



THE HISTORY OF MIRAVIDA LIVING

1960 - TODAY

Time Capsule Tour Event: June 21, 2024

Research Provided By
MEMBERS OF THE MIRAVIDA HISTORY PROJECT



TABLE OF CONTENTS

2-5	Overview and Timeline
6	Campus Map
7-8	Bethel Home
9-10	Simeanna Apartments
11-12	Carmel Residence
13-14	Elijah's Place
15-16	Gabriel's Villa
17-18	Eden Meadows
19	Campus Services
20	Start of Personal Narratives



Journey Through Time: **The Milestones of Miravida Living**

In the Early 1960's thirteen Lutheran churches in Oshkosh established Lutheran Homes of Oshkosh, now Miravida Living. Their vision was to provide a senior living community where living joyful and fulfilling lives was expected. This vision laid the foundation for their commitment to pioneering a new senior experience.

On the pages that follow, we present a timeline that chronicles the pivotal milestones and events in the history of Miravida Living. This timeline is a celebration of the enduring legacy and the continued journey of growth, challenges, triumphs, and the unyielding spirit of collaboration that shapes our collective story. Each milestone marks a chapter in our unwavering commitment to enhancing the lives of elders, reflecting our foundational values and the evolving needs of our community.

As we unfold this journey, we invite you to join us in honoring our past achievements, celebrating our current endeavors, and looking forward with excitement to the future we envision together.

MIR a VI da

Derived from Latin roots, "Mir" signifies curiosity and wonder, while "Vi" represents life. Miravida beautifully reflects our commitment to nurturing a sense of wonder and vitality in the lives of those we serve.

History Project Members

Donna Kalter • Barbara Mand • Ann Moeller
Yvonne Vesely • Ann Wendt • Dennis Wendt



Journey Through Time: **The Milestones of Miravida Living**

- 1963 Incorporated as LHO (Lutheran Homes of Oshkosh, Inc.) - 4/9/1963
- 1964 Groundbreaking of Bethel site - 8/9/1964
- 1964 Dedication of Bethel Site - 11/5/1964
- 1965 Install Donald Peterson, Administrator of Bethel Homes - 10/1/1965
- 1966 Bethel Home opened with 102 beds - 7/3/1966
- 1976 Bethel Home addition opened with 98 additional beds
- 1968 A community survey led to plan/construction of Simeanna Apartments
- 1972 Simeanna Building I opened with 81 units
- 1977 Simeanna Building II opened with 61 units
- 1979 Simeanna Building III opened with 77 residents
- 1983 Construction began on Carmel Residence building
- 1985 Carmel Residence opened with 30 units
- 1987 24 units added to Carmel Residence
- 1991 31 units added to Carmel Residences
- 1993 Planning begins for construction of Elijah's Place
- 1994 Elijah's Place opened with 12 units
- 1994 Addition to Bethel "Chapel of Faith" dedicated
- 1994 Bethel certified as a MEDICARE approved facility
- 1997 Gabriel's Villa opened with 40 beds
- 2006 Flagpole and Veteran Monument installed in gardens
- 2009 Lutheran Homes of Oshkosh Foundation, Inc (incorporated in WI)
- 2010 Eden Meadows opened with 30 beds and 2 Green Houses
- 2013 50th Anniversary
- 2014 Cycling Without Age program was started
(First program of its kind in the United States)
- 2017 Name changed from Lutheran Homes of Oshkosh to Miravida Living
by Board of Directors (with collaboration from a marketing firm)

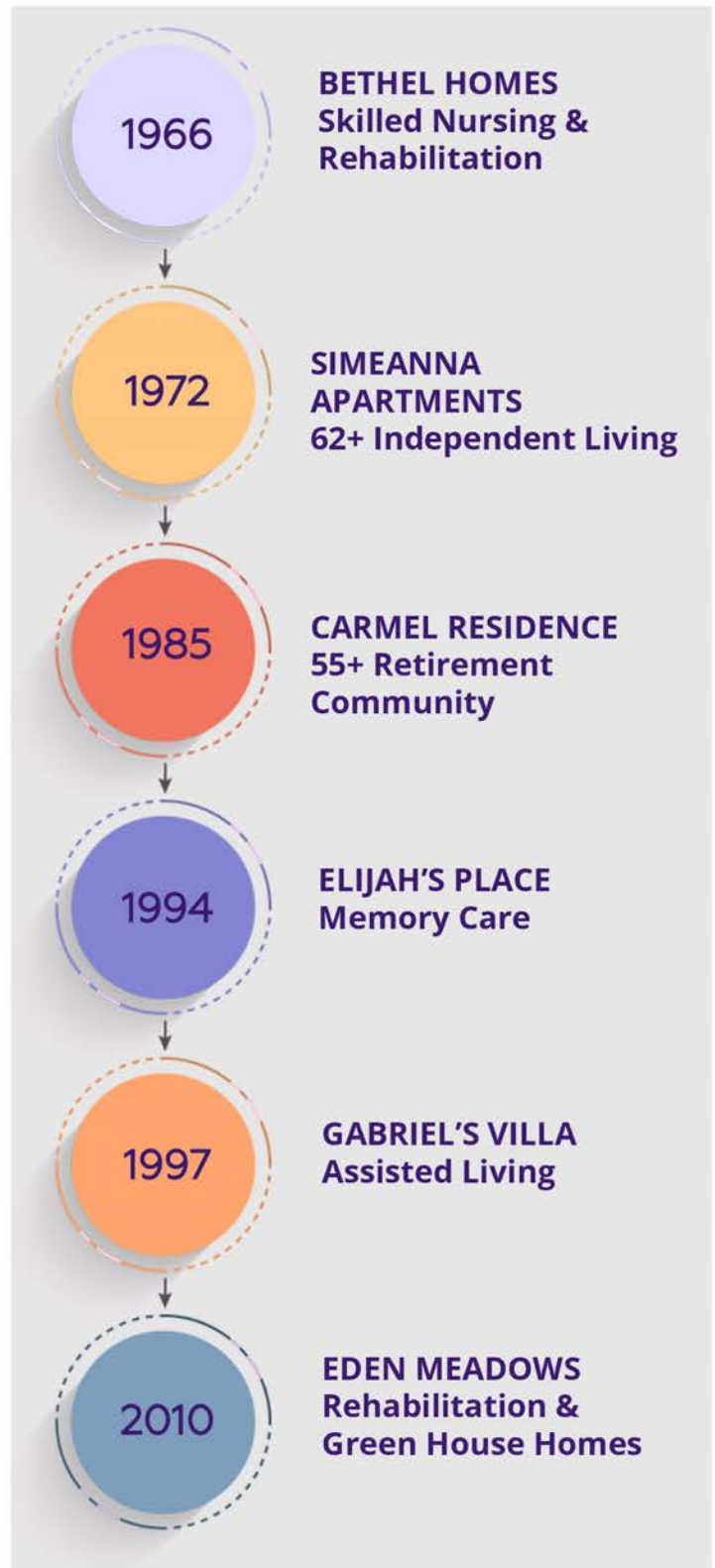


The Campus Overview and Timeline

Foundation: Founded by thirteen Lutheran churches in Oshkosh, Miravida Living (formerly Lutheran Homes of Oshkosh, Inc.) was established with a visionary commitment to senior living, where joy and fulfillment are not just expected but woven into the fabric of daily life. This principle has been the cornerstone of our approach, pioneering a new experience for seniors.

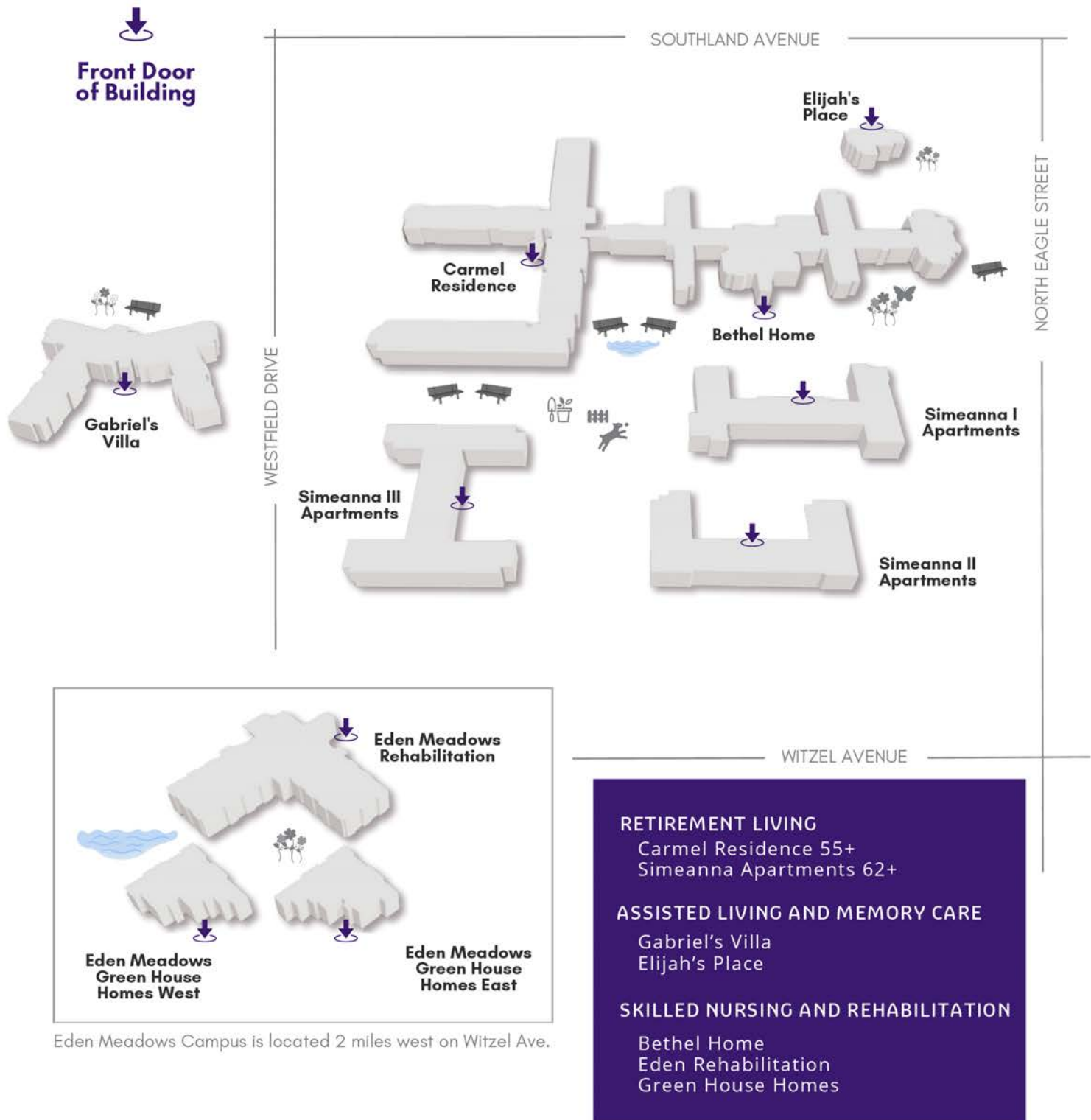
Evolution: Guided by the spirit and representation of the original 13 founding congregations, Miravida Living has flourished into a comprehensive senior living community. Spanning a nine-building campus, we offer a spectrum of care and services tailored to meet the diverse needs of our elders. Our offerings include 55+ Retirement Living, Assisted Living, Respite and Memory Care, Skilled Nursing, and Rehabilitation, all underpinned by our founding vision of a community-centric, fulfilling senior living experience.

Today: As we continue to evolve, our dedication to the well-being of our elders remains unwavering. The Miravida Living Community stands as a testament to the enduring legacy of its founders and the collective effort of our board of directors and dedicated team. Together, we embrace the future with the same pioneering spirit that has guided us from the beginning, committed to enriching the lives of those we serve.





The Miravida Living Campus Map



Eden Meadows Campus is located 2 miles west on Witzel Ave.



BETHEL HOME

Address: 225 N. Eagle St.

Phone: (920) 235-3454

Webpage: www.miravidaliving.com/bethel-home

Date Opened: July 1966

Current Capacity: 100 beds - *Originally opened with 102 beds, expanded in 1976 to include an additional 98 beds.*

Services:

Bethel Home provides comprehensive skilled nursing and memory care services tailored to meet the needs of each resident. Our skilled nursing care focuses on offering high-quality medical care and assistance with daily activities, rehabilitation services, and personalized care plans designed to promote residents' health, recovery, and well-being. Memory care at Bethel Home is dedicated to supporting individuals with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia, offering a secure, nurturing environment designed to enhance quality of life. Our approach integrates personalized activities, therapeutic interventions, and consistent routines to ensure comfort and engagement for residents with memory challenges.

The Bethel Home Story:

In 1966, the organization took its first momentous step towards its mission of providing exceptional senior care by opening Bethel Home, a 102 bed community. Over the course of a decade, our commitment to meeting the growing needs of the elderly led to a significant expansion in 1976. During this transformative year, Bethel Home constructed a substantial addition, adding 98 more beds to accommodate a greater number of seniors seeking compassionate and high-quality care. These pivotal moments in our history underscore our enduring dedication to serving the aging population and our unwavering commitment to enhancing the quality of life for seniors in our community.



TIMELESS MEMORIES

The Bethel Home Collection





SIMEANNA APARTMENTS I, II, III

Address: Simeanna I 143 Eagle St. • Simeanna II 151 Eagle St. • Simeanna III 155 Eagle St.

Phone: (920) 232-5230

Webpage: www.miravidaliving.com/simeanna-apartments

Date Opened: Simeanna I - 1972 • Simeanna II - 1977 • Simeanna III - 1979

Current Capacity: Simeanna I - 81 Units • Simeanna II - 60 Units • Simeanna III - 77 Units

Services:

Simeanna Apartments provides a welcoming independent living community for individuals aged 62 and older, offering the comfort of affordable apartment living under the Section 8 voucher program. This community is ideal for those seeking financial assistance and wishing to live independently. Residents have the choice to relish in the tranquility of their private spaces or engage in the community's social aspects, meeting new friends and participating in various activities. Amenities include convenient transportation options to local food stores, monthly group outings to nearby restaurants, access to a city bus stop, and a community garden. The property also boasts laundry facilities, picnic areas with gas grills, social lounges for gathering, and a Resident Council in each building to ensure voices are heard and needs are met. Adjacent parking adds to the convenience, making Simeanna Apartments a perfect blend of independence with community living.

The Simeanna Apartments Story:

The development of the Simeanna Apartments stands as a testament to our organization's responsiveness to community needs. Following a comprehensive community survey, we embarked on a transformative journey in 1968. In 1972, we proudly opened the doors to Simeanna I, providing 81 units of comfortable and secure living for seniors. The success of this venture inspired us to do even more. In 1977, Simeanna II came to life, with an additional 61 units designed to meet the growing demand for senior housing. And in 1979, our commitment culminated in the launch of Simeanna III, further expanding the Simeanna community and accommodating an additional wave of residents. Today, the Simeannas stand as a thriving and independent 62+ community, with a total of 218 residents, embodying our organization's unwavering dedication to creating vibrant, complete, and supportive environments for our cherished senior population.



TIMELESS MEMORIES

The Simeanna Apartments Collection





CARMEL RESIDENCE

Address: 210 N. Westfield and 220 N. Westfield

Phone: (920) 651-8600

Webpage: www.miravidaliving.com/carmel-residence

Date Opened: 1985: 30 Units; 1987: 1st Wing Added; 1991: 2nd Wing Added

Current Capacity: 72 units

Services:

Carmel Residence provides independent living to seniors 55 and older who choose to live independently. Garage parking is available for a monthly fee. The complex contains six wings and a total of 72 apartments, offering a mixture of one and two-bedroom units, plus several guest rooms. The residence offers planned social, informational, and community involvement programs. Common areas include a dining room, which is also used for a variety of social activities, several lounge areas including a pub and solarium, and a library with books from the Oshkosh Public Library. Outdoor amenities feature gardens with seating, walking paths, a water feature, and enhanced landscaping, along with stand-up garden boxes for residents to create personal gardens. Carmel Residence is a pet-friendly building, including a fenced-in dog park. The building is secured with a remote doorbell/phone system, a staffed concierge desk in the 220 Westfield lobby during normal business hours, and 24-hour emergency maintenance phone coverage. Additional emotional support services include spiritual services with a variety of in-person and online worship services and programs, plus personal visits available to all residents of the Miravida Living community.

The Carmel Residence Story:

To meet the increasing need for independent living options, our organization made significant advancements with the development of Carmel Residence. The first phase of the building was opened in 1985 with 30 units. Recognizing the need for expansion, the first wing was added in 1987, followed by a second wing in 1991, culminating in a total of 72 units. Carmel Residence stands as a testament to our commitment to meeting the evolving needs of seniors and ensuring they have a range of thoughtful and supportive options as they journey through their later years. This vibrant community offers a variety of amenities and programs designed to enrich the lives of its residents, making it a sought-after choice for independent senior living.



TIMELESS MEMORIES The Carmel Residence Collection





ELIJAH'S PLACE

Address: 1551 Southland Avenue

Phone: (920) 235-5599

Webpage: www.miravidaliving.com/elijahs-place

Date Opened: May 1994

Current Capacity: 12 units

Services:

Elijah's Place stands as a dedicated memory care community, meticulously designed to support the mental health and well-being of elders living with memory challenges. Accommodating up to 12 residents, this intimate setting fosters a sense of belonging and security, featuring thoughtfully arranged personal rooms and communal areas. The architectural and interior design principles specifically cater to the needs of individuals with memory care requirements, ensuring ease of navigation, a calming atmosphere, and ample opportunities for engagement and social interaction. At Elijah's Place, every detail, from the lighting to the color schemes, has been chosen to enhance the living environment for residents, promoting comfort, tranquility, and a sense of home.

The Elijah's Place Story:

At the forefront of innovation, Miravida Living set its sights on addressing the evolving needs of seniors by envisioning a memory care community. In 1994, our organization achieved a momentous milestone in senior care with the creation of Elijah's Place. This specialized memory care community, featuring 12 thoughtfully designed beds, marked a profound commitment to enhancing the quality of life for individuals with memory-related challenges. Elijah's Place embodies our dedication to fostering a close-knit community and providing highly personalized care, ensuring that residents receive the support and attention they deserve.



TIMELESS MEMORIES

The Elijah's Place Collection





GABRIEL'S VILLA

Address: 215 North Westfield Street

Phone: (920) 651-8600

Webpage: www.miravidaliving.com/gabriels-villa

Date Opened: 1997

Current Capacity: 40 apartments

Services:

Gabriel's Villa offers a comprehensive assisted living community designed to support residents with a blend of independence and personalized care. Our community ensures 24-hour collaborative health and personal need monitoring, managed by licensed nurses and professionals, complemented by an emergency call system for added peace of mind. Residents enjoy the benefits of a community dining room offering three full meals per day with varied dining options. The inclusion of on-site physical and occupational therapy supports residents in maintaining their health and mobility. Daily housekeeping services ensure a clean and comfortable living environment. Our community also enriches the lives of residents through music programs and provides access to a specially designed handicapped-accessible garden, allowing residents to enjoy the outdoors. Gabriel's Villa is committed to fostering a supportive, engaging, and safe environment for all its residents.

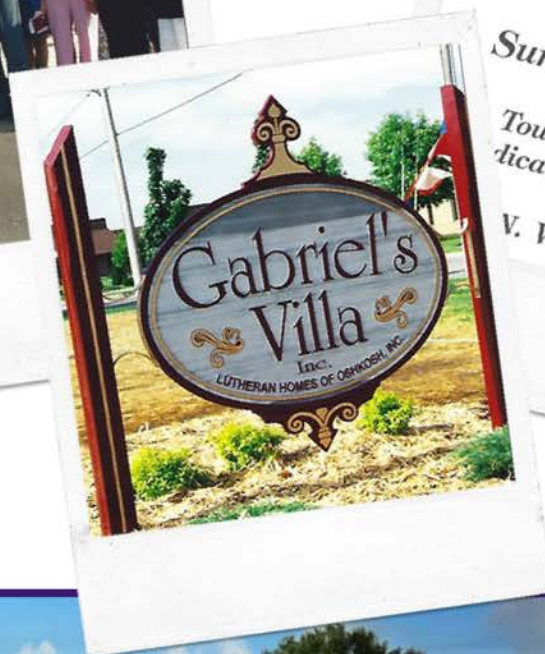
The Gabriel's Villa Story:

Miravida Living continued to be a proactive force in senior care, recognizing the importance of offering diverse opportunities for seniors to embrace their next season of life. In response to a gap in assisted living options, our organization took a significant step forward in 1997 with the opening of Gabriel's Villa. This welcoming community, featuring 40 beds, became a vital resource for seniors seeking assistance while maintaining their independence and quality of life. Gabriel's Villa stands as a testament to our commitment to meeting the evolving needs of seniors and ensuring that they have a range of thoughtful and supportive options as they journey through their later years.



TIMELESS MEMORIES

The Gabriel's Villa Collection





EDEN MEADOWS

Address: 3151 Eden Court

Phone: (920) 651-4000

Webpage: www.miravidaliving.com/eden-meadows

Date Opened: 2010

Current Capacity: Rehabilitation Suites: 30 beds, Green Houses: 10 beds each

Services:

Eden Meadows provides innovative and personalized post-surgery rehabilitation care as well as long-term care at its two state-of-the-art Green Houses, which feature private bedrooms and baths. Eden Meadows ensures that residents not only receive excellent care but also truly feel at home. As the preferred provider of post-surgery rehabilitation care in Oshkosh and beyond, Eden Meadows supports patients in achieving full recovery and returning home. Patients and their families are delighted with the excellent care and outcomes, regularly referring others and frequently returning for further post-acute needs. Rehabilitation services at Eden Meadows include occupational, physical, and speech and language pathology therapies. The Green Houses provide an excellent option for those seeking long-term skilled nursing care in a homelike environment, honoring individual preferences and emphasizing both the quality of life and quality of care in all programs and services.

The Eden Meadows Story:

Miravida Living made a major stride forward in 2010 by opening Eden Meadows to provide top level rehabilitation and skilled nursing care. This welcoming community, featuring 30 beds in the Rehabilitation Suites and 20 beds in the Green Houses, became a vital resource for seniors seeking rehabilitation and long-term care while maintaining their independence and quality of life. Eden Meadows stands as a testament to our commitment to meeting the evolving needs of seniors and ensuring that they have a range of thoughtful and supportive options as they journey through their later years.



TIMELESS MEMORIES The Eden Meadows Collection





INNOVATIVE CAMPUS SERVICES

- **Integrative Medicine:** Miravida Living embraces a holistic care approach, offering services like Sound Therapy, aromatherapy, and essential oils, along with innovative therapies such as massage, Tai Chi, and music therapy. Our programs aim to personalize resident experiences, promoting well-being through activities that foster joy and connection.
- **Thrive Wellness Program:** The Thrive Program embodies a holistic wellness philosophy that nurtures the mind, body, and spirit. Centered around six pillars—Awaken, Contribute, Discover, Explore, Connect, and Strengthen—it encourages a vibrant and fulfilling lifestyle for our community members at every stage of life.
- **Spiritual Services:** Miravida Living provides a wide array of spiritual services, including in-person and online worship, diverse programs, and personal spiritual visits to cater to the varied spiritual needs of our community, ensuring all residents have access to the spiritual support they cherish.
- **Green House Homes at Eden Meadows:** As pioneers in Wisconsin, our Green House Homes provide a unique, intimate approach to skilled nursing care. Emphasizing individual preferences, these homes feature private rooms and communal spaces, enhancing quality of life and care in a family-like setting.
- **Noah's Landing:** This unique program allows team members and families to bring pets onto campus (with vaccine documentation), integrating pets into therapeutic activities to enhance physical health and well-being.
- **Raised Gardens:** Our campus features raised garden beds accessible to all residents, offering a space for planting, nurturing, and enjoying the beauty of nature.
- **Cycling Without Age:** Launching in Oshkosh with seven rickshaws, this initiative celebrates the joy of outdoor adventures and strengthens intergenerational bonds as volunteer pilots take residents for rides throughout the neighborhood.
- **Onsite Dog Park:** For residents who have pets, and for visiting four-legged friends, we've established a dog park on campus. This offers a unique social opportunity and fellowship outdoors.



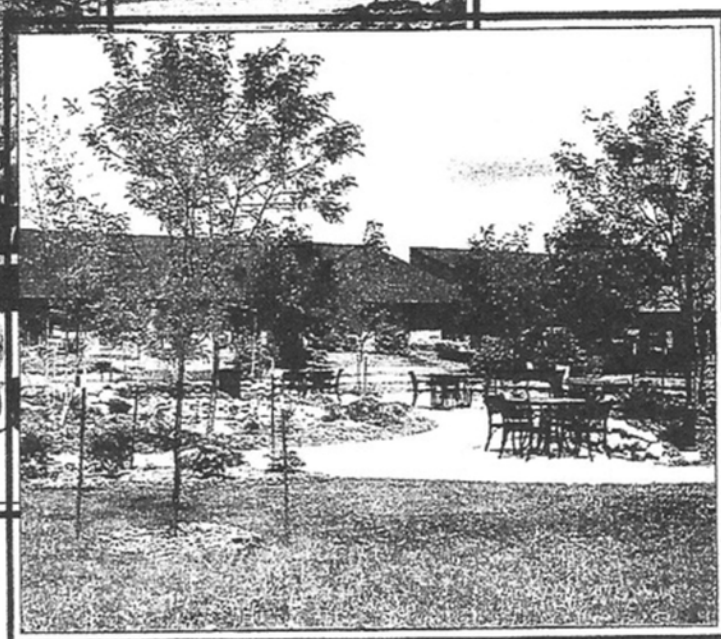
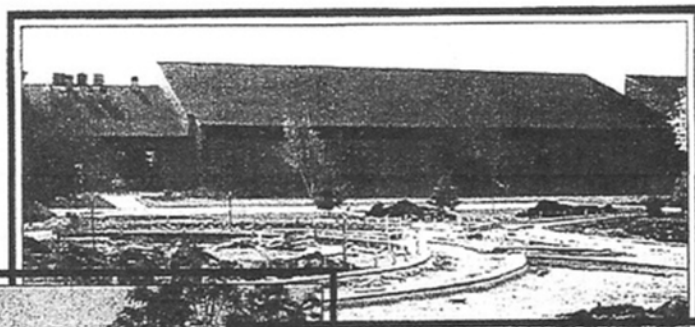


HISTORICAL NARRATIVES

Note on the Articles and Their Authorship

The remaining pages in this book feature articles written by our history project members and guests. These stories reflect the perspectives of the authors and have not been verified by the organization. We hope you enjoy reading these personal accounts.

Lutheran Homes of Oshkosh Memorial Garden Expansion



Within four weeks, Vande Hey's Landscape Center, Inc. completed the \$100,000 Memorial Garden expansion.









Love where you live.



www.MiravidaLiving.com