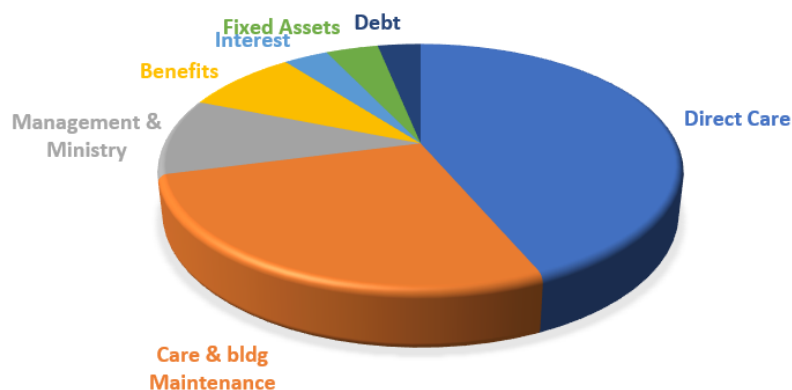
Many fine institutions are doing the same. But The Lutheran Home is unique in that we see souls together with bodies and minds. By God's grace we still dispense the hope of salvation through Jesus Christ. We focus souls to their eternal inheritance stored up in heaven that moth or rust cannot destroy.

Don't take my word for it. May the previous pages of this report confirm for you that our mission is still the focus of The Lutheran Home. By God's grace we still maintain that the care of the soul is the soul of care. That is more than a cliché or a meme. It is who we are. It is why we exist.

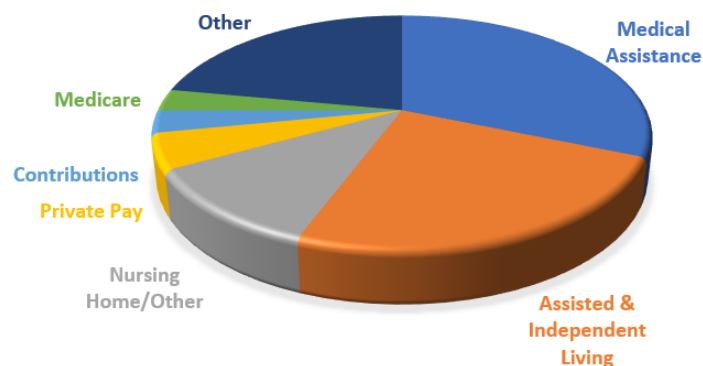
The Lord has truly blessed us these 125 years. It is to him that we give our thanks and praise, and it is with him that we move ahead with confidence.

## Financial statements

### EXPENDITURES



### REVENUE SOURCES



*\*Fiscal year ended Sept. 30, 2023.*



## Care communities and programs

**BOESSLING VILLAGE APARTMENTS**, Belle Plaine, MN  
**FAITH RESIDENCE APARTMENTS**, Belle Plaine, MN  
**HIGH ISLAND CREEK RESIDENCE**, Arlington, MN  
**HIGHLAND REGENCY HOUSE**, New Ulm, MN  
**HOPE RESIDENCE**, Belle Plaine, MN  
**KINGSWAY RETIREMENT LIVING**, Belle Plaine, MN  
**THE LUTHERAN HOME: BELLE PLAINE**, Belle Plaine, MN  
**WELLHAVEN SENIOR LIVING**, River Falls, WI

## Board of Directors

**Rev. Matthew Rauh**  
Chairman  
*Arlington, MN*

**Tim Schuth**  
Treasurer  
*Plato, MN*

**Lance Schwartz**  
Secretary  
*Mankato, MN*

**Dr. Bruce Becker**  
*Jackson, WI*

**Rev. John Boeder**  
*New Ulm, MN*

**Jeff Davis**  
*Lake Mills, WI*

**Jon Maertz**  
*New Berlin, WI*

**Rev. Michael Muehlenhardt**  
*Cottonwood, MN*

**Randy Niemann**  
*Castle Rock, CO*

## Executive Leadership Team

**Mark Hayes**  
President and  
Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

**Patty Narveson**  
Chief Finance Officer

**Jodi Foster**  
Senior Human  
Resources Director

**Heidi Witz**  
Director of Marketing and  
Communications

**Marcia Penaz**  
Senior Information Technology  
Support Specialist

THE LUTHERAN HOME  
ASSOCIATION



### National Ministry Offices

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