



## Director's Corner

*December 6, 2018*

Sometimes people forget that when you take care of adults, it means all that life includes. This of course means death also. In November we had two long term residents pass away quite suddenly and there were two others who were approaching death. Our staff are a variety of ages, faiths and experience so they process death differently but consistently they step into the process of supporting the person who is dying, their family and each other. For some it is a chance to use the gifts and experience they have gained through other events and for some it is a chance to learn how to help someone else die and how to manage your own loss.

We were reminded that just as parents are given their children for a season and must let go as they mature into adults, we as staff are also given the gift of sharing someone's life for just a season. We have the privilege of learning someone's personality, their preferences and their needs. We grow close to them as they respond to our care and as we connect with them as a person.

We also need to learn that loving someone means accepting that we may lose them. Some people choose not to get too involved with others because they don't feel they can handle the loss, but this leads to missing out on one of God's greatest gifts to us, the gift of relationships and connections. We see our staff grow strong enough to engage in the joy of being a part of someone's life and then sometimes having to let it go if God takes them from us.

We also see our staff search their own faith. Some have a very strong belief in God and His presence and omnipotence. Others struggle with their faith and question who God is and why death happens. We really can't answer why but we definitely find scriptures that tell us our days are numbered and that there is a time to be born and a time to die.

When someone close to us dies, it is right that we mourn the loss, but with time we need to accept that they were never ours. They were God's from their creation to their death. God gives us the privilege of sharing them. In death we work through the loss and we heal as we gather the memories and give thanks for the time we had.

As staff, we are mourning those we have lost but giving thanks for the gift of their lives and that we could be a part of them. Pray for all of our staff that they can see the gift of God in life and in death.

---

**Administrative Office**  
2125 Veterans Road  
Morton, IL 61550  
P 309.266.9781  
[aclifepoints.org](http://aclifepoints.org)

**Apostolic Christian  
Timber Ridge**  
2125 Veterans Road  
Morton, IL 61550  
P 309.266.9781

**Apostolic Christian  
Oakwood Estate**  
2213 Veterans Road  
Morton, IL 61550  
P 309.263.8484

**Apostolic Christian  
Linden Estate**  
1000 Linden Street  
Morton, IL 61550  
P 309.263.8992

**Apostolic Christian  
CILA Services**  
107 East Jefferson  
Morton, IL 61550  
P 309.263.2901