

legacy

Spring 2023 • A Life Enriching Communities Foundation Publication



The Living Legacy Club

How Your Life Can Sustain Your Community

Philanthropy through planned gifts is essential to advance and enhance the continuity of LEC communities and to perpetuate our ministry well into the future. In gratitude to our friends who have demonstrated their commitment to the Life Enriching Communities Foundation through a planned gift, we have established the Living Legacy Club. Membership is open to individuals who have made an estate provision for Twin Towers, Twin Lakes, Concord Reserve, Wesley Glen, Wesley Ridge, Wesley Woods or the LEC Foundation. By including our ministry in your long term estate plans, you give a powerful testament of your priorities.

“Planned giving has been a hallmark for the organization over many decades,” says Scott McQuinn, President & CEO of Life Enriching Communities. “People have been very intentional about including their community and the LEC Foundation in their estate plans. This allows for greater support of benevolent care, pastoral care and residents in long-term nursing on Medicaid, into the future. It also is a platform to grow the ministry to serve more people as the population continues to age. Of course, our goal is to help as many as we can to thrive as they age.”

**For more information
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the Living Legacy Club,
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A LIFE ENRICHING COMMUNITIES
FOUNDATION PUBLICATION
SPRING 2023

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Legacy is published by Life Enriching Communities Foundation, providing services and accommodations at Twin Towers, Twin Lakes, Concord Reserve, Wesley Glen, Wesley Ridge, and Wesley Woods senior living communities, Wesley Hospice and continuing care at home services with Confident Living. Affiliated with the West Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church, Life Enriching Communities welcomes people of all faiths. We do not discriminate and we provide free assistance in your native language, if needed. Find our complete non-discrimination policy at lec.org.

VISION

Residents, associates and those otherwise engaged with LEC thrive in our communities and in their lives.

MISSION

The LEC Foundation supports and promotes Life Enriching Communities' mission and impact through:

- Generating resources to fill ever-evolving and expanding needs
- Educating stakeholders to engage with us in service to those whose lives we are positioned to touch

CORE VALUES

Respect • Innovation • Spirituality • Excellence

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Honor Someone You Love with...

MEMORIAL GIFT – a special way to honor the memory of a friend, colleague or family member who has passed away. Your memorial gift will be a lasting tribute to your loved one and make a difference in the lives of many.

HONORARIUM GIFT – a unique way to celebrate a special occasion or recognize someone dear to you. For example, an honorarium gift could honor a celebration, such as:

- Anniversary
- Bar or Bat Mitzvah
- Birth of a child or grandchild
- Birthday
- Graduation
- Gratitude to a nurse or aide
- Honor an associate or resident
- Honor a business associate
- Honor guests in lieu of party favors
- Wedding
- Any occasion or accomplishment

Rev. Edward. A. Hessler Honored at Founder's Day Celebration

The Lutheran Home at Concord Reserve celebrated its 90th Anniversary on October 21, 2022. A highlight of the event was the dedication of the Chaplain's Office in memory of Rev. Edward Albert Hessler, who faithfully served the Lutheran Home after he retired from full time ministry in 1980.

Rev. Edward Albert Hessler was born May 27, 1913 to Gustav and Mathilda (Dreim) Hessler. He attended Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri and in 1937 was ordained into the Holy Ministry.

His first call to missionary service was to plant a new congregation in East Gary, Indiana. In 1940 he accepted a call to serve as Associate Pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Wyandotte, Michigan. The country in the throes of WWII caused Pastor Hessler to volunteer his service as Military Chaplain. He bravely served his country in the South Pacific during the terrible battles surrounding the Philippines and Guinea. When victory was secure he left the armed forces at the rank of Captain.

He then returned to the parish serving Bethlehem Lutheran in Lewiston, Michigan (1945-46), St. John's Lutheran, Freesoil, Michigan (1946-51), Trinity Lutheran, Manistee, Michigan (1951-59), and Trinity Lutheran, Conklin, Michigan (1959-1980).

In 1980 he retired from full-time ministry and he and his wife Ruth moved to N. Olmsted, Ohio. Not one to shrink from the call to pastoral service, while "retired" he was very active in serving the Lutheran Home of Westlake, Ohio, now referred to as Concord Reserve. He was then asked to serve on the board of directors, which he did faithfully for many years.

A plaque honoring Rev. Hessler was presented to family members and now hangs on the wall outside the Chaplain's Office. At the dedication ceremony, Chaplain Alan Schrader introduced Rev. Hessler's son, Peter, who responded with entertaining and stirring remarks, noting his father's kindness, understanding, and dedication to The Lord.

Concord Reserve was blessed to have been served by Reverend Hessler and is honored to have the Chaplain's Office dedicated to him.



Four generations celebrated the life of Reverend Edward Hessler (L to R) Martha Hessler- wife of Edward's son David; Violet Baily- Edward's great granddaughter, David and Martha's granddaughter; Peter Hessler- Edward's son; Lydia Hessler- Edward's granddaughter, Peter's daughter; Rachel Lyons- Edward's granddaughter, Peter's daughter

Donald P. Klekamp- Great Living Cincinnatian

By Matt Hilderbran

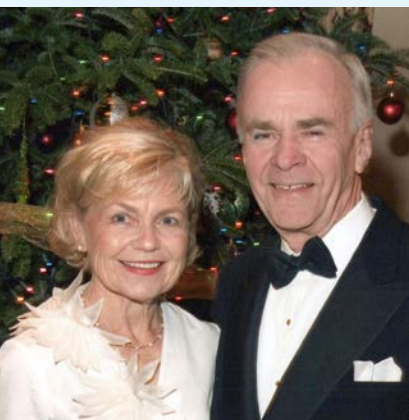
Donald P. Klekamp is one of 2023's class of Great Living Cincinnatians recognized by the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber. Great Living Cincinnatians are recognized for their community service, business, and civic attainment on a local, state, national or international level; leadership; awareness of the needs of others, and distinctive accomplishments that have brought favorable attention to their community, institution, or organization.

Where did it all begin?

In 1959 Don Klekamp was offered a job by Charles Keating and John Muething, taking the place of Keating's brother, Bill, who left to accept an appointment as a municipal judge. Shortly after in 1962, they became the three-person law firm, now known as Keating Muething and Klekamp.

After Don started at the firm, his father-in-law helped him with an important connection to Dick Farmer of Cintas. Dick Farmer told Don that he had called every major law firm in the city, and they all said to "come see them." Don was the only one that went to Farmer and with that they got the business and Cintas is now one of their largest corporate clients.

Don was an original shareholder and director of Cintas and remained a director until age 70. He has served on several boards, including the University of Cincinnati Foundation, the dean's board of visitors of the University of Cincinnati Law School, the National Coalition for the Protection of Children and Families, Life Issues Institute, and his alma mater, Xavier. The Klekamps established the Donald P. Klekamp Professorship of Law at UC Law and provided funding for the Donald P. Klekamp Community Law Center, the new location of the Legal Aid Society. They also established scholarship funds at both Xavier University and St. Xavier High School.



What does an award like the Great Living Cincinnatian mean to you?

When asked what this award means Don says, "It means that the community has recognized that I have made an impact through my work and the support Marianne (his wife) and I have provided has made a difference. It's rewarding me for all the years of community service and our giving to worthy causes." He says he would not even be receiving this award if it wasn't for the love and support of his wife of 65 years Marianne, who recently passed away in December.

Why did you choose to move into Twin Lakes?

"We heard by word of mouth that Twin Lakes was a nice place to live. I think it's an unbelievable facility." Don walks weekly in McKinley Center and he enjoys swimming in the Twin Lakes Connection pool even though he is not much of a swimmer. He has been a daily mass goer his entire life and Twin Lakes Chapel provides an opportunity to attend mass.

What would you like your Legacy to be?

What's important to me is I am an example to people. I don't want to sound like a bragger, but I want people to remember me as a person they respect and that they would follow as an example. I want to be an example of Christian faith and a person that has attempted to improve the community and be involved in a significant way. So I have attempted to provide an example to my 5 children, 16 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren (they refer to Don as Opa, which is German for grandpa). In Don's words, "I'm not a big deal guy. I attribute my success to the Lord Jesus Christ."

It is a tremendous blessing to have Don Klekamp as a part of the Twin Lakes community.



Art Imitates Life

By T.J. Nikolich

When you visit Thelma Renner in her apartment at Twin Towers, the first thing you'll notice is the beautiful nature-themed paintings. The recently turned 105-year-old is the artist of every painting, and what makes this particularly special is that she didn't start painting until after she retired. Upon her retirement, she decided to take classes at her local senior center. Through trial and error and sheer determination, she was able to create many beautiful pieces over the last 40 years.

The next thing you will notice is that Mrs. Renner smiles with her eyes and is quick to laugh. She has lived a simple, happy, fulfilling life, but it has not always been easy. She began working when she was seven years old, as her father died young and she and her four siblings were expected to bring in money for the family. As a child, she worked in an onion field on her family's farm in Northern Indiana, in a drug store as a fountain girl, and as a housekeeper. As a young adult, she married and moved to Cincinnati, where she worked for the FDA as a secretary. In later years, this job would allow her to provide for her children as a single parent. Though the responsibilities were overwhelming at times, Mrs. Renner

experienced God's peace, joy and provision. Rather than feeling resentful of the difficulties life has thrown at her, she has learned to embrace her faith in God, which has given her courage and strength to face life's challenges. That faith is what brings the smile to her eyes and the beauty to her artwork.

A little over eight years ago, Mrs. Renner and her family decided it would benefit her to live in a retirement community. She said the decision to move to Twin Towers was an easy one. She says of her beloved Twin Towers community, "it feels like home." She is grateful for her fellow residents, some of whom have been friends for years, and for the associates, whom she describes as "so nice and helpful." She recently recognized three associates through a gift to the Grateful Hearts Valentine's Day Giving Appeal, saying they "go above and beyond to be respectful, kind and helpful to me."

Mrs. Renner holds a special place here at Twin Towers, as she is our oldest living resident. Her family celebrated her 105th birthday by holding an open house to celebrate and friends, fellow residents, and associates were invited to join in the special occasion.

Mrs. Renner has remained grounded in her faith and in the simple things...the beauty of nature all around her, her love of painting, the love of family, and the assurance of God's provision. When asked what is the secret to a long and happy life, she replied, "it's simple-you have to find happiness within yourself. You can focus on the bad things in life or you can focus on the good things. I choose to focus on the good things." Her life, like her art, is simply beautiful.

"it's simple-you have to find happiness within yourself. You can focus on the bad things in life or you can focus on the good things. I choose to focus on the good things."

A Family-First Approach to Charitable Giving

Remember Us in Your Will or Living Trust

In addition to passing assets to loved ones, your will or living trust can also be used to define your legacy through support of the Life Enriching Communities Foundation. When you remember us through a gift in your estate plans, you join a special group of people who have made some of our most important advances possible.

Advantages

- **Simplicity.** As little as one sentence in your will or living trust is all that is needed to complete your gift.
- **Flexibility.** Until your will or trust goes into effect, you are free to alter your plans.
- **Versatility.** You can give a specific item, an amount of money, a gift contingent upon certain events or a percentage of your estate.

How a Gift in Your Will Works

Your estate planning attorney can help you structure a gift so your loved ones will be taken care of first after you're gone. He or she will include our sample language in a will or living trust you create or add it to existing documents through an amendment called a codicil. A popular option is to leave a percentage of what is left of your estate after other beneficiaries have received their share so your gift will remain proportionate to the size of your estate, no matter how it fluctuates.

A Gift in Your Estate Plan Is Right for You If:

- You want the opportunity to guide decisions about the future ownership of your possessions and the legacy you leave behind.
- You have a will or living trust or are ready to create one.
- You want to make sure your support of Twin Towers, Twin Lakes, Concord Reserve, Wesley Glen, Wesley Ridge or Wesley Woods through the Life Enriching Communities Foundation is still available after your lifetime.
- You want to balance your generosity to us with an assurance that loved ones are taken care of first.
- You want to maintain the flexibility to change your mind about your gift at any time.

The information in this publication is not intended as legal or tax advice. For such advice, please consult an attorney or tax advisor. Figures cited in examples are for hypothetical purposes only and are subject to change. References to estate and income taxes include federal taxes only. State income/estate taxes or state law may impact your results.



Charitable Bequest Leads to Wesley Glen Celebrating Its 53rd Anniversary

A celebratory event was held on January 4, 2023 to mark the 53rd anniversary of Wesley Glen. The celebration included a gourmet dinner and an informative program, which highlighted the philanthropy and generosity of Virginia Walcutt Gay. Mrs. Gay's charitable bequest many years ago helped make Wesley Glen possible today.

Mrs. Gay donated funds in her will in 1914 to be used to establish a home for retired female school teachers in Columbus, Ohio. At that time, these women were not allowed to marry, or they would have to leave the teaching profession. As a result, they didn't have families to rely on, and their options were limited in terms of financial security during their retirement years. Mrs. Gay wanted to provide them with the security of knowing they had a place to go after they retired from teaching. Mrs. Gay's will was contested by four nieces, but her estate won after a lengthy legal battle, and her vision was finally realized with the opening of Stone House in the early 1920's. It was established to be a retirement community for "women of education and refinement."

In the 1960's, Stone House was purchased by a board consisting of local Methodist pastors and, with the help of the United Methodist Church, Wesley Glen Senior Living Community was founded. Originally, only independent living was offered, but additional services have been added through the years to allow the community to offer a continuum of care.

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