



Family Spotlight: **BRENDA HUTSON**

One need only spend a few minutes with Brenda Hutson to realize there is something different about her. Not only because she has lived with the stigma of mental illness; and not because her income is considered very low; but because she loves Jesus with all her heart and is a true prayer warrior. Brenda is soft spoken and humble in her interactions but very passionate about her faith.

Brenda was born in Lincoln, Nebraska. She recalls moving around the country often, as her father was an electrician and would go move the family to various states, for better work opportunity. Her family settled in Lancaster County when she was school age and stayed here ever since! She considers Lancaster her home. After graduating high school, Brenda attended college in Tennessee. It was there where she came to learn of God and accepted Jesus as her Lord and Savior. She did not complete her degree in Tennessee but instead chose to come home and obtain a business degree through Millersville University.

As her walk with God deepened, Brenda became interested in Biblical mysteries, specifically Noah's Ark and the possibility of discovering this treasure on top of Mt. Ararat in Turkey. She and her father went on an exploratory expedition to see the Ark. Although she never saw it, she met many people along the way that believe evidence of the Ark remains intact.

It was about this time in her life that Brenda noticed a diminishing capacity within herself to deal with everyday life. She noticed personality changes and began to withdraw. Eventually, Brenda was diagnosed with mental illness. She struggled to keep her quality of life and eventually gave in and sought help. It was through this process that Brenda learned of Faith Friendship Villa. She knew she could no longer live alone or support herself on a small disability stipend. Brenda made the call to Faith Friendship Ministries and soon became part of the family. She has lived with us for 13 years.

Brenda is one of the co-founders of the Wednesday night prayer circle that happens at The Villa. She loves flowers and creates beautiful arrangements for us, as well as keeps our plants alive. Brenda's favorite flowers are roses; her favorite color is red; and her favorite food is BBQ shrimp over Caesar salad. When Brenda was asked, "What do you want the readers to know about you or Faith Friendship Ministries?" she responded:

"Faith Friendship Ministries is the real thing. Some people say they are Christians but don't live like they are. Here at Faith Friendship, God is present in the staff and family members alike. This is the real deal!"

Thank you, Brenda, for sharing your kind words with our readers. You are one of the reasons Faith Friendship Villa shines for God.

WE WANT TO SAY
Thank you
 FOR YOUR SERVICE!



JOHN NULL

My time as a member of the FFM Board of Directors was over at the end of June. The best that I can figure out is that it has been 12 years.

My connection with FFM started with a service project that our local church did at the

Villa. I was impressed with what happens there, and before long (I don't remember how or why) I was on the Board.

Twelve years is a long time, and I ask myself why I stayed so long. I often thought about leaving the Board and moving on, but there was always one more thing that should be completed before I felt comfortable in leaving. Thankfully, each of those things was eventually successfully completed, but then another always appeared. Just as important were the rewards that I received from my involvement. I thank the residents for showing me how to live with others while showing tolerance of their differences or shortcomings. I thank the staff for showing me the value of caring and sacrifice and selflessness. I thank the Board for showing me dedication, care, compromise, and reminding me that we were doing God's work. I thank the friends of FFM for demonstrating the value of volunteer support in the form of prayer, financial contributions, and personal service. These rewards have far outweighed my efforts during Board service.

Why leave now? There will continue to be an unending series of "one more thing" for the Board to do. It is just time. Time for new ideas, new leadership, and new energy. Although in no official capacity, I still plan to be around with no real responsibility, but just as a friend, visitor, donor, and helper where needed. Sounds like fun, doesn't it?



RAY REITZ

I have retired from FFV after working here for nearly 9 years and serving on the board for 6!



Of the 18 years FFV has served in its unique mission, I have had the privilege of serving for 15 of them. I cannot say enough about how special this Ministry is. From the hard-working staff, to the family members who call this home, to the support community beyond these walls, and a focus to serve in the Name of Christ,

something beautiful has come to be!! I wish it all the best for at least another 18 years!!

Ecclesiastes 3:1 says "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven."

We are so very grateful to John Null and Ray Reitz for their service and commitment to Faith Friendship Ministries over the years. May God bless you richly in the years to come.

*Where Faith & Friendship
 Create a Family™*

Faith Friendship Ministries

ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC

This year, we added a new element to the festivities of the family picnic. A big "THANK YOU" to Hempfield United Methodist volunteers for providing lawn games and activities for our family members, they were a big hit! Also, a special thanks to Mountville Mennonite Church for partnering with us and allowing the use of the fellowship hall."



New Employee Spotlight



Hi! My name is Kay Bower and I am pleased to join Faith Friendship Ministries! I have more than 30 years of business experience, working in for profit and non-profit organizations. I love to serve God and His people and have held positions as a worker, board member, or leader of a number of non-profit

organizations. In each position, my goal has been to “work as unto the Lord,” (Colossians 3:23-24) and give my best to what I’ve been called to do. I believe the mission of FFM touches God’s heart, as we minister to those so often overlooked by our society. It is a privilege to join this ministry, build relationships with our dear family members, and serve God with the passionate and caring staff of FFM.

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