

# *AT MARTINSBURG*

**A Continuing Care Retirement Community**

On behalf of our Homewood community in Martinsburg, I extend greetings to all of our congregations and members within The Penn West Conference. The grace and peace of our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ be with you all!

Our annual Gathering this year invites us to envision "A Just World for All". Our ministry as a Continuing Care Retirement Community is all about ensuring a just world for those we serve by providing compassionate, professional and caring service that enhances the quality of life for our residents and their families, our co-workers and their families, and our volunteers. Caring for the needs of others has been the focal point of Homewood's overall mission through the years, and is still evident today.

As change and transition often occur, this year is no exception. One major change for our Homewood communities is the retirement of our president and CEO of Homewood Retirement Centers, Ernest W. Angell, after 22 years of service as the leader of our five Homewood Communities. In his farewell article from our Homewood publication, "The Fireside," Ernie shared an expression in which he has always believed: "Change is Inevitable, Growth is Optional." We are thankful for the many years of leadership by Mr. Angell in which he modeled well the vision of ensuring a just world for anyone requiring care, while ensuring a community where life is truly added to our years.

Leading us forward in our call to care for and serve others, we welcome Mr. Thad Rothrock as our new president and CEO. We ask for your prayers during this transition for God's continual guidance and direction as we strive to love and serve, as Christ has taught us to do. As we are reminded of the expression, "Change is Inevitable, Growth is Optional", Ernie Angell reminds us: "Probably a truer statement does not exist."

This year we again see change, and also look forward to continued growth as we strive in fulfilling our mission and vision. A few planned building projects and renovations will take place as part of that growth process. An upgraded and expanded Wellness Center will soon be underway providing a walking track, class space and much more. Our therapy department is expanding and will be relocating to larger renovated space to accommodate the need for individuals receiving therapy and rehabilitation. Most recently, renovations were completed on our Springfield Health Care unit with a brand new Country Kitchen.

On behalf of Homewood, I thank you all for your prayers and support for our community as we minister together in Christ's name. Together, and with God, all things are possible!

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Defibaugh, Executive Director