## **Mennonite Nursing Home**

## Family Newsletter

March/April 2020



The view from the back of the home, situated by Country Gardens. The hoarfrost on the trees makes the home look like a winter wonderland. Our chaplain Amos Fehr can take credit for this picture.

### **March Events:**

March 5 Resident Council

10:00—Pineview

11:15—West

March 6 Birthday Party

March 12 Welcome Tea

March 13 St. Patrick's Party

March 20 Ice Cream Party

March 26 Pizza Party

Resident Council meetings are held every other month. We would like to encourage family members to attend the meetings with their residents, as this is a time when residents and their family members are informed of goings on in the home and can also bring up any concerns or suggestions. Please check the activities calendar or newsletter for dates. Our next Resident Council meeting is scheduled for March 5th.

The Youth Farm Complex Auxiliary will be hosting the annual May Day Tea and Cake Walk Fundraiser on Thursday May 7th from 2:00—4:00 p.m. in the Nursing Home Auditorium. Money raised will go towards a special project for the Nursing Home and Pineview. Admission by donation. Hope to see you all there!



# Mennonite Nursing Home

Highway 11 South

Mennonite Nursing Home Road

Box 370

Rosthern, SK S0K 3R0

Tel: 306-232-4861

Fax: 306-232-5611

www.mennonite nursinghome.com

"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well" Psalm 139:14

### **April Events**

**April 3** Birthday Party

**April 9** Easter Brunch

April 20—24 Crackling Breakfasts



While we endeavour to inform you as much as possible about events at MNH, this Newsletter only touches on some of the many activities that happen on a regular basis at the Nursing Home.

### **Crackling Breakfasts**

A couple of times a year, the kitchen provides this special breakfast. Residents from Pineview gather with residents from the East and West neighbourhoods to enjoy a meal together.

Cracklings, fresh bread and jam, hash browns and especially fried eggs are a real hit!

#### A Word From Our Chaplain—Amos Fehr

Ever since I can remember there was music in our home. Singing. Various instruments. Radio. Records and the infamous 8-Tracks! My parents played a variety of music on their 1960s Hi-Fi stereo located in our small living room. The Carter Family, Hank Wil-



liams, Hank Snow. One of my favorite records was by Jim Reeves...the man with the "Voice of Velvet". His album entitled "Gospel Favorites" always transports me back to

the early 1960s. The album cover has him wearing a red cardigan and standing beside a large oak tree. As a child (6 weeks old -5 years old) I spent numerous weeks in various hospitals due to some stomach, allergy and asthma issues. Those times always frightened me. Being a very shy child made it only worse. It is hard to believe but in those days parents were not permitted to stay in the hospital for night. One evening, knowing that the next day I would be admitted into the City Hospital, I recall listening to this Jim Reeves record. As a 5 year old I remember how his music and words gave me a sense of peace and comfort. It made me feel safe. Somehow I realized I was being watched over by something/ someone much bigger than me and that all would be well.

As I continue my earthly journey there are moments when I feel frightened, doubtful and worried about the future. Sometimes we may even ask ourselves, "Do I really know God?" How can I know the One who has no beginning and no end? The Alpha and the Omega. Humanly speaking is it even possible to lay claim to such a declaration? In moments like these, sooner or later, I will look to my past to see how God has directed my life and cared for me each step of the way. All the patterns and pathways He created for me...even when I messed up. I am a strong believer in remembering the past. It is in recognizing the past that we can see clearly how God has guided us. Our so called "modern church", and western society in general, tends to focus much of its energy on the present and the future while disregarding the past as something not relevant or meaningful...let alone sacred.

Every now and then I listen to that old Jim Reeves album. Three years ago I played it for my mother (on my iPhone) at the Rosthern Hospital on the evening before she died. It created comfort, calmness and feelings of nostalgia for her and for us as a family. The songs added to the peaceful setting. Mom knew she was at the doorstep of a new eternity. Today this album reminds me of how I have never been alone and that Jesus promises He will never leave us nor forsake us! May we find time today to recall our past and to recognize the moments where the Holy One guided our steps. Turn it into your Ebenezer. A reminder that God "Was" and "Is" with us. He has been guiding and watching over us from days of old...to the present...and into our future. Proverbs 3:4-5.