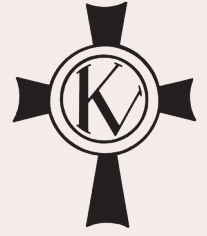




# Kemmerer Voices

Published by Kemmerer Village  
104th Year of Ministry — A Presbyterian Child Care Agency

941 N. 2500 East Road • Assumption, IL 62510  
Phone: 217-226-4451  
KemmererVillage.org



October 2018

## Sweet Success of Pumpkins

Nature therapy is growing strong at Kemmerer Village. Gardening is a great way to bring nature to our kids. Gardening is a priceless life skill, and an incredible way to have meaningful therapeutic conversations about life, nurturing, hard work and this year especially, disappointments and success.

We started off planting all kinds of things including: corn, beans, peas, cucumbers, flowers. The kids were excited and hopeful. And, so were the rabbits! As adorable as the children find the rabbits hopping around campus, they were much less impressed when the fluffy things decimated the young plants they worked hard to grow. The kids were discouraged. On top of feeding the rabbits, our garden struggled with Mother Nature. The wind came in and blew away the papers and mulch we laid down to suppress the weeds, and it knocked over a bunch of plants that the rabbits didn't get. The kids were, again, discouraged. A third hurdle we faced, time! Or lack thereof. There is no way around it. With all of the activity at Kemmerer, scheduling does not lend itself well to gardening. Summer sports, campus outings, vacations, and visits all ate into our gardening time. So, after the rabbits chomped and the wind blew, the weeds were given plenty of time to grow and grow.

After the disappointments stemming from the rabbits, wind, and time constraints, we needed to plant something to bring us success. These kids needed a win. There is no success like pumpkin success! A little seed, sunshine, and rain can produce sprawling vines, mammoth leaves, and dazzling, orange fruit.

Pumpkins were just the ticket we needed for some sweet victory. Gardening is such a useful tool in helping our young people deal with life challenges. While our kids do have to learn how to face disappointments, those disappointments are easier to deal with if they are accompanied by a few victories. This summer, our kids learned to work through their struggles and evolve as needed, but when you keep working it will all pay off.



## Senator Visit

Senator Andy Manar visited Kemmerer Village to witness first hand the accomplishments taking place. He had a chance to touch base with Executive Director Ron Little and President of the Board Robert McNabb. Senator Manar also visited our school and therapy horses. Senator Manar is a member of the Illinois Senate representing the 48th district which includes Christian County.



# Kemmerer Voices

Michael A. Havera . . . . .Editor  
Publication No 292-240

Kemmerer Village is a Mission Agency of the Synod of Lincoln Trails, Presbyterian Church (USA)

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# From the Director's Desk - October 2018



Ron Little  
Executive Director

Fall has arrived and along with it the start of a new school year for our residents. Like most parents, as Kemmerer Village staff, we too welcome the return of some familiar structure to our lives. That notwithstanding, I want to congratulate our residential staff and support staff (kitchen, housekeeping & maintenance) for making these past summer months one of the better ones in memory.

Throughout the months of July and August, the youth in our Residential campus are experiencing a broad range of activities via the Summer Enrichment program. The Residential Counselor staff in each cottage design a "curriculum" of fun and educational activities each year for this program. The preparations by staff begin a few months before the first Summer Enrichment class starts.

This year's slate of activities included: Culinary Arts classes teaching cooking techniques, good nutrition and using a budget when shopping for ingredients, a variety of Arts and Crafts projects, bowling, fishing, swimming, attending the Classic County Cars exposition, basketball, softball and Frisbee golf.

Classroom activities were also punctuated by field trips reflective of the subject matter, such as: Ecology – trips to Dacey Trails for a nature identification walk and Ballard Nature Center. History – trips to New Salem, the Lincoln Museum in Springfield, IL, Springfield Air Combat Museum and Illinois National Guard Museum. Money Management - a field trip to Region's Bank where they were led through the process of setting up checking and savings accounts.

There were plenty of "fun for the sake of fun" outings as well: Our residents spent a day in Arthur, IL taking in the Amish culture, crafts and food. Several trips to area parks for picnics and hiking occurred. A half day at the Family Aquatic Center in Bloomington, IL. The Summer Enrichment program culminated with taking in a St. Louis Cardinals baseball game and the "KV Summer Olympics" that includes a number of traditional and non-traditional Picnic-styled races and friendly competitions.

I want to give credit where credit is due, for such a great summer. The planning and organization that goes into the summer schedule is a substantial piece of work. Those staff that participated in that should be commended for their efforts. Foremost, our direct care staff, the Residential Counselors and Therapeutic Recreation staff, developed and implemented the activities. Our Shift Supervisors helped to coordinate any necessary logistics and stepped in to lend a hand when needed. Our Therapists rearranged their counseling schedules so as not to conflict with the activities and also helped on activities when needed.

God Bless,  
Ron Little





Mike Havera  
Director of Financial  
Development & Fundraising

## “Music to our Ears”

The Kemmerer Village Women's Auxiliary meets four times a year: March, May, September and November. Although the group is small, they are a wonderful example of what Kemmerer Village is all about, opening your heart and helping children. A program is planned for each meeting by the Kemmerer Village Development staff. Most often these programs involve our campus youth sharing their experiences or activities during their stay with us.

Recently, the program for the September meeting included our staff Heather from Therapeutic Recreation and two students from her music class, Timothy and Michael. Timothy's family has some musical background, but he's never played an instrument himself; he proceeded to play Beethoven's Fur Elise from memory on the piano and Michael played a song he had written on the guitar. Heather just began working with Timothy and Michael a short time ago. The two boys gave an amazing performance. All of those listening were very impressed with the boys and with Heather's enthusiasm for all the students with whom she is working. She spoke about how one student played guitar simply because the strumming was relaxing, while another student used piano as a coping mechanism to calm his ADHD. Heather stated that her goal was to help every child use music in a way that personally benefits them.

This was all made possible from your generous response to our request in the July issue of the Kemmerer Voices for musical instruments for the children. We received many keyboards and acoustic guitars and have implemented music lessons to many of our youth in our Therapeutic Recreation program. Research suggests that regularly playing an instrument changes the shape and power of the brain and may be used in therapy to improve cognitive skills.

Once again our friends, donors, congregations and organizations have answered our call and our children have benefitted as a result.

Thank you and God Bless!

Sincerely,

Mike Havera

Director of Financial Development and Fundraising

## Kemmerer is alive with the sound of music



Campus is filled with beautiful sounds as our children get the gift of music. Our hearts were warmed at the out pouring of love we received from our recent request. Our July newsletter expressed the children's desire to learn to create music, and you have given that to them! Our music program joyfully received several keyboards, guitars and even a cello. It is amazing to see the children's faces light up at the opportunity to learn these instruments. Thank you to Doug Schmalz (pictured left) and everyone else who is supporting the mission of music therapy at Kemmerer Village.

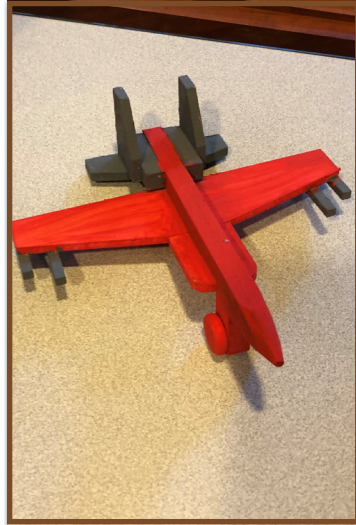
## Schedule a Speaker

Would your church like to hear about the activities of our youth? Do you belong to a club that would be interested in learning about the needs of today's youth? Are you in need of a program or speaker? Autumn or Alice would love to come and talk with you or your group. Call us and schedule it at (217)226-2131



# Summer Fun

Summer Enrichment was a success! We are so grateful for everyone who contributed to a season of learning and fun for our children. Look at all of the great trips and experiences the children at Kemmerer Village had because of donors like you!



### Some Summer Enrichment Activities and Outings

- Swimming
- Bowling
- Fishing
- Laser Tag
- Tye-Dye
- DIY Lip Balm & Nail Polish
- Bird Feeders
- S'more Ovens
- Painting
- Vision Boards
- Tea Party
- Model Cars
- Catapults
- Football and Basketball Drills
- St. Louis & Decatur Zoos
- Lincoln's Home
- Normal Aquatic Center
- Air Combat & National Guard Museum
- Sky Zone
- Starved Rock
- Dacey Trails
- Ballard Nature Center
- Staunton Car Show
- Lincoln's New Salem
- Region Bank
- Illinois State Museum



*New Salem State Park  
July 30, 2018  
Petersburg, IL.*



Summer Enrichment cost around \$70 per child and provides skills like cooking and banking and memories like fishing and hiking that are going to last a life time. Please consider donating or sponsoring a child so we can ensure this program continues to help kids for many summers to come.





## Horses & Heroes

Our community therapeutic riding program Horses & Heroes is in full gallop. September 18 was the first session of the season, and it went incredibly well. One of the newest members of our herd pictured on the left was introduced. The beautiful blonde Gypsy Vanner Horse Baylee joined the Kemmerer



arena in May and is already working hard. She is a hero to the children who ride her, and to the children and volunteers who work with her. Horses & Heroes will be helping children Tuesday evenings for ten weeks this fall and another 10 weeks this spring. **Please contact Autumn in the Development office if you'd like to come and see this awesome program.**

## Mission Trips to Kemmerer Village Have a Long History

**Church youth and adult groups have made an impact on this ministry of helping children and families over the past 104 years.** One of the big projects from those early years was converting the old barn into a Retreat for groups to stay while they were with us. Before this, some of you who visited may remember sleeping on our gym floor. Today we hear back from members of those groups, they have great memories of their mission trips to Kemmerer Village.

**We still welcome work groups to join us,** take the opportunity to get to know us and see first-hand how Kemmerer Village and the Church is continuing to provide help to children and families in need.

If you are interested in bringing a work group to Kemmerer Village, please contact the following for more information [alice.christenberry@kv.christian.k12.il.us](mailto:alice.christenberry@kv.christian.k12.il.us) or call Alice at (217)226-2132.



## Kemmerer Soccer team is scoring at Illinois State University (ISU)!

Kemmerer Village has been selected to be the honorary soccer team of the day at Illinois State University. The Kemmerer soccer players were invited to Illinois State University in Bloomington for a day that meant so much to the Knights. Our players were recognized at the beginning of the ISU game against Western Illinois University. Our proud Kemmerer Knights were able to walk out on to the soccer field with the ISU Lady Redbirds. During the game, our youth worked the sidelines retrieving balls for the college athletes. This was the first time many of the kids had ever been to a college or college athletic event. This was a great incentive for our team and an amazing opportunity to see the pay off of working hard and committing to a positive recreational activity. The children had such a great time seeing great athletes and role models in a college setting.

## Allemand Cottage Tea Party A Highlight of the Summer

The girls from Allemand Cottage outdid themselves this summer with their Annual Tea Party. They made sure that everyone campus wide was invited over to sample their goodies, and they were **"delicious"**! Nothing like homemade chocolate chip cookies, peanut butter, oatmeal raisin, cake pops (just to mention a few) to brighten your afternoon.

They also had several creative ideas for decorating their cottage, all the young ladies were wonderful hostesses. Thank you to the young ladies, and hats off to the supportive staff for their help.



## Kemmerer Village

### CHRISTMAS

#### Wish List

#### Activities

Car & Plane Models  
(Non-Toxic Glue)  
3D Puzzles  
Legos  
Sports Balls & Equipment  
Action Figures  
Rubiks Cube  
Art and craft kits  
Posters

#### Gift Cards

**Always a hit and enables us to match a child's wish! Here are some commonly requested:**

iTunes Amazon  
Best Buy Pizza Hut  
YMCA Taylorville  
Target Old Navy  
Shoe Carnival Wal-Mart  
White Oaks Mall-Springfield, IL  
Hickory Point Mall-Decatur, IL

If you would like to bless the children of Kemmerer Village this Christmas season please contact Kemmerer Village at (217)226-2131.



## In Memory & Honor of Those We Love

There are occasions of joy and sorrow in the lives of our family and friends that call for a response from us. A Memorial Gift or an Honor Gift to Kemmerer Village is a way to express love and respect at appropriate times.

Your gift, large or small, is an investment in the lives of troubled children. These gifts help to provide for their day to day care: food, clothing, medical care, educational needs, and Christian ministry.

The name of the deceased or honored is in bold type; the donor names are listed below in regular type. Please notify us of any errors.

### Honors

July 3, 2018 to September 20, 2018

**Revs. Bob and Jean Wollenberg**

Mrs. Carolyn J. Butler

**Ms. Brooke Schelar**

*28th Birthday*

Mrs. Elsie Carter

**Mr. Ed Madsen and Miss Melva Gage**

*Anniversary*

Ms. Terryl A. Peterson

**Mrs. Helen L. Bury**

Mrs. Marguerite S. Torrey

**Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth F. Schwab**

*60th Anniversary*

Mrs. Ruth W. Kapik

**Mrs. Patty Christianson**

*Birthday*

Mr. Richard N. Christianson

**Mrs. Patty Christianson**

*Birthday*

Ms. Sally K. Cole

**Mrs. Patty Christianson**

*Birthday*

Anonymous

**Mr. Ronald Little**

Kemmerer Village Board of Directors

**Mrs. Sue Scaife**

Rev. and Mrs. John S. Kay

### Memorials

July 3, 2018 to September 20, 2018

**Conn Dean**

Ohio Valley Presbytery

**Mr. A. E. Hopper**

Mr. Charles R. Casey

**Mr. and Mrs. Alva & Mary Stephens**

Mrs. Mary Sue Divine

**Mrs. Ann N. Ettinger**

Mr. Richard T. Wilson, Jr.

**Mrs. Ann N. Ettinger**

Mr. and Mrs. Arlan R. Juhl

**Mrs. Ann N. Ettinger**

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Wenger

**Mrs. Ann N. Ettinger**

Ms. Lois Hesse

**Mrs. Ann N. Ettinger**

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Bollinger

**Mrs. Ann N. Ettinger**

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Norman

**Mrs. Ann N. Ettinger**

Ms. Terryl A. Peterson

**Mr. and Mrs. Archie & Edith Kraakevik**

Mrs. Elizabeth A. Williams

**Mr. Bradley Stephen Martin**

Ms. Sharon Rogers

**Mr. Bruce C. Olson**

Mrs. Carol J. Lukes

**Mr. Du'Ane Pleasant**

Mrs. Janis C. Hebert

**Mr. and Mrs. Earl & Erma Mchely**

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hughes

**Mr. and Mrs. Francis & Rachel Weinberg**

Ms. Mary W. Hohe

**Mr. Gerald O. Wine**

Mrs. Luan B. Wine

**Mr. Harry F. Hillman**

Mrs. Annette T. Hillman

**Mr. Ivan McCracken**

Mr. Robert McCracken

**Mr. Jack Harroun**

Ms. Eulala Hoke

**Mr. James A. Mumm**

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Mr. and Mrs. John R. McLaughlin

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Mr. Roy Pinnell

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**Rev. Kenneth R. Bryant**

Mrs. Ruth Rademacker

**Mr. Larry Janes**

Mrs. Barbara H. Janes

**Mrs. Linda K. Slifer**

Dr. Edward D. Slifer

**Mrs. Marilyn Little**

Mr. Ron Little

**Mrs. Marilyn Little**

Ms. Mary L. Cleverdon

**Mrs. Marilyn Little**

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**Mrs. Marjorie Hamilton**

Mr. Glen Hamilton

**Mrs. Marjorie Krainock**

Mr. Pete Krainock

**Mr. Michael Hunzeker**

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Crew

**Our Parents**

Mr. and Mrs. Carmon Mest

**Mr. and Mrs. Paul & Jessie Kent**

Dr. & Mrs. Robert Twardock

**Mr. Phillip "Bud" Dessen**

Mr. and Mrs. James R. Dunseth

**Mr. Richard T. Haselton**

Mrs. June H. Haselton

**Ticketts of 1926**

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**Mr. and Mrs. Ted & Mariam Schumacher**

Mrs. Wilma Stocker

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**Mrs. William J. Nash**

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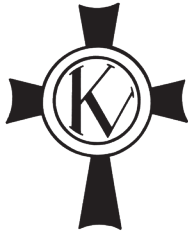
**Mrs. Wilma Klostermeyer Mitchell**

Ms. Dorothy L. Mitchell

Correction from July Voice

**Mrs. Stefanie Green**

Mr. Robert C. Green



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Kemmerer Voices from our website.*

***104 Years of Making a Difference  
in the Lives of Children & Families!***

***A mission of the Presbyterian Church USA***

Page 8 ————— October 2018

## Happy Birthday!

Our young people truly appreciate receiving cards from all of you on their birthday. Thank you for thinking of them. Please put the name of the church and/or organization in the return address area of the envelope. All mail to students is monitored. Thank you.

### Girls

Tessa N	11/12/01
Brianna S	12/3/04
Erika B	1/15/03
Alyssa L	3/6/04

### Boys

Jaydon R	10/18/03
Blaze S	1/10/01
Ronson B	1/25/01

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