



St. Paul's is more than just a place to live. If you've walked into any of the buildings on campus, you've felt this. There is a special ambiance here. The atmosphere is homey, friendly, fun and energetic. The feeling you get comes from the culture of care that we practice at St. Paul's called the Eden Alternative.

Through the Eden Alternative philosophy, St. Paul's focuses on creating a life full of purpose and meaning for our residents, regardless of their age or changing abilities. The staff strives to create a caring, inclusive and vibrant community by eliminating the three plagues of loneliness, helplessness and boredom. Residents have the opportunity to give as well as receive care and enjoy the excitement of variety and spontaneity in everyday life.

Each neighborhood at St. Paul's has its own "Eden family," a close-knit circle of residents and team members who enjoy life together, support each other and engage in special activities on and off campus.

On February 1, St. Paul's will kick off the annual "It's All About Heart" online campaign, which runs through the end of the month to raise funds to support this culture of care. During the month, videos will be shared through email and on St. Paul's Facebook & Instagram pages. Donors, residents and team members will tell you why the Eden philosophy is so important to them.



**Joan Capone with Shannon Chriswell, Resident Care Coordinator at The Heritage, at the Cinco de Mayo party.**

An exciting aspect of this campaign is the availability of matching funds. Once again, a generous donor has pledged to match any contribution, dollar for dollar, up to \$5,000 throughout the

month of February. This gives you the chance to double the impact of your gift—your \$25 contribution can become \$50!

Donations to the "It's All About Heart" campaign last year helped fund Eden family pizza

parties, picnics, holiday parties, popcorn parties, special entertainment, crafts, gardening, memorable outings to wineries and ice-cream shops, caring for neighborhood pets, and a special visit from the Tree Family Party Piggies therapy pigs.

Wendy Vaughn, Director of Volunteer Services and Life Enrichment in The Heritage, suggested inviting the Tree Family Party Piggies to St. Paul's. "I learned of the Piggies from a long-time friend/colleague, Gary Svetz from Meadville," said Wendy. "He gave them high praise and encouraged their presence at St. Paul's."

Tree Family Party Piggies is a locally-owned family business from



**Maribeth Lacy owner of Tree Family Party Piggies and her therapy pig performing tricks for the residents at The O.D. Anderson pavilion.**

Tree Family Party Piggies do indeed spread oodles of Piggy Joy!—just as their mission statement reflects," said Wendy.



**Erica Gulentz, IT Specialist, poses with resident Gordon Wilson at their Eden family picnic.**



**Janet North resident of The Heritage puckering up to kiss the pig!**

Cochran, Pa., and features two certified therapy pigs Perry and Willow. "The

*(Continued on page 2)*



## *It's All About Heart (continued)*

On June 21, the Tree Family Party Piggies came to St. Paul's and brought a unique and delightful experience to our residents and team members. "The presentation and show had something for everyone," said Wendy. "Residents, staff and family members were engaged, educated and at times, part of the show! We had a great time watching the Piggies create watercolor paintings, feeding them, observing their polished skills and kissing them!"

Perry and Willow performed two one-hour shows at The Villas Headland Friendship Commons and Anderson Pavilion to accommodate all residents on campus. "We've learned there is a new piglet who joined the Piggie Family recently," said Wendy. "The Piggies will be returning to share their joy in the future!"

You can help make these special moments possible by making a gift to the "It's All About Heart" campaign

during the month of February. Thank you for your support!

### **Ways to Give:**

**Facebook** - Click on the fundraiser link "It's All About Heart 2024" on St. Paul's Facebook page to donate.

**Credit Card, ACH, Paypal, Venmo, Apple or Google Pay** - Scan the QR code to donate from your phone or visit [www.stpauls1867.org/giving](http://www.stpauls1867.org/giving).



**Check** - Send in the enclosed remittance envelope and be sure to include "It's All About Heart" in the memo line.

**Text-to-Give** - Text SPHEART to 44-321.

## *Bringing Christmas Joy*

For many people, Christmas and the holiday season is one of the happiest times of the year. However, this isn't true for everyone. As we age, our favorite Christmas traditions may change. A time that was once filled with activities and traditions with family and friends might no longer be. That is why at St. Paul's we strive to keep the joy and magic of Christmas alive for our residents.

This is done with the help of our generous donors to the annual Resident Christmas Appeal. This year, more than \$35,700 was raised to make Christmas extra special for the residents at The Heritage, The Ridgewood and The Villas. These funds ensure that all residents receive a special Christmas gift hand-delivered by Santa Claus.

Making Christmas extra special is no small task at St. Paul's. It takes a team effort. The Christmas gifts are carefully chosen, unique to each resident, by different team members at St. Paul's. Once they are chosen and purchased, the gifts are wrapped and distributed by select team members who dress as Santa Claus. Not



**Martha Anderson, resident of The Ridgewood, poses with Santa.**

only is it an enjoyable experience for the residents, but it also brings joy to the team members who distribute the gifts.



**Santa Claus pictured with Eugene Mecklem at The Heritage.**

Eugene Mecklem is a resident at The Heritage. "It's always nice to see Santa Claus, and it's extra special to receive a gift. Receiving a warm blanket was so nice and thoughtful. It keeps me warm and cozy when I nap," said Eugene. "Every Christmas I've been here, there is always something to look forward to during the holiday season."

After the resident gifts are purchased, the remaining funds are used to purchase wishlist items for all residents to benefit from throughout the year. Some wishlist items that were purchased last year include a Char-Broil four burner propane gas grill and two raised wheelchair-accessible garden beds for Jones Serenity Circle and Lane; the completion of the front patio at The Heritage; new lawn furniture, shade umbrella, and a cement pad to finish the four-hole putt-putt course at The Ridgewood; and fifty-two 43" Samsung LED smart TV's and wall mount kits for The Villas.

***Thank you to all of the generous donors to the Resident Christmas Appeal. Without your help, Christmas wouldn't be as bright!***



# Monthly Giving Club

In the early 1900s, St. Paul's beautiful apple orchard was well-known in Mercer County with nearly 600 trees producing more than 20 varieties of apples. This orchard provided sustenance for the orphans and older adults who called St. Paul's home for many years. Today few of those trees remain, and their fruit nourishes the wildlife roaming the woods and fields on St. Paul's campus.

In homage to this history, The Orchard Monthly Giving Club strives to uphold the legacy of the apple orchard through its monthly support of the residents and charitable mission of St. Paul's.

Currently comprised of 21 members, St. Paul's hopes to expand the club in 2024.



Anonymous Donor  
Kathy Anderson  
Coralee Armstrong  
Mickie Chapman  
Joe & Joyce Dalfonzo  
Teresa Findley  
Dawn Hartman  
Tammy Lininger Hause  
Teresa Heckman  
Steve & Carol Hosmer  
Katie Hrdlicka  
Jason Irvine  
Jennie Kather  
Robin Knight  
Jim & Marilyn Macdonald  
Joy Monty  
Walter & Kathleen Rust

"Our monthly givers are especially important to St. Paul's. They provide steady support we can count on throughout the year for benevolent care or life-enriching activities for the residents," said Dawn Hartman, Director of Strategic Giving. "If you're already a regular giver, we invite you to consider joining The Orchard and stretching your support a bit further in the new year."

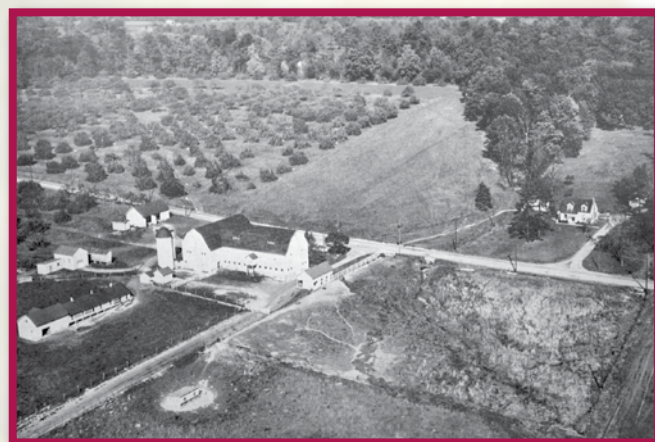
In addition to providing steady support to St. Paul's, monthly giving also has several advantages for the donor.

It makes giving simple. You can set it up once through St. Paul's website or the

Charitable Giving Office, and you don't have to worry about it again. Your donation will automatically go to St. Paul's each month.

There are multiple payment options to choose from —payroll deduction for St. Paul's staff, credit card, ACH transfer from a checking or savings account, Apple Pay, Google Pay, Paypal or Venmo.

You can direct your monthly gift to a specific fund, wherever needed the most, or to the campaigns you



**St. Paul's old apple orchard and barn**

usually support throughout the year.

Monthly giving is also greener giving, saving time for both you and St. Paul's. With no checks, envelopes, or postage, more of your dollars directly support the mission. The automated processing of donations also reduces administrative costs for St. Paul's.

Finally, monthly giving is budget friendly, allowing you to contribute consistently. While a one-time gift of \$500 might strain your monthly budget, a more manageable monthly gift of \$50 would add up to \$600 by year-end, making it possible for you to give more!

Katie Hrdlicka of Jamestown, Pa., is a Personal Care Attendant at The Heritage. She joined The Orchard Monthly Giving Club in 2022.

"I choose to donate to St. Paul's because of the many friendships and connections I have made with our residents over my years of service," said Katie. "It gives me such pride and joy to know that I am making a huge impact on someone's life with my monthly gift."

If you are interested in joining The Orchard Monthly Giving Club, simply scan the QR code to get started. If you need assistance, please call Dawn at the Charitable Giving Office at 724-589-4611, and she will be happy to set it up for you.



If I Give:	My annual gift:
\$10/month	\$120
\$25/month	\$300
\$50/month	\$600
\$100/month	\$1,200



# A Calling to St. Paul's

***"The callings of God never leave you where they find you." - Alistair Begg***

Little did Rita Clemente know that when God called her to St. Paul's, the direction the next two decades of her and her husband Don's lives would take. That path would include two moves, a new family at St. Paul's, a new business and new ways to serve the community.

Though Rita recently retired as St. Paul's VP of Community Relations, the Clementes still reside on campus, and Rita continues to work part-time as the Community Relations Specialist. With that, they remain very much invested in life at St. Paul's.

Which is why it's not surprising that they recently updated their estate plan to include St. Paul's as the contingent beneficiary of Rita's retirement plan. Earned over her 21+ years of service to St. Paul's, the Clementes could imagine no greater destination for those funds, if not needed, than supporting the mission of St. Paul's.

In doing so, they became members of St. Paul's Legacy Society, joining the 57 other members who have set up a planned gift for St. Paul's.

"It's just a way for us to give back. We've been supporters for years," said Rita. "I feel strongly about St. Paul's mission and being able to support it is important to me."

Benevolent care, in particular, resonates with Rita. Coming from a for-profit background where residents would have to leave if they ran out of financial resources, Rita loves that this never happens at St. Paul's.

That nonprofit difference is one of the reasons she has stayed at St. Paul's for so many years. "The mission is just different at a nonprofit. Fulfilling the mission is the priority," said Rita.

Another is the special relationships between the staff and residents. "The staff treat residents as their family," said Rita. "Every staff member at St. Paul's engages in life here, no matter what their job is."

She clearly remembers the day she interviewed at St. Paul's. At the time, she was working at Windsor House in Ohio and hoping to move permanently to Conneaut Lake, Pa., where she and Don had a cottage. She had begun to put out feelers for a new job in the area. It just so happens she found it through lifelong friend Lynn Chuey, a longtime St. Paul's employee.

Familiar with St. Paul's from that friendship, Rita asked Lynn if they might be hiring. The timing was perfect. St. Paul's was about to embark on the biggest expansion in its history and was looking for someone



**Don & Rita Clemente**

with marketing expertise.

She knew from the moment she walked into the old Health Center for her interview that there was something different about St. Paul's.

She recalls seeing a scripture hanging on the wall in the lobby, which spoke to her as a woman of faith herself. She remembers the friendliness and camaraderie between the staff making a big impression on her as well.

"I felt called to work at St. Paul's," said Rita. So the Clementes moved to Conneaut Lake, and Rita started in 2003 with her first big responsibility being the groundbreaking for The Villas. The next decade kept Rita very busy with the opening of The Villas, the renovation of the old Health Center into The Heritage and a large expansion in The Colony independent living neighborhood.

Meanwhile Don, who had been working in the communications industry for a number of years in the Youngstown area, was busy as well with Service 1, his new two-way radio sales and service business.

With Rita's recent retirement, Don is quick to point out that he isn't planning on retiring anytime soon, although he is starting to slow down a little. He also works per diem at St. Paul's in the winter to help out with snowplowing since the Clementes live on campus.

They had been living in Conneaut Lake for a decade when they decided it was time to downsize, and they wanted to do it in Greenville. In addition to working there for a decade, Rita had become deeply involved in the community as a member of the Greenville Kiwanis Club and the Community Recreation of Mercer County group.

Again timing was everything. A home had become available on St. Paul's campus on Oros Way. After some renovations and the addition of a garage for Don's business, the Clementes moved into their new

home. "It was a good move for us. We live right in the center of campus," said Rita. "We were available for special events, to check on residents, emergencies, but no one ever took advantage of that."

"It's been a great place to live," added Don. "St. Paul's has always been good to us."

As they began working on their estate plan last year, the Clementes knew they wanted to include something for St. Paul's.

They spent so many years of their lives committed to St. Paul's mission. "I would encourage people to consider giving to St. Paul's because of its mission and what it provides to the community, which is state-of-the-art senior living," said Rita. "St. Paul's offers a tremendous amount to the community, and it will be here for decades to come. But the support of individuals is extremely important for its perpetuity."

It was simple to set up their legacy gift, just a matter of updating a beneficiary form. Now that they have

a plan in place, the Clementes have advice for those who haven't completed the process yet.

"Not enough people take care of their estate planning. I've seen it time and again at St. Paul's," said Rita. "Don't leave it to another day. Ensure your wishes are carried out, whether you are leaving a legacy for your family, or St. Paul's or another organization. It's vital to have a plan in place."

They hope that by sharing their story it will encourage others who have been longtime supporters of St. Paul's to make their own legacy gift.

**Interested in doing what the Clementes did? To find out more about legacy giving, please contact Dawn Hartman, Director of Strategic Giving, at 724-589-4611 or [dhartman@sp1867.org](mailto:dhartman@sp1867.org).**

## "Ask an Expert" 2024 Series

### Maintaining Your Senses

*Vision, Hearing & Oral Health for Adults*

**THURSDAY, MARCH 28**  
**6:30 P.M.**

### Tax Saving Tips

**THURSDAY, MAY 16**  
**6:30 P.M.**

The Heritage at St. Paul's in Anderson Fellowship Hall  
339 East Jamestown Road, Greenville, PA 16125

#### Featuring:

Laurel Eye Clinic  
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Mong Family Dentistry

#### Featuring:

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Partner at Campbell  
& Sherbondy Certified  
Public Accountants

**Amy Atkinson**  
Director of Planned  
Giving at Community  
Foundation of W PA &  
Eastern OH

Reservations are required. Seating is limited.

*There will also be a virtual  
option through Zoom.*



**RSVP by scanning the QR code**

or contact Vicki Hildebrand at [vhildebrand@sp1867.org](mailto:vhildebrand@sp1867.org)  
or 724-589-4667 Option 7.

# Get Ready to Take Aim

St. Paul's 4th annual Sporting Clay Shoot will take place on Saturday, September 14, 2024 at Sandycreek Conservancy in Polk, Pa. All proceeds from this event will benefit the Good Samaritan Fund to support benevolent care at St. Paul's.

Through the support of the Good Samaritan Fund, a resident never has to leave or adjust the level of care they receive because they have exhausted their financial resources.

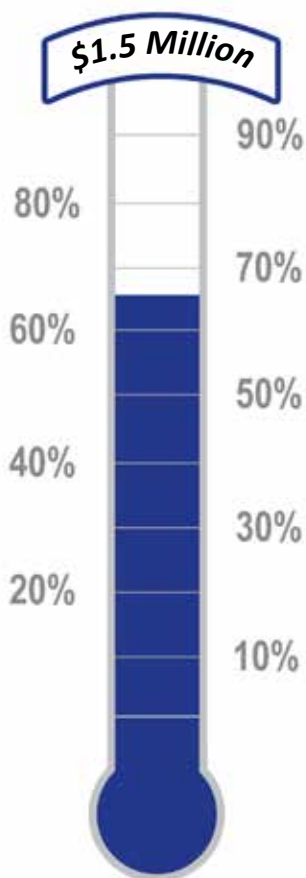
The course at Sandycreek Conservancy consists of 16 shooting stations and every participant has the opportunity to shoot a total of 100 clays. Top shooter prizes will be awarded at the event as well as special raffles and door prizes.

Please consider joining us as a sponsor or shooter for this fun event. For more information, please contact Teresa Findley, Director of Annual Giving, at 724-589-4778 or [tfindley@sp1867.org](mailto:tfindley@sp1867.org).

## SAVE THE DATE! 4TH ANNUAL SPORTING CLAY SHOOT SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2024



## Bridging the Gap Update



Love the outdoors? Help us make it more accessible for all at St. Paul's! We're working on building more walking trails and a pedestrian bridge to connect our campus, promoting health and independence for our residents.

The new additions will connect the north and south sides of our campus and all four neighborhoods at St. Paul's - The Colony, The Villas, The Ridgewood and The Heritage.

This project is made possible by the "Bridging the Gap" fundraising campaign, which launched in mid-2022 with a goal to raise \$1.5 million dollars. Thanks to our generous donors, we are nearing the \$1 million mark with a total of \$971,000 raised!

YOUR help is needed to get the rest of the way! We could break ground in 2024 with your support. Details about how to give are on the right, or contact Dawn Hartman, Director of Strategic Giving, at 724-589-4611 or [dhartman@sp1867.org](mailto:dhartman@sp1867.org).

### WAYS TO GIVE:

**Check** - Send a check with "BTG" in the memo line in the enclosed envelope.

**Online** - Scan the QR code, or visit [www.stpauls1867.org/bridge](http://www.stpauls1867.org/bridge). (Credit card, ACH transfer, Google Pay, Apple Pay, Paypal or Venmo)



**IRA** - If you are 70 1/2 or older, you can make charitable gifts directly from your IRA, tax-free.

**Stocks, Bonds & Mutual Funds**  
You can donate appreciated securities to St. Paul's.

**Pledge** - You can make a pledge payable over three years.



# TECH UPGRADES

Technology usage by adults ages 65+ skyrocketed over the last decade, driven most recently by the pandemic. The number of older adults who own a smartphone rose from just 13% in 2012 to 61% in 2021.

In addition, 75% of older adults report using the internet on a regular basis.

With that trend in mind, it made sense for The Auxiliary of St. Paul's to choose a technology-gear project for 2023.

The Auxiliary raised a total of \$14,000 through their fundraising last year to purchase two LifeLoop computer systems for The Villas, as well as a new audio conferencing system for Anderson Fellowship Hall in The Heritage.

Previously five neighborhoods at The Villas were sharing one mobile LifeLoop computer system for residents.

The Auxiliary's support made it possible to upgrade that system and to purchase an additional one for use on the neighborhoods.

The LifeLoop Mobile Flex System has a 23" touchscreen and comes fully loaded with content geared specifically for older adults. It is also easily portable with a motorized, height adjustable cart.

The expansive content library includes such things as travel videos, music, games, puzzles, trivia and educational programs.

The system can be used by residents on their own



**Lila Taylor, Carlene Hills and Jeannie Mumford, Villas residents, recently enjoyed a fun afternoon of karaoke, followed by a trivia game on the LifeLoop system.**

or by team members to encourage social interaction for residents both one-on-one or in a group setting.

One of activities that Villas residents enjoy the most on the LifeLoop systems is the sing-a-

long karaoke. Residents also really like the trivia games and the chance to watch their favorite classic TV

shows.

"These computers give us so many ways to engage our residents - from learning new things to

reminiscing to exploring their own personal interests," said Mimi Dreher, Director of Life Enrichment at The Villas. "And they aren't just for Life Enrichment staff. Residents and their family members can use them on their own, and other staff can use them to initiate resident activities when Life Enrichment staff aren't here."

In addition to the new LifeLoop computers at The Villas, Heritage residents also received a technology upgrade with a new Nureva audio conferencing system in Anderson Fellowship Hall.

The Nureva HDL300 is an integrated microphone and speaker system. It provides full-room audio coverage with ultra-sensitive microphones that will pick up what's being said anywhere in the room for the people attending remotely.

In addition those in the room will be able to clearly hear anyone attending remotely.

"It will make sure when our residents and staff attend virtual get-togethers, events and meetings, they will be heard and can hear what is being said clearly anywhere in the room," said Gregg Buchanan, VP of IT.

Anderson Fellowship Hall is used frequently for resident gatherings and events, church services, staff trainings and meetings, and St. Paul's board of directors meetings. Many of these meetings and trainings have some participants attending virtually.

In addition, residents can use the new system to remotely attend family events outside of St. Paul's that they are unable to attend in person, such as weddings, birthday parties or reunions. Out-of-town family members can also remotely attend celebrations for their loved ones being held at St. Paul's. To hold a virtual family event, residents and family members can contact the IT department for assistance at 724-588-7610 ext. 1200.

***Thank you to The Auxiliary of St. Paul's and everyone who supported their fundraising efforts this year to boost technology at St. Paul's!***



**Denise Brown, Villas Life Enrichment Specialist, serenades Josephine White with some Christmas karaoke.**



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*Thank You for Your Support!*



***Dawn***

***Teresa***

***Vicki***

Have a question about giving or memorial opportunities? We would love to chat with you! Stop by the Charitable Giving office in the Keifer Building or give us a call at 724-589-4667.

Teresa Findley - *Director of Annual Giving*  
Option 5      Email: [tfindley@sp1867.org](mailto:tfindley@sp1867.org)

Dawn Hartman - *Director of Strategic Giving*  
Option 6      Email: [dhartman@sp1867.org](mailto:dhartman@sp1867.org)

Vicki Hildebrand - *Administrative Assistant*  
Option 7      Email: [vhildebrand@sp1867.org](mailto:vhildebrand@sp1867.org)

*Scan me to donate now!*

