“The Psalmists remind us that we are not the owners or operators of this good world,” said Dr. Richard Weaver in his reflections at a service of blessing for new growth at Landis Homes.

On September 22, the service, called Plowing in Hope, was held to mark the official beginning of this expansion.

Weaver led those gathered in a time of reflection titled “Spirituality and Creation Care.” Using scripture and quotes from other writers he led the group in reflecting on how care of creation, including both people and the natural world, is following God’s call.

The expansion includes the creation of hybrid homes which RLPS architect Gregg Scott described this way in his remarks. “This new design brings together the best of both apartment and cottage living, while at the same time being environmentally responsible.”

The new hybrid design has multiple exposures, indoor parking, outdoor living spaces, community areas, and will incorporate sustainable building products and methods. Landis Homes will be the first retirement community in the area to seek LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification. This will include geo thermal heating and cooling, rain water harvesting and indoor air quality practices.

Following the service of blessing there was a time to actually turn over sod on some of the area that will soon be under construction. Board members, building and financial partners, residents and employees took turns holding the ropes that helped pull a potato plow. Participating business partners present included representatives of RLPS, RGS Associates & Benchmark Construction Company.

In his closing comments Landis Homes president Larry Zook said, “Our hope is that this vision both for being good stewards of God’s creation and for strengthening community at Landis Homes will bring honor and glory to God.”
More than forty-five years ago, Frank Enck, chair of the newly formed Landis Homes Program Development Committee, said that Landis Homes founders should keep in mind “a vision of creating a community” of Christ-like love, rather than “the traditional old people’s home facility.” This vision of creating community continues today at Landis Homes in many ways, including through the new hybrid homes which provide a new housing option that combines the best of both worlds: cottage and apartment living.

One of Landis Homes’ guiding values is Stewardship, where we devote ourselves to faithful and responsible use of resources entrusted to our care. Care of God’s creation, including the earth and its resources, motivates us to achieve Silver LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification. On September 22 at a “Plowing in Hope” Service of Blessing for the new Residential Living Expansion, this desire to support Creation Care through good stewardship of resources and sustainable design practices was highlighted by guest speakers Dr. Richard and Ruth Weaver, and RLPS Architects Partner Gregory Scott.

Choosing to call a hybrid home one’s home is making a significant statement in support of stewardship and Creation Care, while still retaining many of the benefits of cottage or patio home living. According to Gregg Scott of RLPS, in addition to making better use of available land through a building density that is three times greater than cottages, other sustainable design strategies will be employed such as geo-thermal heating and cooling, rain water harvesting and measures that ensure indoor air quality control.

Scott goes on to say that “many retirement communities speak to the value of designing their communities to a higher standard of care when it comes to sustainability but only one community is leading by example.”

Hybrid homes include cottage living benefits such as multiple exposures, sheltered parking, outdoor living and an absence of corridors. They also include apartment-like features such as indoor access to commons and service areas and opportunities for social connections in a multi-story building which requires less site area. They include up to 13 homes per household with shared living areas including a hearth room on each floor, and a community room that is typically shared with a second hybrid household.

Twenty-five hybrid homes will be available in the first phase of Landis Homes Residential Living Expansion which started in Fall 2009 and will be ready for occupancy in Summer of 2010. If you have interest in learning more of the hybrid home option, Donna Shank, Director of Residency Planning, will be happy to speak with you. She can be reached at 717-581-3935.
Volunteer Shoppers Needed

By Sue Shirk, Director of Volunteer Services

On the west side of campus, a little gem sparkles: the General Store and Gift Shop. Grocery items are purchased at nearby Oregon Dairy and re-sold to residents for the same price as sold at Oregon Dairy. In addition to standard shelf items, residents may request special items not stocked in the General Store. The store is a major convenience for residents who can no longer do their own shopping or who need items between shopping trips.

Since Oregon Dairy gives a small discount to the store for the groceries, that percentage goes to help others. Proceeds from the General Store and Gift Shop, in addition to sales from the Dogwood Gift Shoppe, go to the Caring Fund. In recent years contributions have totaled approximately $20,000 annually.

Currently volunteers shop Monday, Wednesday and Friday. As more residents rely on the General Store for grocery purchases, the number of items purchased weekly is increasing. In an attempt to keep up with this growing service, we are recruiting additional shoppers to volunteer on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Volunteers shop in pairs, beginning at 7:00 a.m., returning to Landis Homes by 9:00 a.m. when the store opens for business. Volunteers need to be comfortable lifting up to ten pounds.

Persons interested in exploring being a volunteer shopper, please contact Sue Shirk in Volunteer Services at 717-509-5409.

Art Reception Features Two Local Artists

John Showalter, Denver, will be showing his latest works in watercolor with subjects ranging from local and distant scenery to still life. He received his art instruction from Wyomissing School of Fine Arts. He also took private lessons with Jay McVeigh of Ephrata. He is the father of Landis at Home employee, Carol Hollinger.

Donald Reese of Akron will be showing his most recent photographs. A photographer for the Shopping News, Reese’s work has been published in a variety of magazines, websites and newspapers. He also does slide shows for groups, and is well known for his eye for detail, composition and subject matter. He has traveled around the country and his show will feature scenes from Lancaster County to Maine as well as landscapes from the west.

The opening reception, to which the public is welcome, will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 12, in the Harvest View lobby and galleries. The works will continue to be on display through January 2009. For more information, call 717-581-3935.

Reader’s Choice Awards

For the fourth consecutive year Landis Homes was selected favorite Assisted Living Residence by readers of Lancaster Newspapers. Annually they select their favorites in many categories, including food, apparel, leisure, financial, medical, etc. Landis Homes for the first time was selected as co-winner in the Retirement Community category.

Landis at Home, which has provided home services to the surrounding community since 2007, was named runner up in the category of Home Health Care Agency.

Congratulations to all members of the Landis Homes team for being leaders in serving one another.
Auctioneers Jeff Martin, left, and his brother Mike Martin, right, sell another quilt at the auction which raised more than $83,000 for the Caring Fund. Working along with them are quilt coordinator and board member Rachel Thomas Pellman, second from right, and volunteer clerk Alice Whitman, partly hidden behind the laptop screen.

Hinkletown Mennonite students Joshua Snader and Bethany Strock volunteered painting faces.

Lisa Landis of WJTL’s Kids Cookie Break interviews her grandmother, resident Lois Landis live on the air.

Landis Homes Auxiliary volunteers prepare chicken for the grill. Sale of chicken barbecue brought in over $13,000 to help purchase a new wheelchair van for residents.

Residents like William Welsh, seated, accompanied by Linda Nolt RN found many ways to enjoy the daylong event.

Board members Gretchen Thomas, Dottie Martin, Dan Mast and John Eby, staff the fresh fruit stand.
Barn Fire Brings Service Opportunity

On September 30, 2009, the barn on an Amish farm, located right down the road from Landis Homes, burnt to the ground due to a welding incident. Consistent with local tradition, there followed an Amish barn raising, where from 60-100 persons each day helped to rebuild the barn within a the space of a week.

Resident Ken Espenshade, stopped by the farm the day following the fire to offer his condolences. He began to ask himself if Landis Homes might help in the project in some way as a goodwill gesture. So with the blessing of management team, Ken along with dining manager Jeff Deibler delivered a hot meal for the volunteers doing the construction on Friday, October 2. Soon thereafter the work was completed.

Adult Day Services Celebrates 20 Years

In August, Adult Day Services at Landis Homes held a drop in to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Eden West, one of two adult day services centers. The participants welcomed their family members, staff and Jacqueline Burch, the Executive Director of the Lancaster County Office of Aging to join in carpet ball, singing and reminiscing about the times enjoyed since it first opened in 1989.

The two adult day services centers are sponsored jointly by Landis Homes and the Lancaster County Office of Aging and are funded in part by that Office and the PA Department of Aging and the Lancaster County Office of Mental Health/ Mental Retardation.

The centers offer companionship, a tasty hot meal, assistance with personal care, education and fun. Eden East, located in the Heritage memory support center, provides additional assistance and programming for persons with memory loss.

For more information visit www.landishomes.org or call 717-509-5800.

Intergenerational Relationships Enrich Life

by Allen Heinly, VP of Human Resources

A person at just about any age can be part of the Landis Homes community! November 1 marks the 5th anniversary of the opening of the Children’s Learning Center, providing residents and children with intergenerational interaction that enriches the lives of all.

Residents enjoy volunteering in the center, reading to children and assisting in activities. The children also regularly visit residents in various parts of campus, benefiting from these additional “grandparent” relationships as they participate together in activities such as music, tea parties, sharing stories, performing skits, doing crafts and much more. It brings great joy to all!

The center opened in 2004 with 5 children and today serves 49, infant through pre-kindergarten. In 2006, Summer Adventure began as an annual “summer camp” program for grades K-6 and includes many intergenerational events as well.

When entering their teens, youth can be involved in Caring Kids as part of the Landis Homes volunteer program. Next is the opportunity for employment and eventually a person can come full circle to become a resident, enjoying the relationships at all stages of life. We celebrate this diversity of ages which adds richness to the community!
Planning a Meaningful Legacy
By John R. Buckwalter,
Planned Giving Counselor

Did you know that 57% of Americans do NOT have a will according to a 2007 BankRate poll? Although 76% realize the importance of having a will—many simply don’t follow through.

Whether it is making a will or updating a will, there are four important estate planning questions to ask.

1) Does my estate plan as written, carry out my goals to provide for my survivors?
2) Does it represent my values, passions and faith?
3) Is it a tax-wise plan?
4) Am I prepared to move ahead with up-to-date planning if necessary?

These questions take on different priority according to life and family stages. Early in adult life and with dependent children, provision for survivors takes the priority. Later as survivors’ needs diminish, tax implications and charitable values become more important. During senior years leaving a legacy becomes even more important.

A legacy is something of value handed down from one generation to another. Seniors begin to reflect more about how they have lived and will be remembered—whether values such as compassion, generosity, and mercy have been demonstrated in their lives. As stewards of God’s provisions entrusted to us, making a legacy gift to Kingdom work at the end of life is one last act that bears testimony to faith in God. For persons who have significant resources, and for those who have modest means but are rightly concerned about medical expenses, end of life gifting affords an opportunity to invest in causes that are close to the heart. These gifts to qualified charitable organizations are transferred tax free.

We are indeed grateful when we learn of a charitable bequest or other end of life legacy gift that has been designated for the Landis Homes Caring Fund or Caring Endowment Funds. We encourage donors to inform us in advance that Landis Homes is included in their estate plan. This provides an opportunity to say “thank you” and include these generous persons in our Towel and Basin Legacy Circle. Remembering the benevolent needs of Landis Homes brothers and sisters through estate planning, is an indication that Landis Homes is truly family.

The Gift Planning Staff is available to counsel with persons about the charitable dimensions of estate planning. Phone number is 717-509-5490.

This article is not intended as tax or legal advice for which each person should consult their own advisors.

Estate gifts received at Landis Homes during the 2008-2009 fiscal year that ended June 30, 2009 are:

- Caring Fund ..................................................$ 89,625.58
- Caring Endowment & Unrestricted ..............$ 171,546.37
- Building Fund ...............................................$ 2,925.08
- Total ............................................................$ 264,097.03

Landis Homes is excited to announce the creation of the Towel & Basin Legacy Circle. This is a group of Landis Homes Friends who support the mission of Landis Homes through a planned gift to be realized at the end of life.

“By creating such a group it gives Landis Homes an opportunity to say ‘thank you’ while the giver is living. We will be able to celebrate God’s faithfulness together, along with their foresight and dedication to the mission and values of Landis Homes.”

– Larry Zook, President

Becoming a member of the Towel & Basin Legacy Circle is simply a matter of advising the Gift Planning Services department that you have included Landis Homes in your estate planning. A minimum dollar amount is not required nor is disclosure of the details. Names will be kept confidential and will only be published with member approval.

Anyone interested in learning more about the Towel & Basin Legacy Circle or to become a member is invited to contact Alonna at 717-351-3580 or register their membership at www.landishomes.org.
**Calendar**

**Nov. 3**
Senior Expo  
Lancaster Host Resort  
9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
*Stop by the Landis Homes display*

**Nov. 12**
Artists Reception  
Watercolors by John Showalter  
Photography by Donald Reese  
6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Harvest View Galleries

**Nov. 16**
Parkinson’s Support Group  
“Spirituality and Parkinson’s Disease”  
Barry Young, R. Ph, retired  
Westview Community Room  
2:00 p.m.

**Nov. 17**
Seminar:  
Charitable Gift Planning in the Autumn Season of Life  
John Buckwalter & Alonna Gautsche Sprunger  
Harvest Room  
6:30 p.m.  
For information or to register by 11-13-09  
Call Gift Planning at 717-509-5490

**Nov 18**
Lancaster Senior Orchestra Concert & Dessert Reception  
Sponsored by Pathways Institute for Lifelong Learning  
West Bethany Chapel  
6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
RSVP - 717-381-3577

**Nov. 25**
Thanksgiving Service  
West Bethany Chapel with the Landis Homes Chorus  
7:00 p.m.

**Nov. 26**
Thanksgiving Service  
East Bethany Chapel with the Landis Homes Chorus  
10:00 a.m.

**Nov. 24**
Memory Loss Support Group  
“Celebrating Caregivers” through Storytelling  
Warwick Room  
7:00 p.m.

**Dec. 1**
Christmas Bazaar  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Harvest Room

**Dec. 8**
Service of Remembrance  
West Bethany Chapel  
2:00 p.m.

**Dec. 13**
Advent Communion Services  
East & West Bethany Chapels  
10:00 a.m.

**Dec. 16**
Holiday Tea & Open House  
Personal Care Houses  
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

---

**Christmas Bazaar**
**Tuesday, December 1 • 9:00 a.m. - Noon**
Harvest Room *(Harvest View, Second Floor)*  
Homemade Goodies - Poinsettias  
Proceeds Benefit The Landis Homes Caring Fund
Charitable Gift Planning in the Autumn (Senior) Season of Life

November 17, 2009 6:30 PM

Harvest Room
(2nd Floor of Harvest View on Landis Homes Campus)

A seminar for Seniors, Adult Children and other Advisors that will explore planned giving opportunities such as charitable bequests and gift annuities. Learn how to fulfill your life’s stewardship goals, values and passions while still taking care of yourself.

Presenters: John R. Buckwalter, Planned Giving Counselor
Alonna Gautsche Sprunger, Director of G.P. Services

Call Gift Planning at 509-5490 for info or to register by Nov. 13.

LEEDing by Example:
Healthy Living in a Healthy Environment

“Many retirement communities speak to the value of designing their communities to a higher standard of care when it comes to ‘sustainability’ but only one community is leading by example. Landis Homes is on track to receive a Silver LEED* certification for their new Hybrid Homes which will employ sustainable design strategies that include geo-thermal heating and cooling, rain water harvesting and measures that ensure indoor air quality control.”

Gregory J. Scott
AIA, Partner
RLPS Architects

*LEED – Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design