



Foundation FOCUS

Fall 2008

BETHANY VILLAGE ... supported by Asbury Foundation

A Community Together



Bethany Village chaplain Jim Browning

For Bethany Village chaplain Jim Browning, it's all about community. As part of the Wellness team, he helps organize activities that gather all residents, such as the Corn Roast, the carnival at The Oaks skilled nursing center and hosting the Senior Olympics on campus.

“We try to recognize the abilities of each individual and give opportunities for everybody to work with each other—to bridge that gap and be the community we say we are,” explains Jim. “It’s a daily striving.”

The Wellness team, consisting of all activities associates, the clinic staff, pastoral care chaplains, wellness center associates, and other memory support associates and administrators, works together to coordinate two to four whole-community events each year. Many residents volunteer at these events. “I’ve not met finer people in my life!” says Jim. “And I’m not sure that many other retirement neighborhoods get together and plan things for the entire community in this way.”

For Jim, who grew up outside of Philadelphia, coming to Bethany was like coming home—with quite a journey along the way. He attended Marist College in New York, captured two national rowing titles in high school and college, and studied in England for a year. In the late 1980s he became a United Methodist minister, and after serving in a parish became the director of chaplains at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis. While there he met his wife, Lucretia, who is also a United Methodist minister. They have two children, a daughter who is a senior at Bryn Mawr College, and a son who just started as a freshman at Lesley University in Cambridge, Mass.

Jim came to Bethany Village in 1995 to serve as chaplain and develop the Clinical Pastoral Education Program, which helps seminarians, parish nurses, and pastors develop their skills. Jim draws great inspiration from working at Bethany and listening to the stories of residents’ spiritual growth. He says that residents have taught him about independence, slowing down to savor life, and the importance of listening instead of assuming.

Since joining Bethany, he has increased the number of Sunday services from two to six, and helped coordinate Bible study and other spiritual activities for residents in the cottages and apartments as well those in the assisted living, skilled nursing and

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CGA Rates

Age	Rate
60	5.5%
65	5.7%
68	6.0%
70	6.1%
72	6.3%
74	6.6%
76	6.9%
78	7.2%
80	7.6%
82	8.0%
84	8.6%
86	9.2%
88	9.8%
90	10.5%

To learn more about Gift Annuities, go to our web site at www.TheAsburyFoundation.org or call J.D. Shuman at 717-591-8019.

Asbury Foundation recommends consulting with your legal/financial advisors when considering financial planning matters.

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memory support neighborhoods. “We are all spiritual beings who have human encounters, and through these we begin to understand how God is constantly working in our lives. It doesn’t stop when we retire!”

He has a particularly deep understanding of the needs of residents with memory loss. “When someone doesn’t remember who we are, it’s more important that we remember who he or she is,” Jim notes. “As Jesus said, ‘Do this in remembrance of me.’ A vital part of my job is to remember.”

When Jim and other associates were approached in 2002 about helping to fund a saltwater aquarium in The Oaks for residents to enjoy, he began donating through automatic payroll deductions. He continues to support the ongoing care of the aquarium as a way to give back.

“My work here isn’t done,” he says. “Together we’re all striving to make this an even better community.”

Giving At Year End

Fall is traditionally a time when we express thanks for the blessings we have received – and a time to pause and make plans for the future. For many, it can also be a time for sharing with others through charitable gifts.

Thinking carefully about what to give – and when to give it – can help increase the impact of your gifts. We would like to present a number of ideas for making gifts in ways that feature tax savings and other special benefits.

Enjoy Tax Savings

Federal tax laws and those of many states make it possible to reduce or eliminate taxes on funds you give for charitable purposes. For example, when you itemize your tax deductions, funds used to make charitable gifts can be subtracted from the amount otherwise subject to federal income tax. Because of this, you may be able to give more than you otherwise thought possible. Each year, millions of Americans take advantage of the opportunity to make charitable gifts in ways that help them reduce their tax liability.



Such gifts can eliminate tax on up to 30% of your AGI. The best assets to give are those that have increased most in value and would result in the greatest capital gains tax if sold. You may also choose to give low-yielding stocks or other investments. This will result in little or no impact on future spendable income. If

you have an investment that has decreased in value, consider selling it and making a gift of all or a portion of the cash proceeds. This results in a charitable deduction as well as a loss for tax purposes.

When making a gift of securities, check with your financial services provider to ensure that your gift is completed properly and in a timely manner. You should allow additional time for gifts of mutual fund shares or non-publicly traded securities. We will be pleased to assist in this process.

Gifts of Cash

While all gifts mailed or otherwise completed by December 31 qualify for tax deductibility for 2008, gifts of cash or by check are the most popular ways to give. Through such gifts it is possible to eliminate or reduce income tax on up to one-half of your adjusted gross income (AGI). Gifts in excess of that amount can result in tax savings in as many as five future tax years. Remember, the higher your tax bracket, the more you save.

Save More When You Give Other Assets

Gifts of stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and certain other assets that have increased in value since you have owned them can result in even greater tax savings. If you have owned such assets for longer than one year, you can generally give them and deduct their current value, including any “paper profits,” from your taxable income. Congress has provided that in addition to regular tax savings, you also do not have to pay capital gains tax when you give assets that have increased in value.

Leaving a Legacy

Toward the end of each year, many also choose to review their long-range estate and financial plans. Wills, life insurance policies, retirement accounts, and other planning vehicles can offer special ways to leave a lasting legacy to charitable interests.

There are also ways to provide for meaningful future gifts while generating income, immediate tax savings, and other benefits today.

Act Now for Greatest Benefit

As the year draws to a close, act now to make certain you have accomplished your charitable goals for 2008. Remember that time spent deciding how to best make your gifts can result in maximum tax savings, other possible financial benefits, and the satisfaction of maximizing your giving. Your accountant or other advisors can provide you with more information specific to your needs.

Please contact J.D. Shuman, Director of Development, at (717) 591-8019 for more information.



Bethany Village

325 Wesley Drive
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
www.BethanyVillage.org

*Inside—Making Gifts That
Feature Tax Savings and
Other Special Benefits*

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Asbury Foundation Staff

Bethany Village
Asbury Foundation
325 Wesley Drive
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
Phone: 717-591-8018
Fax: 717-591-8058
www.TheAsburyFoundation.org

Douglas C. Myers
President and CEO
301-216-4050

J.D. Shuman
*Director of Development,
Bethany Village*
717-591-8019

Dori Hocker
Donor Relations Manager
717-591-8018

Jennifer Schwamb
*Gift & Data Processing
Assistant*
717-591-8432

**Mark Your
Calendars!**

December 11, 2008
Heritage Luncheon

June 9, 2009
**Caring Classic Golf
Tournament**

