

December 2022

*Choose people you know and care you trust. Choose Iroquois Memorial Hospice.*

## Christmas Tree Lane

Please join Iroquois Memorial Hospice and Iroquois Home Health at the The Old Courthouse Museum's Christmas Tree Lane. This year, our tree theme is "Our and Iroquois Memorial Hospice and Iroquois Home Health patients are worth their weight in gold."

Come to view and vote on your favorite trees!  
Open Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Special Hours: 1 - 4 p.m. on Sunday, December 18



Christmas Tree Lane



Iroquois Regional Health Center Christmas Tree



## 2022 Christmas Cantata

Please join the First Christian Church and the Living Hope Church for "Hope of the Broken World" with performances on:

Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm

Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm

Friday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm

This year's Choir Director is our very own, IMH Hospice Volunteer, Ms. Pat Neal. Please call 779-235-0094 for information and to make reservations. The 2022 Christmas Cantata donation recipient will be IMH Hospice Memorial Fund. Monies raised from the IMH Hospice Memorial Fund help patients' needs not covered by insurance and other resources such as: medicine, durable medical equipment, and skilled care for those uninsured.



*We wish you and yours a warm and cozy Christmas and a safe and happy 2023!*

*- Your IMH Hospice Team*

## 2022 Write-A-Check Campaign

Thank you for supporting the 2022 Annual Iroquois Memorial Hospice Brunch "Write-A-Check". Although our brunch was canceled due to the Covid-19 concerns and shortage of outside resources, your support and generosity continues to allow the IMH Hospice Memorial Fund to purchase equipment, supplies and services not covered by insurance or Medicare. Because of generous donations like yours, our IMH Hospice team provides excellent levels of care to patients regardless of their inability to pay for services.

We are thankful and grateful for your continued support of the Iroquois Memorial Hospice Memorial Fund.

Best regards,  
The Iroquois Memorial Brunch Committee



*A special thank you to our IMH Auxiliary for donating 80 blankets to our hospice and home health patients. These gifts will bring smiles to our patients, while keeping them warm and cozy.*

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## Home for the Holidays



The year following the loss of a loved one creates a whole new meaning for Home for the Holidays. Holidays can create feelings of dread and anxiety in those who are grieving. Images of family togetherness and often unrealistic expectations of a season filled with picture perfect, joyful gatherings can cause tremendous stress for those who are not grieving let alone those in the midst of the painful, isolating experience of loss.

### How does one celebrate the holidays when a loved one is so sorely missed?

- Decorate a wreath with pictures and items that were loved by the person that died.
- Wrap a keepsake of the deceased or a framed picture of your loved one and give it to another grieving family member.
- Create a special ornament labeled with the name of the deceased and hang it on the tree.
- Sometimes others need permission to talk about the deceased.  
Let them know you would rather keep the memory of your loved one alive than pretend nothing has changed.
- You may decide to go away for these holidays and get away.
- Traditions can be important but following the loss of a loved one, it may be a time to change some traditions.

We encourage you to grieve as you need to grieve. It is important to take time to care for yourself. Most of all, remember your loved one still loves you and wants you to be okay. They want you to have happy holidays and continue making memories with your family.

**The Iroquois Memorial Hospice team continues to support you through this difficult holiday season.** Please contact our office at 815.432.0185 if you feel you are in need of additional support at this time. Please ask for one of the Bereavement Counselors, Traci Bishop, LCSW or Rev. John Franklin, M.Div.

I see the countless Christmas trees around the world below,  
With tiny lights, like Heaven's stars, reflecting on the snow.  
The sight is so spectacular, please wipe away the tear,  
For I am spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

I hear the many Christmas songs that people hold so dear,  
But the sounds of music can't compare with the Christmas  
Choir up here. I have no words to tell you, the joy their voices  
Bring. For it is beyond description, to hear angels sing.

I know how much you miss me, I see the pain inside your heart  
But I am not so far away, we really aren't apart.  
So be happy for me, dear ones, you know I hold you dear,  
And be glad I'm spending Christmas with Jesus this year.

I sent you each a special gift, from my heavenly home above.  
I sent you each a memory of my undying love.  
After all, love is a gift more precious than pure gold.  
It was always most important in the stories Jesus told.

Please love and keep each other, as my Father said to do,  
For I can't count the blessings or love he has for each of you.  
So have a Merry Christmas and wipe away that tear,  
Remember, I am spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

- Author Unknown -