

FAITH CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER

Faith Connections shares inspiring stories and pertinent updates that reflect our values, celebrate our community, and strengthen the bonds between families, churches, volunteers, and supporters.

160 Years Mission Strong



Flat Rock Children's Home main building established in 1868.



First employees of the newly built Flat Rock Children's Home, circa 1868.

National Developmental Disability Awareness Month



March is **National Developmental Disability Awareness Month** in the United States, and your church or organization is invited to observe in various ways:

- Hold a Q&A meeting
- Host a guest speaker who is an expert in the field
- Wear orange during the month
- Don colorful socks for Down Syndrome Day, March 21

Developmental and intellectual disabilities may refer to learning and behavioral disabilities, such as autism, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, and conditions such as cerebral palsy, spina bifida, and Down syndrome. *"This month reminds us that individuals with developmental disabilities are valuable members of our communities and deserve full participation in all aspects of life, including education, employment, recreation, and civic engagement."* NACDD – National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities.

Our Care Center's Life Enrichment staff is planning a tea party in honor of this special month! Photos will be posted on our Facebook page.



As springtime brings the beauty of nature and new life, we pray that your Lenten and Easter season is blessed with the joyful promise of new life in Christ.

Flat Rock Homes, Care Center, & Community Services is a faith-based, mission-minded ministry supported by churches of many denominations, individuals, families, businesses, and foundations.



SAVE THE DATE

Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for a special evening of faith and fellowship with Bishop Hee-Soo Jung, resident bishop of The Ohio Episcopal Area of the United Methodist Church. For information or event tickets, please contact Kaylee at 419-483-7330 or email kcaskey@flatrockhomes.org.

A Grand and Glorious Night to Shine!

Friday the 13th proved to be a grand and glorious “lucky” day for our Flat Rock Homes Care Center residents, and individuals served through our Community Services division, as they put on their festive best and gathered for *A Night to Shine!*

This global prom experience, sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation, is a celebration filled with music, dancing, games, fun activities, and delicious party foods—all within a safe, beautifully decorated, and welcoming environment.

Tim Tebow shares, “Over the years, I’ve met so many incredible people—so many warriors for God, selfless and loving volunteers, devoted parents and caretakers, and so many amazing guests who exude the love and joy of Jesus.”

Please enjoy these photos and those below of our amazing guests shining brightly at this unforgettable event!

Geranium Appeal

Cheerful geraniums and other plants brighten the Flat Rock main campus and honor the special people in our donors’ lives. Your support of the annual Geranium Appeal helps create a colorful, welcoming environment for everyone who visits, works, or lives here. Each gift made in someone’s honor includes a personalized marker placed beside a plant as a living memorial.



Thank you for your generosity as we continue to beautify the Flat Rock Main Campus with its Administrative Offices and Care Center. Please watch for the Geranium Appeal and prayerfully respond.





Worship Our Way (W.O.W.) Services at the Care Center



Pastor Beth Westphall of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Bellevue, places a crown of thorns on a wooden cross as she prepares her message, The Journey Through Holy Week, to share with Care Center residents during the Worship Our Way (W.O.W.) service on March 10 at 3:30 PM.



Rex Stanforth of Edison UMC, Milan, provided music for Worship Our Way (W.O.W.) in January and February.

Congratulations, Employees of the Year

Thank you for your outstanding commitment, positive impact, and passionate care. Your dedication inspires all of us!

CARE CENTER

Lamarr Crowe
Direct Support Professional

Kaye Marshall
Supervisor

FLAT ROCK

Allan Hart
Support Staff

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Tonya Marvin
Supervisor

Rachael Miller
Care Worker

2025 FLAT ROCK EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

Tour Flat Rock and see your Impact

Every gift to Flat Rock Homes helps adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities live with dignity, stability, and connection—supporting safe homes, consistent care, and lifelong services. Tour our beautiful main campus in Flat Rock to see your impact firsthand. See the historic orphanage, walk the prayer labyrinth and trails, and explore the Outdoor Therapeutic Center. Learn more or give at <https://www.flatrockhomes.org/give>, or to schedule a tour, contact Rose at rdarling@flatrockhomes.org

SAVE THESE DATES

March: National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month
March 25: Flat Rock Fundraiser, Geoffrey Darling's presentation of Mark's Gospel, Edison UMC, Milan, OH @ 7:00 PM
July 18: Walk at the Rock
July 31: 160 Years Mission Strong, a celebratory evening with UMC Bishop Hee-Soo Jung

Watch for more information about these and other special events.