New Assistant Administrator
Emily Mittelsteadt

Emily Mittelsteadt, our current Business Office Manager, is taking on a new role as Assistant Administrator. Emily has been with Bishop Drumm since April 2018. She brought a lot of experience with her, as she has been around Long Term Care (LTC) her entire life. Her first “job” in LTC was at a nursing home in Watertown, Minnesota at five years old. She followed her mom around, who was a Dietary Manager and Administrator at the time. Her love for LTC grew and her first real job was working as a Dietary Aide in Assisted Living. Eventually, Emily worked as Activities Coordinator, Billing Coordinator and Office Manager. Emily will be graduating with her degree in Management and a Nursing Home Administrator License.

Emily shared that the experiences she had with her mom when she was younger are her reason for going into LTC. She loves the connections between residents and their families and helping them feel at home. She has learned is that you can give compassionate care anytime, and to anyone.

Her family and friends would describe Emily as respectful and a go-getter. This is evident by her hobbies and outdoor activities. She “flips” houses (fixes them up and sells them), recently completing her second one and in search of her next project! You will also learn quickly of Emily’s love for dogs. She has an adopted, senior dog named Shadow (lovingly referred to as Shadow Boy), who is currently living out his retirement in a good home.

Originally from Minnesota, she grew up in the country fishing and duck hunting with family, and has many fun memories in a duck blind with her dad. She said, “You can never get back those moments spent with family and friends doing fun activities.”

Emily’s goal as an administrator is to empower staff to be leaders themselves and to help them provide quality care to residents. Emily comments, “There is definitely a spirit here at Bishop Drumm. I remember at my interview feeling a sense of belonging. One of my favorite things over the last few years has been developing relationships with residents, their families and staff across campus. I admire each and every one of them.”

Welcome Emily to her new role. We are glad she is part of the team!

Sisters of Humility
Sister Micheline Curtis

Writing Her History

Sister Micheline is working on a very fun and interesting project. For Christmas, her niece gave her a subscription to StoryWorth.

Each week, she receives a question, and she answers it accordingly; sometimes it’s just a few sentences and sometimes it’s a couple paragraphs. Topics include questions about about her childhood, career, parents/family, events and more. Recently, a question focused on her career and she responded with how she entered the convent.

After a year of her submitted answers, StoryWorth will put them all together in a book with a table of contents and her photo on the cover. How nice to be an author of your own history!

Sister Micheline says, “Families would enjoy having a book like this but they should give this gift to them early enough so they can reflect on those memories and complete it for family to read.” What a meaningful gift for family and a great project to reflect on your life’s memories!

Check out welcomestoryworth.com
We had an employee “Give Something Away Day” event in July. This was our first time for this event and it was very successful. Employees were welcome to bring in items they wanted to donate or give away.

Employees were then invited to shop and take items they wanted home. What a great event that was so fun but helpful for so many!

A big thank you to the Bishop Drumm Guild for bringing some cheer to our residents! They designed a tissue box that included a “thinking of you” saying with a special made flower on top. It was very thoughtful and appreciated by all!
Fun Activities on Campus

Popular painting and adult coloring activities continue on campus. We have residents around campus enjoying the activities and finetuning their talents. What beautiful paintings and coloring pieces by our talented residents!

Corn Shucking is always a fun event in the summer. Ears of corn brings out the residents and although this can make a mess, it is worth it to know you will enjoy it later!

To participate in these and more activities, check the monthly schedule or talk to your Activity Supervisor to learn more about all the fun going on in your building.
Mercy Day 2020

Each year Bishop Drumm celebrates Mercy Day, commemorating the day Sisters of Mercy foundress, Catherine McAuley who opened the first House of Mercy on Lower Baggott Street in Dublin, Ireland on September 24, 1827. It would be over a hundred years later that the Sisters of Mercy founded and opened “Bishop Drumm Home for the Aged,” thus bringing their compassionate care and service to the residents of Des Moines.

This year Bishop Drumm will celebrate Mercy Day with Mission Week. The week will include community outreach, a heritage walk, tea and scones, and honoring our phenomenal staff with our annual Spirit of Mercy awards. Watch social media for pictures and updates on how we are honoring our heritage in carrying out the works of Mercy every day!

A Prayer for All Who Serve in the Spirit of Mercy

O God, through the power of your Spirit and under the protection of Mary, Mother of Mercy, you gave the Institute of Mercy to the church for the relief of persons who are poor, sick, and vulnerable. We ask you to strengthen and enlighten all those whom you have called to this path of Mercy. May we be faithful witnesses and sacraments of your love. Through our service of your people may we grow in mercy and compassion, and may we enjoy the gift of your holy presence forever.

AMEN.

Donations Needed

If you are interested in providing bird seed and/or fall plants, please let us know. We have a need on campus to feed our friendly birds and brighten up our campus areas with some beautiful plants. Please call our office if you would like to donate any of these items at 515.270.1100. Thank you for your consideration!
PHYLLIS EHRHARDT  
Martina Place Resident  
What did you do for a career?  
I was an elementary school teacher for ten years. Once I got married and had kids, I started work as a substitute teacher working with kids with special needs.

What is your favorite holiday and why?  
My favorite holiday is Christmas. My two daughters, their daughters, their husbands, and boyfriends all get together in one place. I make a special stocking for each person.

What is something we do not know about you?  
I loved to go zip-lining. I would go sky diving too, but I have no interest in bungee jumping.

What do you like about Martina Place?  
I really enjoy being together with the other residents and getting to know them.

JERRY WILSON  
Maintenance  
Where did you grow up?  
I was born and raised in Des Moines. I moved to Waterloo, Iowa for eight years and then moved back to Des Moines.

How would your friends and family describe you?  
Very caring and compassionate, goofy, hardworking and a great dad.

What is your favorite event or special memory?  
June 4, 2014 was the day my son was born.

What is your favorite indoor or outdoor activity?  
I love to fish. I could fish for hours.

Tell us about your family.  
I have a beautiful family whom I love very much. I have two boys, 6 & 8 years old and a beautiful wife of eight years.

What is something we do not know about you?  
I used to race hobby stocks and took martial arts.

What do you like about Bishop Drumm?  
I love that I get to come to work and make as many people smile and learn as much as I have. It’s a great place to work and I love all of the residents.
### School Supply Drive was a Success!

As a part of our mission outreach, we work with local businesses to support them in their efforts to help our communities. All supplies and funds received for our School Supply Drive went to the Johnston Partnership. We received more than 500 items and $400 in donations.

Along with our residents', staff, and friends donations, we received a box of supplies from our local business Fareway Grocery, items from Iowa Orthodontic Solutions and Vintage Hills Senior Living in Ankeny! In return for each person's donation or check, everyone received a cheesecake treat in honor of National Cheesecake Day! Thank you everyone for supporting local students!

### Bishop Drumm Team Responds

**Derecho Winds Bring New Faces to Bishop Drumm**

As storms raked their way across Central Iowa on Monday, August 10th, violent winds caused significant damage to the Madrid Nursing Home located just 21 miles Northwest of Bishop Drumm. The Madrid Home was one of 150 different nursing homes to lose power because of the storm. With a damaged roof, broken windows, twisted gas line and no power, the residents at Madrid had to evacuate.

The staff and residents at Bishop Drumm acted quickly & were able to help give 14 residents a temporary new home the next day. Our team lived out our mission and followed our core values of compassion, collaboration, excellence, integrity and inclusion during the process. Several Madrid Home staff are here caring for the new residents; they have shown a remarkable resiliency and positive attitude in adapting to a new environment. Lisa Metten (Bishop Drumm Director of Nursing) said, “Working with the Madrid Home management team, their staff and their residents has been an amazing collaboration from all departments. The Bishop Drumm team has welcomed them into our home and made them a safe space where they can all be as comfortable as possible. Our compassion as a team has shown through in ways I have never seen. I am extremely proud of everyone and to be a part of an organization that helps others in a time of need.”

Repairs are underway at Madrid’s campus, and we hope everyone is able to return home soon. Until then, we will continue to work closely with our new friends and residents from Madrid.

The Bishop Drumm Retirement Center campus was fortunate, only sustaining tree damage and minor damage to McAuley Terrace. The staff at Bishop Drumm did a wonderful job to ensure residents were safely cared for during the storm.

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*Some of the damage sustained at The Madrid Home.*

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*Andrew - Johnston Partnership & Brian - Bishop Drumm Director of Marketing*
Happy Labor Day

Labor Day became a federal holiday in 1894. It is a widely celebrated holiday in the beginning of September to allow American workers to have a day of rest and be celebrated for their contributions and achievements. Staff at Bishop Drumm is always here to care for our residents so we thank them for working every day and especially on holidays.

Let us celebrate the success, struggles of our workers, and recognize their service. We especially thank our staff at Bishop Drumm for their unwavering commitment, dedication and compassion for their craft and service to our residents. Happy Labor Day!

“Far and away the best prize that life offers is the chance to work hard at work worth doing.”

– THOMAS JEFFERSON

Alpaca Friends

We had some very special visitors at our campus this summer. Three alpacas; Prima, Vegas and Beignet visited residents and staff. What is an alpaca? The alpaca is a species of South American camelid descended from the vicuna. It is similar to, and often confused with, the llama. However, alpacas are often noticeably smaller than llamas and the two animals are closely related.

Facts:
Gestation period: 11 – 12 months
Height: 2.7 – 3.2 ft.
Mass: 110 – 190 lbs.
Family: Camelidae
Scientific name: Vicugna pacos
Lifespan: 15 to 20 years

They brought a lot of joy to our residents and staff. It was not only a beautiful day but also a lot of fun for our residents and staff! What friendly animals…don’t you just want to hug one?