

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

Artesia Christian Home has gratefully received gifts in honor and/or in memory of those listed below.
Gifts received April 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026 *Gifts given to Christian Home Auxiliary.

In Honor of	In Memory of		
Louise Kooima's Birthday Barbara Kooima Mark Wiener	George Brink Park Place Services Eldon & Sarah Hogan Rhonda Oliver Greta Bomgaars Mr. & Mrs. Joe R Mendoza Paul & Billie Szumiak Dave & Debbie Flietstra Marie Bousma & Family Dashene Crisman Don & Sandra Crisman Dorothy Dantuma Rich & Shylia Boersma Bob & Patti Johnson Rhonda Oliver Faith VanDe Brake Jerry DeBoer Nadine VanMaanen* Gordon De Young Harlan, Charlene, Cari De Bie Craig Ewing Harlan & Charlene De Bie Lina Goossen Tom & Bev Work Ray & Steve Grow Joy Grow Mabel Haalboom Corky Koops Dallas & Debbie Hogue Ilene Hogue Corky Koops Dallas & Debbie Hogue Jeanette Kline Dick & Darlene Piersma	Tracy Koolmees Cornell & Cornelia Hibma* Gertrude Hibma* Robert & Donna DeJong* Harold Koops Jr. Corky Koops Dallas & Debbie Hogue Harold Koops Sr. Corky Koops Dallas & Debbie Hogue Roger Koops Corky Koops Dallas & Debbie Hogue John Martins Karen Martins Edith Matcaroff Bill Matcaroff Sadie Negen Keith & Barbara Zondervan Joan Overgaauw Nadine VanMaanen* Ingrid Piersma Dick & Darlene Piersma Laura Pratt John & Hortense Pratt Lillian Redfern Nadine VanMaanen* Lloyd Schelhaas Pete & Kay Haringsma Ken Schelhaas Shelhaas Nieces & Nephews Rick & Paige DeJong Eldon & Sarah Hogan Dave & Debbie Flietstra	Delmar & Marlys Schenk Robert & Karen Weber Bern & Bernice Stonehouse Mary Jo Stonehouse Doug Stonehouse Mary Jo Stonehouse Wayne VanDe Brake Faith VanDe Brake Gerrit & Anetta VanHulzen Robert Rietkerk Bobbie Van Leeuwen Thelma Call Rev. WM & Anna Van Peurseon Ed & Karen Keller Peter & Rena Vellema Larry & Clara Vellema Neil & Grace Visser Jess & Gail Visser Grant & Nancy Vogel Donna Ogara Ken Kos Jeri Florence Bill & Saverna Reich Dora & Ralph Clark Rhonda Oliver Marion Vree Brown Elena Vree Douglas Warners Bruce & Judy Rollston Lailene Leong Barbara Jaramillo Mina Wyma Elena Vree

Gifts from Supporting Churches & Community

- Christ Community Church of Buena Park
- Christian Reformed Church of Long Beach
- Emmanuel Reformed Church
- First Christian Reformed Church of Bellflower
- Imago Dei Church (formerly Encounter/Bethel Reformed)
- Trinity Christian Reformed Church

Helping Us Honor Your Loved Ones

We are deeply grateful for every gift made in honor or memory of a loved one. These tributes mean so much to our Artesia Christian Home community, and we consider it a privilege to recognize them in our quarterly newsletter.

To ensure we honor your loved one accurately and respectfully, we kindly ask that tribute donations include clearly printed or typed information, including:

- The full name of the person being honored or remembered
- Any title you would like included (for example, Rev., Dr., Mr., or Mrs.)
- Whether the gift is "In Honor of" or "In Memory of"

Providing complete and legible information helps us avoid unintended errors and ensures your loved one is recognized exactly as you wish.

Thank you for your generosity and for allowing us to share in remembering those who hold a special place in your heart.



100 YEARS OF SERVING GOD
Artesia
CHRISTIAN
HOME
OF COMPASSION, LOVE, & GRACE

Donate Today



Official Publication of



Artesia
CHRISTIAN
HOME

Telephone (562) 865-5218

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Residential Care Facility (562) 865-6175

Memory Care Community (562) 274-0900

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Affordable Treasures

Non-Discrimination Clause:

Our admission is open to all and we welcome all persons without regard to race, color, national origin, age, gender, or handicap, provided program requirements are met.

CCRC certificate #288

Skilled Nursing Lic.#940000136.

RCFE Lic.#191500146

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Non-Profit Organization
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FALL FESTIVAL & 75 TH ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, October 29, 2026 11614 East 183rd Street

10:00-12:00 PM | FALL FESTIVAL
Join us as we gather to celebrate God's abundant blessings at our Fall Festival! Enjoy a joyful time of fellowship, seasonal fun, and thanksgiving on our 75th Anniversary.

1:00-3:00 PM | OPEN HOUSE
Join us in gratitude as we celebrate 75 faithful years of God's blessings at Artesia Christian Home! Enjoy a joyful anniversary celebration as we honor God's faithfulness, cherish special memories, and look forward with hope to the future.

RSVP ONLINE OR CALL TODAY! 562-865-5218
<https://www.achome.org/75th-anniversary-events>



Artesia
CHRISTIAN
HOME

MESSENGER

FALL 2026





Diamond Milestones: Celebrating 75 Years



Cottage residents Ervin and Louise Smidt celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary on June 22, 2026. They were married in 1951 in Sibley, Iowa, where they both grew up on neighboring farms and attended the same country school and church.

After they married, Ervin worked on his cousin's farm while Louise worked in a local doctor's office. In 1960, with two young children, they decided to follow Ervin's brother to California in search of better job opportunities. They settled in Artesia, became active members of Trinity Christian Reformed Church, and enrolled their children at Artesia Christian School.

Ervin worked as a truck driver, first for United Dairymen Association and later for Verhoeven Feed Company, where he remained until his retirement. Louise returned to school to earn her Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) license and worked as a surgical nurse at both Artesia Hospital and Pioneer Hospital. Never one to stop learning, she later returned to school again to earn her Registered Nurse (RN) degree.

In the mid-1980s, after their children were grown, Ervin and Louise began considering early retirement. Having always loved camping, they decided to embrace full-time RV living. Ervin's experience as a professional truck driver, combined with his handyman skills, and Louise's nursing background made them ideal camp hosts.

For the next 22 years, they traveled throughout the United States and Canada, living in their fifth-wheel trailer while volunteering at numerous private, state, and national parks. Their spirit of service also led them to spend a year as house parents for Bethany Christian Services, serve with Christian Reformed World Relief in Honduras, and volunteer with Home Missions in Hawaii. Between assignments, they always returned to California to reconnect with family and friends and enjoy the state's mild winters.

Today, the Smidt's are deeply grateful for God's abundant blessings of a long life together, a loving marriage, and good health. They enjoy being part of the Artesia Christian Home community and their church family at Bethany Christian Reformed Church. Above all, they cherish the time they spend with their children, seven grandchildren, and thirteen great-grandchildren.



on the cover: GARDEN OF FELLOWSHIP

What was once an ordinary space has been transformed into a beautiful garden through the generosity and kindness of the De Young, Vander Molen, Ligtenberg, Flietstra, Van Essen and Schelhaas families as well as Resource Building Materials. Their thoughtful donations and labor of love have created a peaceful outdoor retreat filled with colorful flowers, lush greenery, and inviting places to sit and reflect. The garden has quickly become a favorite gathering spot where residents enjoy morning walks, quiet conversations, and moments of serenity surrounded by God's creation. Prospective residents and their families are equally impressed by the welcoming atmosphere, often commenting on the beauty and tranquility the garden brings to the community. More than just an attractive landscape, this special space reflects the love, compassion, and generosity of those who made it possible. It serves as a daily reminder of the joy that can grow from giving and the lasting impact a thoughtful gift can have on the lives of others.

75 Years - A Legacy of Faith a Future of Hope



For 75 years, Artesia Christian Home has been more than a senior living community—it has been a place of faith, connection, compassion, and love. Thank you to everyone who has been part of our journey and helped create the legacy we celebrate today.

We look forward to celebrating this incredible milestone with you as we honor the past, cherish the present, and embrace the future.

Thursday, November 5, 2026 - Celebrate an evening of faith, fellowship, and gratitude at our 75th Anniversary Society Meeting and Dinner Celebration.

The evening will include our annual Society Meeting followed by a commemorative dinner as we celebrate moments that have shaped Artesia Christian Home's 75-year legacy.

Together, we will reflect on our history, celebrate the impact of our mission, and look forward with hope and gratitude to the future. Families, employees, volunteers, and friends are warmly invited to join us for this memorable occasion.

Due to limited seating, reservations are required by October 5, 2026. Please RSVP early to reserve your place at this special celebration. Semi-formal attire requested.

www.achome.org/75th-anniversary-events for details and to RSVP or scan the QR code on the invitation above.

In 2026, Artesia Christian Home proudly celebrates 75 years of serving older adults with compassionate, faith-based care. Since our doors first opened in 1951, we have been blessed to provide a welcoming community where residents are treated with dignity, respect, and love.

What began with a groundbreaking on April 21, 1951, has grown into a legacy of faith, service, and commitment. For 75 years, Artesia Christian Home has been a place where generations of residents have found comfort, friendships have flourished, and families have found peace knowing their loved ones are cared for with kindness, dignity, and dedication.

This milestone is an opportunity to honor the many residents, families, employees, volunteers, supporting churches, and community partners who have shaped our story. As we celebrate our rich history, we also look ahead with gratitude and excitement toward the future and the generations of older adults we are honored to serve.

75th Anniversary Fall Festival & Open House

75th Anniversary Fall Festival & Open House
Thursday, October 29, 2026
Fall Festival: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Open House: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Join us for a full day of celebration as we commemorate 75 years of Artesia Christian Home!

Start the day with our 75th Anniversary Fall Festival, featuring family-friendly activities, festive entertainment, delicious treats, games, vendors, and community fellowship. Residents, families, past and present employees, volunteers, neighbors, and friends are all invited to celebrate this special season together.

Following the Fall Festival, we invite you to our 75th Anniversary Open House. Guests will have the opportunity to experience our beautiful community and discover what has made Artesia Christian Home a trusted place to call home for 75 years.

During the Open House, guests can:

- >Tour our rehabilitation department
- >Participate in Dementia Live and experience how it may feel to live with dementia
- >Take a walk down memory lane through historical displays highlighting our 75-year journey
- >Meet our dedicated team members and visit with past and present staff and friends
- >Learn more about our services and senior living options
- >Ask questions about the many levels of care we provide
- >Enjoy light refreshments and anniversary hospitality throughout our Skilled Nursing, Assisted Living, and Memory Care communities.

Everyone is welcome—including families, past and present employees, prospective residents, neighbors, healthcare professionals, supporting churches, and friends. We kindly ask that you RSVP for either or all of these events at www.achome.org/75th-anniversary-events.

Come celebrate the legacy, experience the community, and see why Artesia Christian Home has been serving seniors with faith, compassion, and excellence for 75 years.

