

## **SPECIAL CARE for SPECIAL PERSONS**

A Special care Unit is in each Lutheran Home community for those diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease and other similar dementia. The special Care Unit is an extension of our mission and provides a safe, caring and supportive environment to appropriately meet the needs of residents afflicted with these diseases.

The staff is continually working to help the residents feel good about themselves. Dementia care is one of the richest areas of human care...but requires very high levels of ability, creativity and insight, all characteristics of the specialized staff serving the residents of this unit.

Our focus is on enabling and empowering, through the provision of what is necessary to compensate for each persons disability, and on recognizing the unique way in which each person deals with his or her world. We reach out to each person with a simple, yet powerful kind of love.

We introduce ourselves and call the resident by name.

We use short, simple sentences and allow the resident time to respond.

We let the resident know that they have been, and continue to be important to us.

We hold their hand, or touch their shoulder. Physical contact is important.

We encourage them to share with us memories of their past.

Enhancing the lives of each individual requires very delicate sensitivities, highly developed skills and new forms of preparation and training. Our staff is continually updated with the latest available information while our love for each resident is maintained by one's own heart.

All persons deserve to live their lives to the fullest and with dignity, no matter what their age. We encourage you to witness how we provide the Christian atmosphere, tools and resources to our residents in order to achieve this end.