

New Days and New Ways of Ministry for Landsun Homes of Carlsbad

To the pastors, members, and leadership of the congregations of the New Mexico Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.

The doors of Landsun Homes opened in June of 1965 with the purpose of being Christ's love to senior adults. The medical, administrative, maintenance, and chaplain staff of Landsun Homes, along with the residents themselves, have carried on the ministry of Christ's love for almost 55 years. The people and congregations of the New Mexico Annual Conference have partnered with Landsun Homes by providing over \$1,000,000.00 in financial support through Mother's Day offerings and distributions from the Conference Endowment over these 55 years. Superior care and great ministry has been given.

Landsun Homes, like all senior care organizations and ministries across our land, has faced more and more difficult financial and regulatory challenges. The pressure of reduced reimbursement rates from Medicare, rising costs, the need to replace facilities that have out-lived their expected life, and the never-ending change in what seniors desire and need for care and care facilities created a 'perfect storm' for the Landsun Homes ministry.

After 4 years of study, prayer, professional consultations, attempts to unite with other United Methodist care-providing organizations, and difficult discussions the Landsun Homes Board of Directors made the difficult but necessary decision to enter into agreement with the ministry of Lakeview Christian Homes so that Lakeview will become the agency to oversee and continue the ministry of Christ's love for senior adults in the Carlsbad area.

Lakeview Christian Homes is a faith-based non-profit ministry associated with the Churches of Christ in southeast New Mexico. The transition of oversight began in February 2020 and includes the following changes:

The Landsun Health Service Center continues to provide 24-hour care under the management of Lakeview staff.

Over 60 employees of Landsun transitioned to the Lakeview Homes staff.

The Landsun Manor, due to unfundable upgrades or replacement of the elevator system and fire-suppression system and needed asbestos abatement, was closed on March 9th.

All Manor residents were moved into the Health Service Center or to the assisted living wing of the Lakeview facility in Carlsbad.

The Landsun Homes, Landsun Foundation and Lakeview Christian Homes Boards continue to work as a transition team to ensure timely disposition and transition of all assets to pay indebtedness and provide for continuing care for residents.

One of the partners of Landsun Homes Board and ministry is the Landsun Homes Foundation. Past donors to the Foundation have given to support senior care in general but also within a United Methodist affiliated ministry. The Landsun Homes Foundation will move forward trying to best live out the wishes of those who have contributed in the past and those who will contribute in the future taking into consideration these two missional priorities.

Historically one of the ways such funds were raised was through the annual Landsun Mother's Day offering taken up by many congregations of the New Mexico Annual Conference. The funds from the Mother's Day offering were deposited directly in the Landsun Caring Hands Fund. These funds were specifically used to provide care for residents whose own financial resources could no longer pay the cost of their care. The Caring Hands fund has made sure no Landsun Homes resident has been asked to leave because their financial resources have run out.

The Caring Hands Fund continues to exist and provide resources. However the oversight of the Caring Hands Fund has been taken up by the Landsun Foundation Board.

The Landsun Homes Board and the Landsun Foundation Board of Directors are fully aware of the financial challenges facing every family and congregation of the New Mexico Annual Conference in 2020. We are all living into new realities and many unknowns.

Even with current challenges we also recognize that some individuals and congregations may still believe making contributions for the care of senior adults is one way they will continue ministry in trying times. If your congregation and or families/individuals of your congregation do want to contribute to the Landsun Caring Hands Fund those gifts should now be sent to:

Caring Hands Fund
Landsun Foundation
C/O Paul Trone
416 Arabella Lane
Carlsbad, NM 88220

Landsun Homes started and has always been a ministry of Christian faith and love for the benefit of senior adults. Though painful, the changes made are necessary. Through the pain ministry and care will be given in the name of Christ for people Christ and we love.

Sincerely,

Rev. Dan Boyd
Board Member of Landsun Homes Board
Senior Pastor of FUMC Carlsbad