

# CONNECTIONS

The Still Hopes Community Magazine



Grand Opening of the Susan Boyd Croquet Court and Pavilion on Page 12.

ISSUE: NOVEMBER 2024



# Chapel of the Holy Spirit

REV. DOUGLAS GRAY, CHAPLAIN 803.739.5033 | dagray@stillhopes.org

REV. ERIC DYE, ASSOC. CHAPLAIN 803.240.8278 | erdye@stillhopes.org

## Sunday Worship Service

*Join us for Worship  
in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit  
Sundays • 11 am,  
Communion will be served.*

## Chapel Healing Service

Led by Trinity Cathedral Clergy  
The next service will be held on  
Wednesday, November 13 • 11:00 am  
*Chapel of the Holy Spirit*  
A service for all residents of Still Hopes.  
Communion will be served.

## Morning Prayer

Sundays • 11 am | televised on Still Hopes TV  
**Channel 1390/122**  
Communion will be served.

## Bible Studies

### BIBLE STUDY

*Weekly Gospels*  
Mondays • 1:30 pm  
3rd Floor McDowell Activity Room

### MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

*Romans*  
Tuesdays • 11:00 am  
3rd Floor McDowell Activity Room

### CLASS ON THE CHOSEN - SEASON THREE

*Thursdays • 10:30 am*  
*Chapel of the Holy Spirit*

## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



**Chaplain Gray blessing furry friends on St. Francis Day**

## November Birthdays

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 02 Jim Guignard      | 13 Rhonnie Newton    |
| 03 Pam Jewett        | 14 Libby Bernardin   |
| 04 Joan Easterling   | 14 Jess Torres       |
| 04 Jerry Dell Gimarc | 15 Ardis Savory      |
| 04 Buddy Hill        | 19 Evie Gibson       |
| 07 Frances Case      | 19 Ernie Squarzini   |
| 07 Beebe James       | 23 Don Blondin       |
| 07 Daryl Johnson     | 23 Jackie Hillesland |
| 09 Bobbie Peluso     | 23 Mary Ross         |
| 10 Anna Griswold     | 25 John Cloyd        |
| 10 Robert Moody      | 25 Judy Holliday     |
| 10 Suzy Weisman      | 27 Barbara Graybill  |
| 11 Elsie Stuart      | 27 Iris Lowery       |
| 13 Wallis Houseman   | 28 Martha Meade      |

## We fondly remember...

- WILMA LOMAS**
- SCOTT REYNOLDS**
- ALEC CHAPLIN**
- KAREN FLOYD**

# Still Hopes Employee of the Month: Desiree Leverett

Desiree's unwavering love and compassion make a world of difference in the lives of those she serves, especially my mom. Her ability to communicate with my mom is exceptional, and her warm, encouraging presence has motivated her to stay active and engaged. A perfect example is when Desiree gently persuaded my mom, who prefers the comfort of her room, to dine with fellow residents and socialize in the dining room—a moment that brought a smile to my mom's face.

Desiree doesn't stop there. She frequently checks in on my mom, kindly reminding her to stay hydrated and making sure her needs are met. Her attentiveness extends beyond my mom—Desiree keeps the entire team aware of what's needed to provide the highest level of care. What truly sets Desiree apart is the love, care, and kindness. She consistently shows in every interaction. It's not just my mom who benefits; I've noticed how her compassionate approach touches other residents as well. Visiting several times a week, I've had the privilege of witnessing Desiree's dedication firsthand, and it's clear she goes above and beyond everyday.

While we are grateful for the many wonderful staff members at Still Hopes and the beautiful surroundings of Rose Gardens, Desiree is undeniably extra special. My mom adores her, and so do we.



Submitted by: Julie Lomas Lott

## Employee Appreciation Fund

**Contribute to the Employee Appreciation Fund before November 26**

The Employee Appreciation Fund campaign will end on November 26. If you have not given yet or thought about it there is still time to do so.

The Employee Appreciation Fund provides every employee, except those at the director and executive level, with a gift at Christmas to say thank you for the care and dedication they provide to us. This is a non-tax-deductible gift for 2024.



Our employees have always been grateful for our generosity in the past and will be thankful for any amount they receive this year.

Thank you,  
*Wally Fortuna*  
Employee Appreciation  
Fund Committee

## Hollywood Hits Fridays at 3:00 pm Keenan Event Center

<b>November 1**</b>	<b>Moonstruck</b> PG   1987   1h 42m
<b>November 8</b>	<b>The Fabelmans</b> PG-13   2022   2h 31m
<b>November 15**</b>	<b>The Ides of March</b> R   1993   1h 41m
<b>November 22**</b>	<b>Moulin Rouge</b> NR   1952   1h 59m
<b>November 23</b> Saturday Movie Double Feature	<b>The Greatest Show On Earth</b> NR   1952   1h 15m <b>The Greatest Show On Earth</b> NR   1952   1h 15m
<b>November 29</b>	<b>The Upside</b> PG-13   2017   2h 5m

**\*\* indicates that the movie will be shown in the Building 5 Multipurpose Room**

## LIFE ENGAGEMENT

### Living a vibrant and full life!

Residents are given many opportunities and choices of maintaining a full, active lifestyle



Michelle Rabon  
Director of Life  
Engagement  
mrabon@stillhopes.org  
910-367-9711

## An Evening of Broadway

Join us for an Evening of Broadway, featuring talented singers Kyle and Linda Collins and incredible accompanist Greg Boatwright! Enjoy a captivating evening filled with timeless hits from Broadway's biggest shows, performed up close and personal. From show-stopping numbers to tender ballads, this special event is sure to transport you to the bright lights of the Great White Way. With a touch of holiday cheer in the mix, it's a night of music, memories, and pure entertainment you won't want to miss!  
Doors open at 6:30 pm with a cash bar in the Atrium, billable to resident account.

**Friday, November 22 | 7 pm | Keenan Event Center**

### Holiday Season Performances

#### Opera Concert

**Presented by USC School of Music Students**

Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 4:00 pm  
Keenan Event Center

#### W.A Perry Middle School Fine Arts Student Performances

Thursday, November 21, 2024 at 10:30 am  
Keenan Event Center

#### Grace Christian School Middle and High School Choir

Thursday, December 5, 2024 at 1:30 pm  
Chapel of the Holy Spirit

#### Suzuki School of Music Holiday Showcase

Saturday, December 14, 2024 at 10:30 am  
Keenan Event Center

#### Silver Saint Singers Sounds of the Season Concert

Tuesday, December 17, 2024 at 11:00 am  
Keenan Event Center

### US Presidential Election Voting Information

————— . . / . —————  
**VOTE IN PERSON**  
Tuesday, November 5

Transportation Shuttles | Leaving from McDowell  
8:30 am | 9:30 am | 11:00 am | 1:30 pm | 3:00 pm

### In the Company of Horses



Our fall semester of equine enrichment has started at Hickory Top Farm in Eastover, SC. For five weeks six residents are enjoying the therapeutic program, *In the Company of Horses*. If you would like to enroll in the fourth semester this spring with Life Engagement, contact Michelle Rabon, Director of Life Engagement, at [mrabon@stillhopes.org](mailto:mrabon@stillhopes.org).

**Apartment, Cottage, &  
Concierge Suites**  
**Life Engagement Bus Departure Times**

**ALL TRIPS DEPART FROM THE FRONT OF  
MCDOWELL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED**

**GROCERY SHOPPING AT PUBLIX**

**WED, NOV 6 | 10:15 AM**

**TOUR OF THE STATE HOUSE &  
LUNCH AT THE MCCUTCHEN HOUSE**

**THURS, NOV 7 | 10:00 AM**

**ANDY & FRIENDS CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT  
AT TRINITY CATHEDRAL**

**MON, NOV 11 | 6:15 PM**

**COLUMBIA MUSEUM OF ART & ICE CREAM**

**THURS, NOV 14 | 1:30 PM**

**SOUTHERN VOICES POETRY READING  
AT ALL GOOD BOOKS**

**THURS, NOV 14 | 5:45 PM**

**SC PHILHARMONIC  
AT THE KOGER CENTER FOR THE ARTS**

**FRI, NOV 15 | 6:45 PM**

**HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS  
AT THE KOGER CENTER FOR THE ARTS**

**TUES, NOV 19 | 6:45 PM**

***Canadian Rockies!***

**PRESENTED BY FRAN WHEELER**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7**

**4:00 PM**

**KEENAN EVENT CENTER**

***Southern Voices Poetry Reading***  
***At All Good Books***



***Featuring Still Hopes Resident  
Libby Bernadin***



***Thursday, November 14***  
***Departing from McDowell at 5:45 pm***

**STATE HOUSE TOUR  
& LUNCH AT  
MCCUTCHEN HOUSE**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7**  
**10:00 AM DEPARTURE**

**Music With Mike**

**Sponsored by Mike Arndt,  
Still Hopes Hearing Specialist**

**Featuring the  
Music of Admiral Radio**

**Monday, Nov 4 | 6:15 pm**

**Emilie's Café Courtyard**

The Series is sponsored by ReSound, the makers of Omnia hearing aids, and hosted by Mike Arndt with Digital Hearing. Free trials offered during the series on the latest Omnia technology which promises 150 percent reduction of background noise.

# Afternoons with Andy Armstrong Chamber Series at Still Hopes

Six performances,  
ten internationally celebrated artists

A magical blend of amusement, discovery, community and unparalleled artistry with renowned pianist Andrew Armstrong, joined by an array of world class virtuoso musicians. The Keenan Event Center provides the perfect setting on Main Street at Still Hopes Episcopal Retirement Community for memorable afternoons that will transcend your musical imagination.

## *Andrew Armstrong*

Acclaimed for his solo recitals, chamber music performances and appearances with orchestras across the globe, Andrew Armstrong has a unique ability to bring the great classics within reach, whether it's your first concert or hundredth. His orchestral engagements have encompassed a vast repertoire of more than 60 concertos with orchestra as well as solo recitals and in chamber music concerts at festivals around the world. The inaugural season of his second chamber series in the Keenan Event Center is especially close to his heart. Friends at Still Hopes are more like family than concert enthusiasts. Andy and his wife Esty, their three children Jack, Elise, and Gabriel, and their two dogs Comet & Dooker live in Worcester, Massachusetts.

## *Gifts to Afternoons with Andy Armstrong Chamber Series*

The series is designed to afford residents at Still Hopes the opportunity experience amazing music, without leaving their home. No travel required to another destination. Gifts support an intimate setting in the Keenan Event Center for all residents, and a unique gathering with the artists after the concert in the Atrium. Our 2024-25 goal is \$20,000.



Support the Chamber Series using one of the following options:

- Mail check for Afternoons with Andy Armstrong to Christie James, Director of Community Development, Still Hopes, P.O. Box 2959, West Columbia, SC 29171
- Contact us for details regarding direct bank cash and stock transfers: Christie James 803-739-5006 or Joe Wenger, Chief Financial Officer, 803-739-5008.

- Use the QR Code to contribute online



## CHAMBER SERIES SCHEDULE

**Violinist Stefan Jackiw  
Clarinetist Yoonah Kim**  
Saturday, November 16 at 4:00 pm

**Trumpet/Vocalist Jeroen Berwaerts  
Guitarist Mak Grgic**  
Friday, January 10 at 4:00 pm

**Pianist Orion Weiss**  
Thursday, February 13 at 4:00 pm

**Violinist Amy Schwartz Moretti & her  
student orchestra, Vivaldi Seasons!**  
Saturday, March 8 at 4:00 pm

**Violinist Abigel Kralik  
Cellist Rafe Bell**  
Tuesday, April 15 at 4:00 pm

**Marimbist Eriko Daimo  
Soprano Indra Thomas**  
Tuesday, May 13 at 4:00 pm

*Sing-along with friends from the  
Rose Gardens Neighborhood*

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

4:15 PM

PLEASE MEET LE SPECIALIST  
REGINA MORIN-SEVRIE IN THE ATRIUM

*Crooked Creek Art League  
Juried Exhibition Art Show*

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7**

**4:30 UNTIL 6:30 PM**

**EMILIE'S CAFE/HOPEWELL LOBBY**

**AWARDS ANNOUNCED AT 5:30 PM**



**Classical  
Conversations**  
with Morihiko Nakahara,  
Music Director of the SC  
Philharmonic Orchestra  
**Tuesday, November 12**  
**4:30 pm**  
**Multipurpose Room**

*Chamber Music Series*  
**Afternoons with Andy Armstrong**

*Featuring Violinist Stefan Jackiw  
& Clarinetist Yoonah Kim*

*Saturday, November 16 | 4:00 pm*  
*Keenan Event Center*

*Reception immediately following concert in the Atrium*

**Columbia Museum of Art**

**French Moderns: Monet to Matisse Exhibit  
& Ice Cream at Sweet Cream**

**Thursday, November 14**

**Depart from McDowell at 1:30 pm**

**Complimentary Trip | Self-pay Ice Cream**

*The  
Keenan  
Diaries*

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

4:00 PM

KEENAN EVENT CENTER

INTERVIEW WITH KELLER BARRON

## BROADWAY IN COLUMBIA

Life Engagement will once again provide transportation to the 2024-2025 Season of Broadway in Columbia's opening night performance of each show.

Residents will need to purchase their own tickets by visiting

<https://www.kogercenterforthearts.com/shows-events/broadway-in-columbia/> or calling 803-251-2222.

Tuesday, November 19- Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas

Tuesday, January 7- Ain't Too Proud: The Life and Times of the Temptations

Tuesday, February 25- Six the Musical

Tuesday, March 25- Hadestown

Tuesday, April 15- The Book of Mormon

Tuesday, April 29- Les Misérables

Monday, June 16- Tina: The Tina Turner Musical

*Transportation will depart from the McDowell Front Entrance at 6:45 pm  
and must have at least 5 participants registered to provide transportation.*

# Remembrance of Things Past

## A Resident Doll & Toy Show

By Judy Milone

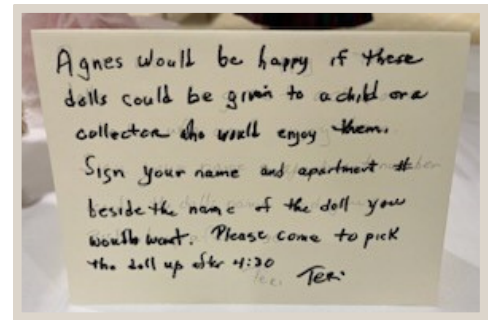
One of the few books I kept from college days was the first volume of Marcel Proust's "Remembrance of Things Past." I know I enjoyed reading it and perhaps I planned to read it again, but I never did, just keeping it for decades from move to move. One theme was the persistence of involuntary memory- which we all have, if we're aware of it or not. Proust wants us to know that memory can shape and nurture us, as well as cause sadness and regret. What possible meaning this concept could have had for me then, a person in her 20s, I don't know, but it sure does resonate now.

Memory, nostalgia, reminiscence and more were on display in Life Engagement's recent Doll & Toy Show. Residents were asked to bring keepsakes that stirred for them feelings of nostalgia and remembrance. And in the items came! Displayed were books, craft items, postcards, boxes, seasonal decorations, photographs, figurines, boats in bottles, toys galore, and of course, dolls [one in a swing, one in a cradle]. Although many decades were represented, the 40s and 50s predominated. Residents did a great job sharing the treasure troves in their basements, attics and storage spaces.

Teri Kuhs warmly hosted one of the exhibits, which consisted of 13 dolls once owned by her late sister Agnes. Agnes lived in Still Hopes until her passing earlier this year and was always lovingly cared for by her family. Agnes lived a full life, worked and travelled, but was not able to live independently. Her doll collection reflected her interests and stages in life. Some dolls had already been given to nieces and nephews and Teri kept two herself which were especially meaningful to her. She decided in Agnes' honor to pass on to others at the show the remainder of the collection. "It all came together," Teri comments, as each of the 13 dolls was

claimed by a Still Hopes resident. Sara Andrews took the doll named Sara, which she then gave to her great-grand daughter- yes, Sara.

Another exhibitor, Jim Newcomb, also honored a sibling- his late brother Dennis who, like Agnes, had some special needs and many amazing strengths. Dennis is  
*(Continued on Page 9)*





(Continued on Page from page 8)

described by Jim as “the child who never grew up.” He always lived with family and pursued passionately his many interests, including learning how to play a number of instruments on his own. Visiting Jim's table one saw belt buckles and leather crafting equipment, comic books, a pinball machine that still works, a slinky, board games, an erector set [complete with instruction book], which Jim says he and Dennis “almost wore out,” many electric toys, a complete cast iron John Deere set, a doll his mother owned and many DINKY brand toys- all metal and to scale. Many items were in their original boxes and still can be played with. Jim loved Dennis dearly and while some of his brother's belongings have been passed down to family over the years, Jim retains many and isn't sure of their future. But he was glad to share them and his brother's memory with the Still Hopes community.

A doll, an erector set, a book - of all things- about memory. Such is the stuff of our youth and our connections to family. That these mundane items can evoke such powerful emotions is testament to our stories and how our childhoods are still with us, no matter our age. Life Engagement's Doll & Toy Show proved a successful vehicle to encourage us to reflect on our pasts- and never stop loving those we shared it with.



## COOKING WITH RYAN

Chef Ryan Lucci offered the second cooking demonstration in a new series in the Broad neighborhood of JBG with Life Engagement in October. Utilizing the theme of Oktoberfest, Ryan introduced residents to German cuisine by whipping up a German cucumber salad. Residents tried to outwit Life Engagement Specialist Diane Fisher who led the group in German trivia. *Danke* to Ryan and Diane!

JBG residents will experience the next *Cooking with Ryan* demo in December.



# Community Services

AN ONSITE, ONGOING PROGRAM FOR APARTMENT,  
CONCIERGE SUITES & COTTAGE RESIDENTS



Kim Carpentier  
Director of Community Services  
kmcarpentier@stillhopes.org  
803.739.5047

## HEALTHY DYNAMICS

### Getting To Know You!

Join us as new residents & staff members introduce themselves to our community by sharing their interests, hobbies, & life experiences.

**Thursday, November 21**

**3:00 pm**

**Keenan Event Center**

*We will enjoy the many benefits of chocolate, too!*

## PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION DISPOSAL

Bring your outdated or unused prescription medication to the McDowell Front Desk on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 am – 11:00 am

PLEASE MARK THROUGH ALL PERSONAL INFORMATION ON THE MEDICATION LABEL.

## Parkinson's Support Group

Welcomes those living with Parkinson's Disease and their care partners to join us.

**Friday, November 15**

**11:00 am - 11:45 am**

**Keenan Room 3**

## SHARE: *Caregiver Support Group*

*open to all residents who are care partners for a spouse.*

**Tuesday, November 5**

**1:30 pm-2:30 pm**

**McDowell 3rd Floor Activity Room**

## Clearing the Path & Finding The Way: Dementia Resource Group

Open to all residents who are care partners to those navigating cognitive challenges.

**Tuesday, November 12 | 1:30 pm-2:30 pm**

**McDowell 3rd Floor Activity Room**

## PODIATRY SERVICES

Podiatrist Dr. Keyoka Smith will be at Still Hopes in the **Wellness Center Spa Room** on **Wednesday, November 6 & Wednesday, November 13**

Current patients of Dr. Smith can sign up to see her in the Healthy Dynamics Book on Main Street near the Atrium. New patient appointments with Dr. Smith are scheduled on a limited basis due to her continued full schedule, and the need to accommodate her existing patients first. Please call Holly Faulkenberry at 803-995-8133 to join the wait list for an appointment with Dr. Smith.

**The Visionaries:  
Low Vision Support Group  
will not meet in November**

# WELLNESS CHECKS

Mondays and Thursdays from  
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

**Monday Location:**  
**Card Room 2**  
**on McDowell 2nd Floor**

**Thursday Location:**  
**Spa Room 1**  
**In The Wellness Center**

Wellness Checks are performed by our Solutions for Living at Home staff members.

## Mindfulness and Meditation



Each Wednesday from  
4:00pm -4:30 pm in the  
Guignard Mansion  
NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

"It always seems impossible until it's done." Nelson Mandela

## Open To Hope Grief Support Group

Please join group leaders **Nela Edgar,**  
**Beebe James, & Patsy Malanuk** for support and  
resources following the loss of a loved one.

**1:00pm – 2:00pm**  
**November 6 & November 20**  
**Guignard Music Parlor**

204 OF OUR APARTMENT, COTTAGE &  
CONCIERGE RESIDENTS RECEIVED VACCINES AT  
OUR VACCINE CLINIC ON OCTOBER 10!

Total Flu Vaccines:	Total Covid Vaccines:
<b>194</b>	<b>169</b>

A HUGE THANK YOU TO THE MCHUGH PHARMACY  
GROUP FOR PARTNERING WITH US & OUR  
AWESOME STILL HOPES STAFF VOLUNTEERS WHO  
KEPT THE DAY RUNNING SMOOTHLY!

## Hearing Services

**Hearing Device Specialist Mike Arndt**  
**will be here at Still Hopes on**  
**Monday, November 4**

Please call Mike's office,  
*Digital Hearing Outlet* at 803-490-2920  
to schedule your appointment.

# WELLNESS CENTER CLASSES

## Tai Chi Tuesdays

Join Dan Bernardo on a holistic journey to  
balance, mobility, coordination, and overall  
more confidence in movement. We will  
focus on subtle shifting of weight and  
developing good posture for ease of  
movement and better balance. You can  
practice Tai Chi using ambulatory devices or  
sitting in a chair as well as standing.

**Tuesdays at 3:00 pm**  
**Petite Studio in HopeWell**  
**\$10 per class**

## Seated Cardio & Balance

**Tuesdays at 10:00 am**  
**in the Aerobics Studio**



Challenge your aerobic conditioning  
through a series of continuous seated  
movements to music. Lower body  
strengthening and balance exercises while  
behind the chair are an added benefit.



**Susan Boyd Croquet Court  
& Pavilion Grand Opening**

Susan Boyd, her family, friends, residents and staff attended the grand opening where Susan hit the first croquet ball on the new lawn. It was a wicket good time!



**CROQUET CLINIC & ORIENTATION**

Croquet Clinic & Orientation with US Croquet Association professionals will begin in November. Learn how to play this game at a high level of sportsmanship with teams Life Engagement and Wellness.

# WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S 2024



## SOLUTIONS FOR LIVING AT HOME TEAM UPDATE



**Solutions**  
for living at home

A MINISTRY OF STILL HOPES

Call to schedule a consultation with Beth, Devon or Jennifer

803.223.6173 | solutionsforlivingathome.org

We're pleased to share some exciting updates to our Solutions team! We have officially welcomed Devon Earhart as our Client Care Manager for the McDowell, Trinity, Evergreen Residents, Sanders Rehab and Lexington County Clients. Devon joins us with nearly 20 years of experience in the aging services field. Beth McCrary continues her dedicated service to Hopewell, Indigo Woods Cottage, Greenway, Rose Gardens Residents, and clients in Lexington County, for nearly four years.

In other exciting news, we're happy to re-introduce Jennifer McEntire in her new role - Certified Care Manager. Having previously served as a Client Care Manager, Jennifer now brings her expertise to this specialized position, offering advanced support and care planning for those who need it. Devon and Beth will continue to ensure our clients receive the compassionate, tailored, award winning home care our clients rely on, and we are so pleased to have Jennifer's certified services as those needs arise. We are excited for this new chapter and the ability to support our clients at any stage.

# GREENWAY TRIP TO THE SC STATE FAIR



## Eudora Wildlife Safari Park



What a beautiful and exciting day at Eudora Farm in Salley, SC. Residents experienced animals up close and personal on a drive-thru safari and then had a picnic lunch with the giraffes. Eudora Wildlife Safari Park is home to over 300 exotic animals where conservation and education are main goals of founder, Mark Nisbet.



## Oktoberfest

Residents enjoyed a wonderful German buffet prepared by Culinary Services and music by Eric Gilfus and the Oompah Band. Life Engagement knows how to throw a party, dance the Polka, and lead the chicken dance. Prost!



# STEWARDSHIP

## *IRA Required Minimum Distributions*



Owners of an Individual Retirement Account, otherwise known as an IRA, know that an account holder aged 73 or older is required by law to withdraw a minimum amount each year. This is called the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD).

Did you also know that your RMD can provide a tax advantage while helping to grow your philanthropic giving?

John Moorman, Principal at Anchor Investments, offers, "We often help clients with "QCD's". These qualified charitable gifts are a win-win. Your chosen charity benefits from a nice gift and you, the account owner, avoid taxes from the normal distribution."

He goes on to explain, "Tax rules have changed greatly in the last few years and deductions are harder to use. By using your IRA, the tax avoidance shows up in keeping your income lower, which can mean lower tax rates. The lower income may translate into lower Medicare costs as well. If you plan to give to a charity, we find using the IRA can be one of the best vehicles to make your gift a win-win."

For 2024, up to \$105,000 of your distribution from an IRA can be a Qualified Charitable Distribution for tax purposes. An accountant or financial advisor can help you with the process. You will start by confirming that your retirement account requires minimum distribution, then calculate your minimum distribution, plan your withdrawal, and determine how much of that withdrawal you would like to give. As you prepare your tax return, be sure to include your donation on relevant tax documents.

Of course, we at Still Hopes welcome gifts from IRA Required Minimum Distributions and can direct them to any of our funds including Resident Assistance, Employee Assistance, Chaplain's Discretionary, Opportunity, Unrestricted, or to support a special project. We accept checks and digital fund transfers. Please ask that your banker include notation your gift to my attention and noting which fund(s) you'd like to donate your gift to.

Are you interested in Guignard Society membership? Pledging your RMD above a certain threshold is one way to join the Guignard Society.



*Christie James*  
*Director of Community Development*  
*cejames@stillhopes.org*  
*803-739-5006*

As we wrap up 2024, consider the tax benefits of gifting your IRA Required Minimum Distribution.

I'm happy to answer any questions. Find my office on the Guignard Mansion Hall or reach me at [cejames@stillhopes.org](mailto:cejames@stillhopes.org) or 803-739-5006. Checks may be mailed to me at PO Box 2959, West Columbia SC 29171.



# STILL HOPES

Episcopal Retirement Community

P.O. Box 2959  
West Columbia, SC 29171-2959  
stillhopes.org

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## STILL HOPES ANNUAL HOLIDAY MARKET

10:00 am – 4:30 pm

Keenan Event Center

Residents, Employees and

Guests are welcome to attend.

*Complimentary gift wrapping by  
Solutions for Living at Home*