



Giving  
Hope  
Today

# Community Care Ministries Team



Truly an outreach of seniors helping seniors, Penticton Salvation Army boasts a mighty troop of volunteers known as the Community Care Ministries team.

On the first Friday of the month (from September to June), some of the team visit Trinity Centre where residents gather at 2 pm for a chapel service. At the end of the service, handshakes and hugs are shared as Faith and Friends mini-magazines are given for those who wish to enjoy reading the great stories to take back to their room.

A week later, Haven Hill residents congregate in a small room and enjoy the same kind of sweet fellowship together. Singing, prayer, Bible reading and an inspirational talk are given in hopes of blessings those who gather together.

Usually on the second Sunday of each month, you will find many "CCM" members at Village By The Station for a 3 pm gathering. As well as the chapel in the main building, two small teams of volunteers go into the Cottages, the locked units for patients who are dealing with dementia. This intimate time of singing and prayer is treasured by the residents and volunteers alike. It is beautiful to share smiles and sometimes tears and more hugs and handshakes with this appreciative group.

Several of our members have connected to the vibrant volunteer program run by Village By The Station as well. These folks sing, play guitar, visit and help with events for the residents.

Although CCM does not conduct a formal service at Westview Place, members Elaine Cook and Colin Matier also volunteer their time. Elaine does a myriad of little tasks such as serving tea, wheeling folks from their rooms, visiting and anything she is asked to do. Colin is a man about town singing and playing his guitar at Westview, the Village and The Hamlets!

On the fourth Sunday monthly, you will find the team at The Hamlets and Cherry Park at 3 pm. Pianos are played. Solos are sung. Poems are read.

Seasonal gifts are given to residents such as Valentine's cards, small calendars and teddy bears! Another special gift CCM provides in partnership with the Prayer Shawl Ministry at church is to give throws, blankets or shawls to staff to give to residents. These handmade items are knitted and crocheted with love and every week a prayer of blessing is given in honour of those who will receive them. A half a dozen ladies meet weekly and are prolific and productive with their needles!



The big highlight of the year for many residents and staff is the annual Strawberry Social hosted at The Salvation Army in June. Those who are well enough to attend come by bus to the church and enjoy a couple hours together, eating strawberry shortcake, enjoying hilarious skits put on by participating homes, receiving carnations and sharing a devotional thought before heading back home.

Barbara Pettifer, supported by her husband John, is the driving force behind all aspects of CCM. She has served as secretary for 20 years! Barb spends countless hours scheduling, liaising with facility staff, bundling church magazines, gathering gifts and participating in

chapel meetings herself. Barb also keeps track of the local congregation's shut-ins and often finds a way to meet special needs for them when it is possible. In 2019, she was instrumental in organizing a 100th birthday party for "Sparky" Mary Laurenson. Penticton Salvation Army is truly blessed to have Barb at the helm of this vibrant ministry.

There is mutual joyful anticipation as seniors visit seniors through the amazing outreach of Community Care Ministries!



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**Miriam Leslie**

Penticton Salvation Army  
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