

VIBRANT LIFE



A
Vibrant
Connection
for Vivian &
Gloria

An Active Waitlist

Start enjoying
BV amenities
and activities.

A Beautiful Campus

Grounds Supervisor
Doug Dosch maintains
a picturesque setting.

The Workshop

Building community
through creativity
and craftsmanship.

Planning for Your Future Provides Peace of Mind Among Other Things



Joining the Brethren Village waitlist is more than just planning for your future. It also gives you the chance to start experiencing our community right away.

As a waitlist member, you'll have opportunities to:

- Get to know life at Brethren Village by joining special events that introduce you to our campus, lifestyle, and friendly community.
- Meet current residents, future neighbors, and our caring staff to help make your move easier when the time comes.
- Take advantage of wellness and pool memberships to help you stay active and involved.
- Join us for special trips and outings made just for waitlist members, and travel with current residents too. This is a great way to have fun, meet new people, and start feeling like part of the BV family.

When you join the waitlist, you can start becoming part of the Brethren Village family right away. You'll get to enjoy our lively lifestyle, make new friends, and feel sure that when your new home is ready, you'll already feel at home here.

Call me at **717-581-4227** to schedule a tour.

Our Annual Christmas Bazaar

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5 | 9 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

Get into the festive spirit and discover unique gifts for everyone on your list, lovingly handmade by our talented residents, as well as off-campus vendors and crafters.

HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN LOOK FORWARD TO:

- HOLIDAY CRAFTS
- COOKIES AND BAKED GOODS
- HANDMADE GIFTS
- LUNCH ITEMS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE BISTRO



*Admission is free, so bring
your friends and family.*



Bonding over Bluebirds



At Brethren Village (BV), a vibrant life is often found in the beautiful connections made between neighbors. For residents, Gloria Denlinger and Vivian Moyer, a deep friendship took flight over a shared passion: caring for the campus bluebird population.

Gloria has been monitoring the 25 bluebird nest boxes on the BV campus for nearly 12 years. What started as a hobby suggested by her late husband has become a weekly “labor of love,” as she meticulously records nesting activity for the Bluebird Society of Pennsylvania.

Meanwhile, Vivian, who moved to BV just eleven months ago after the passing of her husband, holds a deeply personal connection to the birds. When leaving her beloved

woodland home for the last time, a flock of bluebirds appeared along her driveway, a rare sighting that miraculously repeated just as she arrived at her new BV apartment. Overcome with emotion, she saw it as a comforting sign from heaven welcoming her to her new chapter.

Recognizing their shared interest, a BV social worker connected the two women. Gloria generously mailed Vivian several beautiful books on bluebirds. Touched by the welcoming gesture from a stranger, Vivian reached out, and an instant bond was formed. “It fell into place and was meant to be,” Vivian shares.

“While we enjoy monitoring the bluebirds, we are doing it for the enjoyment of everyone at Brethren Village.”

Vivian Moyer

Gloria Denlinger



Today, the pair spends over two hours a week tending to the bluebird trail together. It is a true community effort, with the BV Wood Shop building replacement boxes and the grounds team installing them. But at the heart of the trail is a profound companionship, with Vivian even stepping up to cover the monitoring during a brief hospital stay for Gloria.

“It’s a great friendship,” Gloria says. Vivian agrees, adding, “Gloria is patient and kind. She always answers and comforts me.”

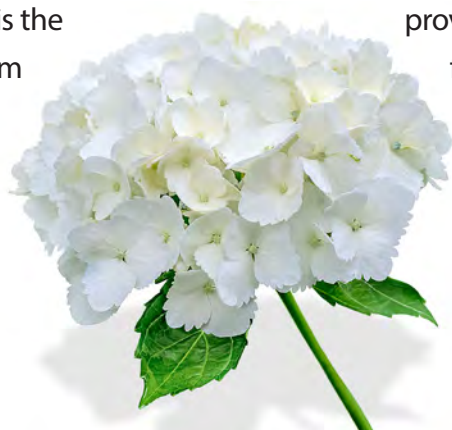
Beyond the birds, both women cherish the peace of mind BV provides. Calling the community a “safe haven.” Vivian notes, “While we enjoy monitoring the bluebirds, we are doing it for the enjoyment of everyone at Brethren Village.” It is just one beautiful way residents here continue to live their best, most vibrant lives.



Cultivating a Welcoming Community, Inside and Out

First impressions matter, and at Brethren Village, that vibrant impression begins before you even step through the doors. Situated along Airport Road and Route 501, maintaining a polished and pristine exterior is a top priority for the community.

For 15 years, Grounds Supervisor Doug Dosch has led a dedicated team of seven to ensure the campus looks beautiful year-round. "Working at BV is not a job but something to create," Doug shares. His philosophy is simple: grass is the foundation. From keeping the lawns expertly mowed in the summer



to ensuring timely, reliable snow removal in the winter, his team handles the challenges of every season with trustworthiness and care. Doug notes that a welcoming look on the outside adds to the curiosity of what lies inside, creating an outdoor atmosphere for everyone to enjoy. During a visit, you might even spot his favorite perennial, the Little Hottie Hydrangea, blooming with fluffy white flowers all summer long.

The impeccable grounds also provide a perfect canvas for residents who love the outdoors. Enter the *Green Thumb Society*, a resident-run organization dedicated

to campus beautification. Working in harmony with Doug's team, resident volunteers care for various flower beds, maintain vegetable garden plots, and recently surpassed their \$10,000 financial appeal goal for 2026 to fund new landscaping projects.

Whether you want to tend to a tomato plant in a shared garden space or simply enjoy a peaceful

walk along the pathways, the outdoor experience at Brethren Village is designed to delight. Thanks to the hard work of the grounds team and passionate residents, you can rest easy knowing your community is expertly cared for in every season.



Crafting Community: Inside Brethren Village's Workshop

For Don Winters, the love of woodworking is deeply rooted in his family history. "My grandfather was a cabinetmaker, and my father had a small woodshop which I grew up with," Don shares. Continuing that lifelong

hobby was a definite perk of moving to Brethren Village. Today, as President of the Workshop group for the past eight years, Don helps lead a team of dedicated residents who craft much more than just furniture.



Don Winters, Don Zahn, and Jay "Bob" Thomas.



The state-of-the-art workshop is a hub of vibrant activity. In 2025 alone, volunteers dedicated 3,142 hours to complete approximately 100 projects. Whether it is repairing a beloved chair or building the podiums for the Wolfe Auditorium and the Chapel, the shop faithfully serves residents, employees, and the wider campus. They even build most of the birdhouses across BV and recently fulfilled a unique request for a butterfly box. Another surprising fact: much of the lumber used comes directly from fallen trees on the campus itself.

Currently, a core group of eight to ten residents collaborate in the

shop, but they always welcome newcomers. No prior experience is necessary, as the team focuses heavily on teaching how to safely use the tools and equipment. "It's a creative outlet for me," Don notes. "Several individuals on our team are very knowledgeable, which is very helpful when we collaborate on a project. We're a good working group."

Proceeds from their handcrafted items help maintain their equipment, and the group proudly participates in the annual BV Christmas Bazaar. Their efforts there benefit the Good Samaritan Fund, which ensures residents who outlive their financial resources continue to receive care.

Anyone is welcome to explore their beautiful creations by visiting the Workshop's Gift Shop weekdays from 9 a.m. to noon and the first Saturday of the month from 9:30 a.m. to noon.



Our Residents Live Vibrantly



Top: Penny's Ice Cream was on campus for our summer Food Truck Event on July 9.

Middle: Residents went back in time to enjoy a Saturday Night Fever-inspired event in the pool on July 11.

Bottom: Residents danced and enjoyed music under the tent during Community Day on May 1.



Top: Guided by instructors, residents participated in indoor rock climbing at Downingtown Rock Gym on March 18.

Middle: Residents sharpened their cornhole skills with an advanced class taught by Kevin Todd in the Fieldcrest Great Room on April 25.

Bottom: Residents learned how to make blueberry galettes in an advanced Baking Class on April 13. Participants learned how to create the crust, prepare the filling, shape the pastry, and bake it to perfection.



Top: As part of BV Expeditions, residents traveled to Maryland to tour the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park on May 13.

Middle: BV hosted a Lunch and Learn for members of the waitlist on May 14. Guests enjoyed lunch and a panel discussion about activities that foster community engagement.

Bottom: In honor of World Bicycle Day, residents hit the trails with American Rail Bike Adventures in York County on June 3.



Top: During BV Summer Camp, residents packed 600 blessing bags for individuals in need. The bags – containing a bottle of water, snacks, and hygiene products – were delivered by residents to local churches for distribution.

Middle: Residents, families, team members, and friends gathered for the Good Samaritan Spring Celebration on April 30. The annual event supports residents in need of continued care and services.

Bottom: Over 50 residents participated in the Lancaster Senior Games on May 4-8. BV's athletes earned 113 medals.

OPEN HOUSE

Join us on
Saturday, Oct. 17,
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Scan this QR Code with
your phone to learn more!



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