

FALL 2018

MONARCH



COVER STORY

VOLUNTEERS

LUCY & JOHN STERN

HONOR OUR
VETERANS

WE HONOR VETERANS

INSIDE

- THE AFRICAN AMERICAN CHURCH EMPOWERMENT PROJECT
- SWEET & PRECIOUS TIME WITH HOSPICE
- BUTTERFLIES: A WONDERFUL GIFT FOR OUR PATIENTS & FAMILIES



Angela
Hospice

We'll take you under our wing.

WILLIAM S. HEITMAN

"I DON'T DESERVE THIS," said 92-year-old Angela Hospice home care patient Bill Heitman as he walked into his surprise tribute and pinning ceremony that Angela Hospice volunteers planned in his honor. The event took place at the Melvindale, Michigan, American Legion. Many of his friends and family gathered to honor this gentleman.

After serving in the United States Navy in World War II and serving more than 20 years as Chaplain at his American Legion post, Bill does deserve this honor and much more.

For more than 40 years, Bill served the American Legion and the Veterans Administration as a volunteer. He and his wife, Helen, brought up 4 children, Keith, Gary, Brian, and Cheryl, who are immensely proud of their parents.

Bill is so humble that while working as a divisional forms representative at Ford Motor Company he learned that when you earned a college degree, your salary would be raised, but he told William Ford, Jr., "It's okay, you pay me enough already."

Bill and his wife lived in the same home in Melvindale since 1951, and he is still there, although his wife passed away in 2011.



After his wife passed, Bill could no longer bring himself to go to the American Legion Hall because of the many fond memories of her. The two of them would put flags on the graves of soldiers and volunteer at veterans events. Bill especially liked being the caller at Bingo games.

Although the surprise at the American Legion was bittersweet, it was lively and fun-filled as well. Bill and his family had many laughs and a few tears. It was truly an evening to cherish. Thank you, Bill, for your service.

ABOVE, ANGELA HOSPICE VOUNTEER JOHN STERN GREETNS NAVY VETERAN HEITMAN ON THE EVENING OF HIS PINNING CEREMONY. THE CEREMONY INCLUDES A FRAMED CERTIFICATE, SERVICE PINS, AND HANDMADE NAVY BLANKET. ABOVE RIGHT, BILL IS SURROUNDED BY THREE OF HIS FOUR CHILDREN AT THE AMERICAN LEGION HALL IN MELVINDALE, MICHIGAN.

WE HONOR VETERANS

You can support our nation's brave veterans who are now receiving Angela Hospice care. Select "We Honor Veterans" on the enclosed card, or make a gift online at AskForAngela.com.

A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT BETWEEN ANGELA HOSPICE,
THE NATIONAL HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE ORGANIZATION
AND THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.



TERI SCHMITCHEN,
DIRECTOR
OF VOLUNTEER
SERVICES & CHAIR
OF WE HONOR
VETERANS PROGRAM
CONTACT TERI AT
734.464.7810
FOR MORE INFO.

THE POWER OF THE PROGRAM is that it ensures specialized holistic care for each veteran we serve.

The elements of the WE HONOR VETERANS program are:

RECOGNITION (CEREMONIAL PINNINGS)

**SHARING COMMON EXPERIENCES
(CONNECTING VETERANS TO VETERANS)**

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH
(EDUCATING OUR COMMUNITY HOW TO
BEST SUPPORT VETERANS)**

Each veteran has unique needs – especially at the end of life. This program prepares us to best support each veteran based on their wartime era and wartime experiences, and guides us to honor the veteran and provide comprehensive, specialized care.

One aim of the program is to build a bridge between veterans and civilians. To this end we partner with many community veterans groups such as the Metro Detroit Veterans Coalition, Wins for Warriors, and other partners aimed at improving care for veterans.

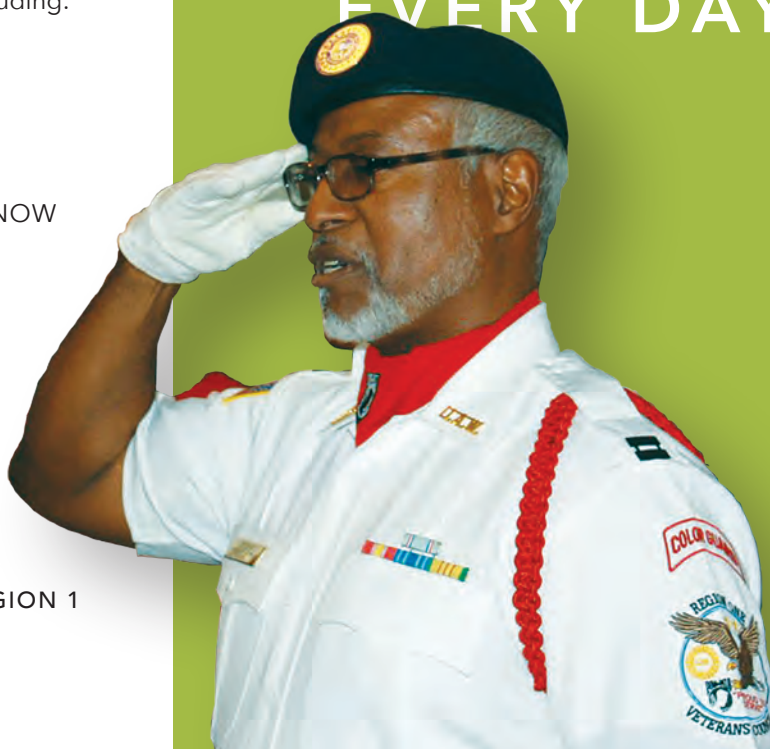
We also offer webinar courses free of charge to anyone in the community who wishes to have a greater understanding of the veteran experience, including:

- INSIGHT INTO MILITARY CULTURE
- UNDERSTANDING & CONNECTING TO VETERAN BENEFITS
- HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS:
15 THINGS VETERANS WANT YOU TO KNOW
- MILITARY CULTURE & SPIRITUAL HEALTH
- WHEN THE DEAD WON'T REST:
SURVIVOR GUILT IN COMBAT VETERANS
- INNER CONFLICT & SURVIVOR'S GUILT
- WOUNDED WARRIORS:
THEIR LAST BATTLE

AT RIGHT, CARLTON PACE, US AIR FORCE VETERAN AND MEMBER OF THE UAW REGION 1 HONOR GUARD SALUTES DURING AN ANGELA HOSPICE PINNING CEREMONY.



TO THOSE
IN UNIFORM
SERVING TODAY
AND TO THOSE
WHO HAVE
SERVED
IN THE PAST,
WE HONOR YOU
TODAY AND
EVERY DAY.



A CONGREGATION ON FIRE FOR HOSPICE



THE DREAM TEAM, ABOVE, LEFT, TERI TURNER, RN, BSN, MS, CHPN, ANGELA HOSPICE CONSULTANT; ELDER GU-WOIN INGRAM, SECOND EBENEZER CHURCH; JAYANN WASHINGTON, EPICS MINISTRY LEADER, SECOND EBENEZER CHURCH; ROBERT ALEXANDER, DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR, ANGELA HOSPICE; DIANE SMITH, MISSION INTEGRATION DIRECTOR, ANGELA HOSPICE; ARTHUR J. WILLIAMS, CHIEF MINISTRY OFFICER, SECOND EBENEZER CHURCH.

IF YOUR CHURCH OR OTHER ORGANIZATION WOULD LIKE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOSPICE CALL 866.464.7810 AND ASK FOR DIANE SMITH.

SECOND EBENEZER CHURCH, DETROIT

"HOSPICE OFFERS THE BEST HOPE NOT TO BE ALONE, TO BE WITH FAMILY, TO HAVE PAIN CONTROLLED, AND TO BE CONNECTED TO YOUR FAITH AND BELIEFS. WE ARE AS ENTITLED AND DESERVING AS ANYONE ELSE TO HAVE THESE HOPES FULFILLED."

RICHARD PAYNE, MD, DUKE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE AND DIVINITY, DURHAM, NC

THE VISION:

"Serve our community with much love, integrity, and excellence."

Pastor Bishop Edgar L. Vann, Second Ebenezer Church

IN THE BEGINNING: In 2016, under the guidance of a grant from The St. Francis Fund of Felician Services, Inc., Angela Hospice hosted a roundtable discussion with leaders from the southeast Michigan African American community. Highlighted were the significant gaps in care for the African American population as they approach end of life as compared with the Caucasian population during the same phase of life.

Roundtable participants suggested that a cooperative effort between African American faith communities could improve this discrepancy, and the African American Church Empowerment Project was born. The cooperative effort would help the communities train their own advocates with a goal toward becoming "End-of-Life Care Advocates." The training touches on the facts of care, details resources available to families in the community, and helps nurture community members toward self-advocacy.

In 2017, the project began successfully with members from Second Baptist Church, Greektown. This summer Second Ebenezer Church in Detroit joined the effort, as their participants learned general hospice principles and engaged in role playing in a Christian context. This training prepared them to have end-of-life conversations with other congregants and their own friends and family.

Participants also learned the components of grief and loss, and had the opportunity to ask questions of Dr. James Boal, Angela Hospice Medical Officer, on the medical aspects of hospice and palliative care.

WHAT THEY LEARNED: Jayann Washington, Second Ebenezer Church, EPICS Ministry Leader, and coordinator of the empowerment project: "Because of this training I will use my family and friends as sounding boards so that I can become more confident in speaking with others outside of my comfort zone."

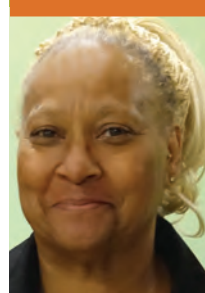
Denise Caparaotta, Second Ebenezer Church: "I will use this training to help others that are in hospice in my church and my friends as well...I am more prepared to assist."

Lucy Bryant, Second Ebenezer Church: "I will put my wishes in writing so my family will not feel bad about making a decision for my care."

Renee Welch, Second Ebenezer Church: "After learning about hospice/palliative care, my perspective has totally changed, for I know now it is actually more beneficial to our loved ones instead of an abrupt end to life. In moving forward, I believe I have the tools needed for conversations concerning hospice that I never had before."

WHAT WE LEARNED: Diane Smith, Angela Hospice Mission Integration Director, said, "The amazing, loving people of Second Ebenezer welcomed us into their church and were willing to tackle tough topics. They engaged honestly, sharing their stories fearlessly. They came to the table with one goal: learning all they could about end-of-life care in order to support their own and their church families through the challenging and often emotionally painful journey at life's end. They were committed to the process. They affirmed the power of faith and hope to sustain through life's trials. And they did it all joyfully!"

THE JOYFUL PARTICIPANTS AT RIGHT FROM TOP DOWN: LUCY BRYANT, KATHY RODDIE, DENISE CAPARAOTTA, BEATRICE TURNER, RENÉE WELCH, AND INEZ GORDON.



PASSION PROJECT

SOOTHING THE SOUL

Two of Angela Hospice's volunteers have given our patients and families a wonderful gift: a beautiful butterfly garden on the grounds of the Angela Hospice Care Center. It's meant to be more than just something pretty to look at. It's a place to experience nature in a way that can soothe the soul.

Like most of our selfless volunteers, these two weren't looking for any recognition when they made this generous gesture, and in fact, they wish to remain anonymous. So let's call them Oliver and Eve.

It was Oliver who first had the idea for a butterfly garden. He had been reading about native plants, and one day when he was working at the Care Center, the idea struck him: what about installing a butterfly garden at Angela Hospice?

"If you've ever had something really sad happen in your life and you're kind of just sitting there contemplating it, you notice the simplest things, things you never would have noticed before," Oliver said. "And I think that's what gives you peace. That's what I hope this does."

"People can just sit there and reflect. And if they see a bee hopping flower to flower, or a hummingbird, or a butterfly...it's the little, simple things when you're sad and you're grieving. Sometimes those things give you comfort."

When Oliver presented his idea, it was met with enthusiasm and gratitude. With approval to pursue the project, Oliver and Eve hired Plymouth Nursery to come up with a design.

"The whole time I'd been kind of thinking about it and praying on it that somebody from Plymouth Nursery knows about Angela Hospice," Oliver said, "So I don't have to try to explain the special feeling this place has."

He was delighted when he met Vicki from Plymouth Nursery and she told him, "I've got a history with this whole area." She went on to tell him that when she was giving her thesis presentation for her MBA at Madonna, Sister Giovanni (Angela Hospice's foundress) was giving her presentation on hospice at the same time. Vicki said she was inspired by Sister, knowing how many people would be helped by her vision.

"I thought, 'Well, there you go. Prayers are answered,'" Oliver said.

When Vicki and her team got to working on the plan for the butterfly garden, they came up with a design in the shape of butterfly wings. Eve and Oliver loved the design and when a paved pathway was added, they knew it would be a special place for patients and families to visit.

"My aunt always smelled roses, which would remind her of her daughter that died," Eve said. "I think even the smells and the sights are triggering for people....hopefully they enjoy sitting out there and looking, and then reflecting on somebody that they love."

And if visitors should see a butterfly while they're there, "It's kind of like when you see a ray of sunshine," Eve said. "It just puts you in a good frame of mind."

The garden is positioned just outside the Care Center's A-Wing. It features many perennials, including hydrangeas, rose of Sharon, and butterfly bushes that will attract butterflies, bumble bees, and hummingbirds.

Thank you Eve and Oliver for using your passion and resources to create a peaceful place to bring comfort and beauty to others.

MONARCH ON CONEFLOWER
TAKEN BY OLIVER IN THE
BUTTERFLY GARDEN.



SWEET, PRECIOUS TIME

HOSPICE LOVES ON THE WHOLE FAMILY



DEBBIE BENNETT was called to be a steadfast wife to husband Thomas and a devoted mother to their children, Christopher, Kelly, and Robin. She has relied on God to get through the hard times her family has faced, and has been grateful that Angela Hospice was there too, when she really needed support.

In 1989, at the age of 12, Christopher, her oldest child, was diagnosed with a rare neurological disease called Friedreich's Ataxia (FA). Chris was a smart and funny music-lover, and accomplished artist who was beloved by his family and many friends. By his junior year in high school, he began to use a wheelchair. As with many diseases of the nervous system, there has never been a cure or effective treatment for FA.

Debbie and her family enlisted Angela Hospice's help to care for Chris before he passed away in 2004. He was just 26 years old.

"I didn't know what to expect...hospice comes in and does so much more than care for a sick person, they love on the whole family," Debbie said. "It makes it a sweeter, more precious time for your family as a whole. They can celebrate every minute being together.

"When Chris was in Angela Hospice home care he had a young male nurse who shared music and tattoos with him and became like family," Debbie said, "When Chris was in the Care Center they treated him like a king!"

Just this year, Angela Hospice was once again called to serve the Bennett family, when Debbie's husband was diagnosed with cancer. Tom's calling was as a history teacher and Pastor of Emmaus Road Bible Church. He also worked at Detroit Diesel for more than 22 years. His children and grandchildren adored him. Tom looked forward to seeing his son again in Heaven. Tom passed away in April. He and Debbie had been married 43 years.

Debbie is thankful that hospice walked alongside her and her family through all this.

After Chris died, Debbie went to one of our bereavement groups, which are funded through the generosity of our donors, and found comfort in sharing with and leaning on other grieving parents. Now, although she still works full time at NorthRidge Church in Plymouth, she finds time to go to an Angela Hospice support group again. She understands the power of talking to others in similar stages of grief.

"The loss of our son and then 14 years later the loss of my husband have been two of the hardest events of my life," she shared, "but even in that pain, my family has been blessed that Angela Hospice was and still is there for us."

Debbie cherishes her family and is proud of the women her two daughters have become.

Kelly, now 36, is Debbie's middle child. She is healthy, married, and has three beautiful children of her own. Her twin boys were born prematurely and have developmental disabilities not related to FA. She teaches all of her children that they can be proud of who they are and all they can give to the world.

Robin, the youngest child, now 32, also lives with FA. Robin is independent and spirited. She graduated from Eastern Michigan University in 2009 with a degree in creative writing and theatre. She now works at 4th Wall Theatre, where she is an instructor for young people with developmental disabilities. She sits on two disability-related councils advising the governor and State of Michigan. Robin is proud to give voice to the independence and dignity of all people with disabilities, just like her brother taught her.

Ann-Patrice Foley, Angela Hospice Social Worker said, "I think about Debbie and her significant losses, and yet, she continues to bring warmth and love to others. Her deeply empathetic sharing during years of attending our support group for grieving parents (dubbed 'Heartstrings' by the parents), showed me what a blessing she is to so many!"

LEFT TO RIGHT, ROBIN & CHRIS

• DEBBIE, KELLY, TOM, AT ROBIN'S COLLEGE GRADUATION • TOM WITH KELLY'S BABIES

You are invited to all of our Angela Hospice EVENTS

Helen Balmforth, Development & Special Events • 734.953.6045 • angelahospice.org/events

We'd love to see you at our fall events! Join us as we celebrate Angela Hospice's mission and promote awareness of hospice's benefits for families in our community.

LIGHT UP A LIFE AUCTION & GALA

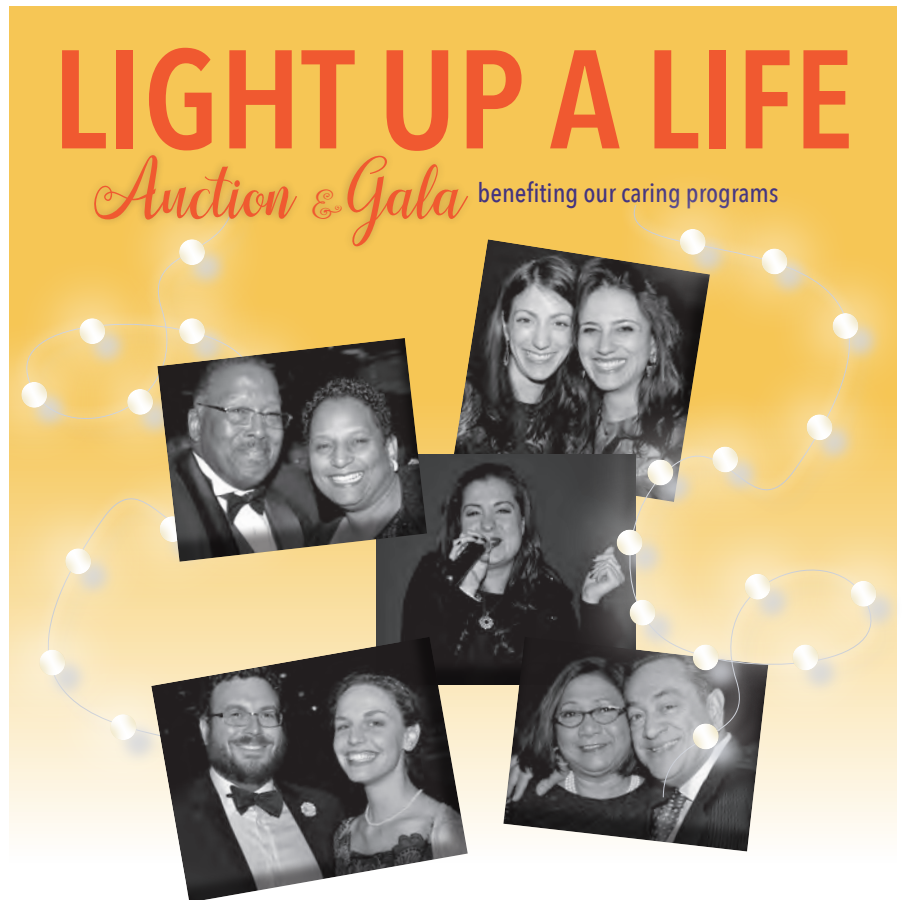
OCT. 26 Dine and dance in the garden of lights at our rustic Italian-themed gala, *Giardino Illuminato*, at Laurel Manor. This popular event offers supporters the chance to bid on a wide variety of silent auction items, enjoy a gourmet meal and open bar, then experience a performance by the talented band Intrigue. We'll also be honoring the LaRiche Family of Lou LaRiche Chevrolet, for their many years of philanthropy in the community.

BURGERS, BREWS & BROS

NOV. 8 This comedy event for men will feature comedian Tony Deyo, plus beer tasting, dinner, and silent auction. The event takes place at One Under in Livonia.

TREE OF LIFE

NOV. 17 Honor your loved ones by placing an angel ornament on our Tree of Life at Laurel Park Place near Von Maur. An opening ceremony with caroling from the Angela Hospice Choir will take place on Saturday, November 17, at 11 a.m.



ANGELA EXECUTIVE TEAM

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Marti Coplai, Executive Director
Mark Hibbard, CFO
James Boal, MD, Chief Medical Officer

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WE'LL TAKE YOU
UNDER
OUR
WING



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ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1.888.464.2341 (TTY: 711).

ملحوظة: يوجد لدينا خدمة مجانية بلغة العربية يرجى الاتصال بالهاتف رقم 1.888.464.2341

هاتف الصم والبكم (TTY: 711)

Angela Hospice تلتزم بقوانين الحقوق الفدرالية المدنية المعمول بها ولا تميز على أساس العرق أو اللون أو الأصل الوطني أو السن أو الإعاقة أو الجنس.

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