





On Friday, November 4th, 2022, Richmond County Hospice hosted the 11th Annual Salute to Veterans Event on our campus. The program consisted of:

Welcome – Jessica H. Mims, Director of Family Services
Invocation – Chris Thornton, Chaplain
Posting of Colors – Richmond County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard
National Anthem – Maddie Gibson
Sponsor Recognition – Kristina Leyden, CEO
Introduction of Guest Speaker – Ed O'Neal, AMVETS Post 316
Special Guest Speaker – Bill Clark, NC AMVETS
"Ragged Old Flag" recitation - John Taylor
K9 Demonstration – Midguard K9 Solutions with Arturo DeAguilar
Service Medley with branch recognition
Drum Line – RSHS Marching Band
13 Folds of the Flag – AMVETS Post 316
21 Gun Salute/TAPS/Dove Release – RCSO Honor Guard with Wings of Love
Closing prayer – Rev Charlie Tyler, AMVETS Post 316
Lunch – catered by RCC Café



This event was made possible through the generous support of our sponsors:

Watson – King Funeral Homes/Richmond County Memorial Park
Great Falls Wealth Management
REV Federal Credit Union
Mabry's Drug and Homecare
Wise Hospice Options
Epsilon, Inc.
Armando's Mexican American Grill
Cascades

In-kind sponsors included:

AMVETS Post 316
Jamie and Missi Boone
Bill Clark
Billy Dunn
James Mims Photography
Maddie Gibson
Midguard K9 Solutions
Outreach for Jesus
Dwayne Quick
Richmond County Memorial Park
Richmond County Partnership for Children
Richmond County Sheriff's Office and Honor Guard
Richmond Senior High School JROTC Cadets and Drum Line
Robin Roberts
The Salty Bean Coffee Co.
Schneider "Ride of Pride"
Swift Transportation
Terry Jordan
John Taylor
Stephanie Thornton
VFW Post 4203 Auxiliary
Wings of Love

Participants also browsed military artifacts on display by Tom Flores. Those in attendance were also invited to tour the recently completed Veterans Garden on the campus of RCH, located behind the Hospice Haven.

It was a fitting day of paying tribute to those that have served our nation. We are honored to continue to offer this special, patriotic event!









Rev. Chris Thornton

Hospice Sabbath

We at Richmond County Hospice, Inc. would like to thank all the churches for your continued support with Hospice Sabbath. This past year we had 37 churches participating throughout Richmond and Anson County!

I would like to take this opportunity to extend an invitation to every church member in our community to become involved with our agency as we make efforts to grow throughout the surrounding communities. We here at Richmond County Hospice Inc. are working on an outreach program to involve more of the churches in the counties that we serve in an effort to truly become your hometown Hospice.

This outreach program is combined of three major parts, Hospice Sabbath, a monthly Newsletter and public speaking engagements within the church. Hospice Sabbath represents a celebration to honor those individuals throughout the community that have passed within the last year. We recognize that not everyone is involved with Hospice as their last days approach. With Hospice Sabbath we encourage that this program does not have to be experienced for only Hospice patients and that even those loved ones that did not have Hospice services should be honored. We would like to take this time to invite any church members in the community that would like to be a part of this special day to contact me here at Hospice. Churches that participate in Hospice Sabbath will receive a white rose to place in the sanctuary and bulletins to offer support and encouragement.

Our second form of outreach is a Newsletter that I write each month. We are offering churches to provide bulletin inserts for your congregation. These articles are written with the intention to help uplift and unite the body of Christ.

Lastly, our organization would like to be invited into each church to have the opportunity to explain what Hospice is, how it works, who qualifies, and to end the myths that Hospice is just about death.

We at Richmond County Hospice Inc. strive to make a difference in this community. I am excited about venture to grow this outreach program and the opportunity to be invited into your church for Sunday services, men and women ministry meetings or any event you have at your church to explain our services. If you or anyone else you may know would be interested in this outreach program, please contact me as soon as possible at 910/997-4464 or at cthorton@rchospice.com

Thank you so much for allowing me the opportunity to share with you about our outreach program!

In the love of Christ,

Rev. Chris Thornton, CPC

Veterans Garden Dedication Ceremony

Richmond County Hospice dedicated our Veterans Garden on Tuesday, November 1, 2022. The garden has been a long-term goal of Richmond County Hospice for some time and we were excited to share the news of its completion. We invite the community to visit the garden, which was made possible through generous support from the following:

American Woodmark
AMVETS Post 316
Family of Ronnie McLaughlin
REV Federal Credit Union

Flag sponsors include:

Julie Woody & Family
Chris, Stephanie Thornton & Family
Jessica Mims & Family
Lisa O'Neal & Family
Linda Russell & Family
Heather Monroe & Family
SGM Peter Leyden, Kristina & Family







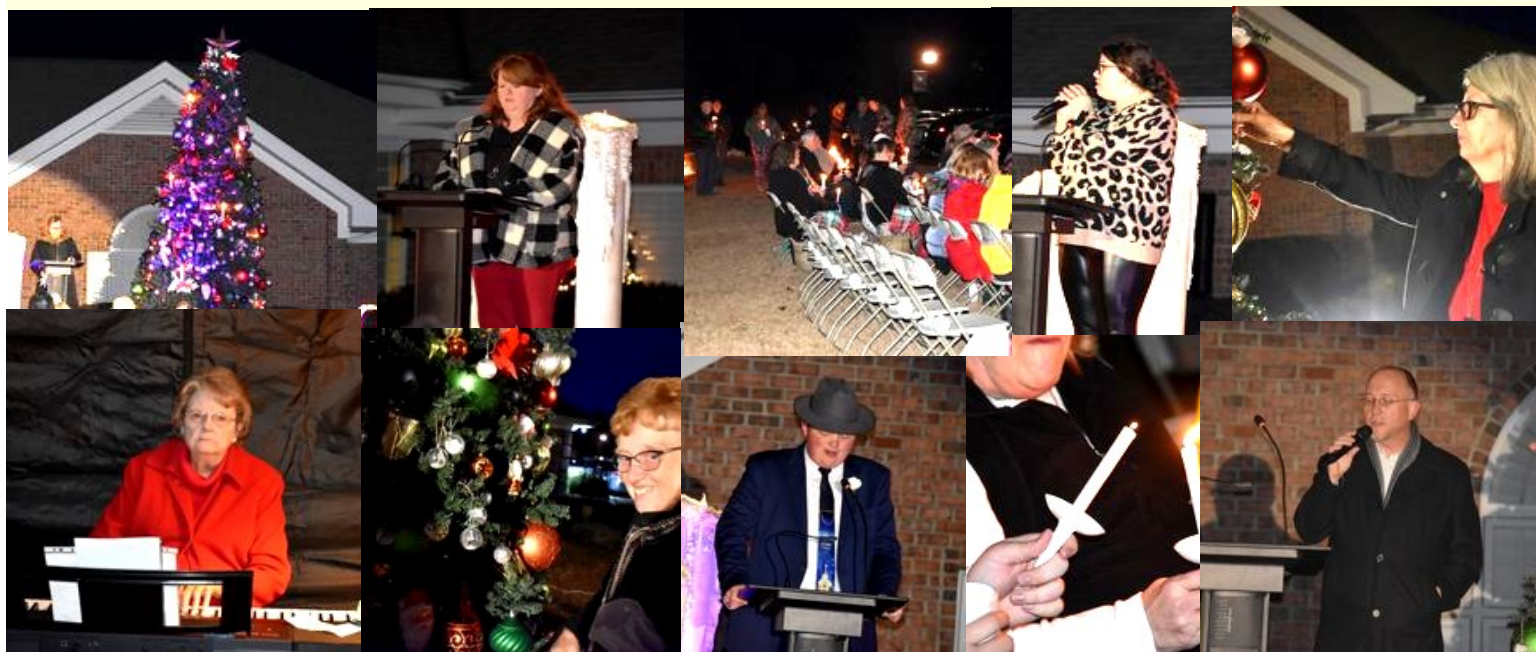
Richmond County Hospice Forever Tree Lighting Ceremony

The Richmond County Hospice Forever Tree Lighting was held on the front lawn of the Richmond County Hospice's administrative office building on Thursday, December 1st. Nic Wilkes, Event Coordinator, designed a beautiful Christmas scene with the Forever Tree as the centerpiece. Prelude music was played on keyboard by hospice volunteer, Linda Hatcher, as family members placed the Forever Tree ornaments onto the tree. Each Forever Tree ornament was in memory or in honor of a loved one.

An Overture by King and Country, "Won't You Come", which was accompanied by special lighting effects, opened the event. CEO of Richmond County Hospice, Inc., Kristina Leyden, welcomed the guests and Chris Thornton, hospice chaplain, prayed. Special music was provided by Darin Dixon, soloist, who sang "Christmas in Heaven." Hollie Smith, Director of In-Patient Care and Julie Woody, Director of Public Relations, recognized the many Forever Tree donations by reading the name of each person being remembered or honored. Following the dedications, the Forever Tree was lit as the congregation sang "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee." Chris Thornton closed the event with a prayer.

Following the Forever Tree Lighting, guests enjoyed a time of fellowship which included refreshments and hot beverages in the conference room.

Donations from the Forever Tree services help to support the Bereavement Services of Richmond County Hospice. A loved one being remembered does not have to have been a hospice patient and does not have to have died during the last year. All donations are welcomed. We greatly appreciate the support of the community.







Anson Community Hospice Forever Tree Lighting Ceremony

The Anson Forever Tree Lighting was held on Tuesday, December 13th. Leavitt Funeral Home, which was beautifully decorated for Christmas, served as the setting for this special event. The pianist for the prelude was Joyce Burr and special music was presented by James Mims, soloist. Following the welcome by Jessica Mims, Director of Family Services, an opening prayer and a poem were shared with the guests.

A devotion was offered by Mr. David Moss, Director of Missions for the Anson County Baptist Association. His remarks provided encouragement to all those in attendance. After the time of devotion, family members and staff adorned the tree with the Forever Tree ornaments. Each ornament was placed on the tree in memory or in honor of a loved one. The Forever Tree was lit as the congregation sang "Joy to the World." A time of fellowship was enjoyed after the ceremony with delicious snacks and beverages.

We hope the evening was a comfort and a blessing to all those who attended the Forever Tree Lighting. The service was dedicated to the memory of beloved owner of Leavitt Funeral Home, Harvey Leavitt III. He is greatly missed by Richmond County Hospice staff and the community. A special thank you to Ken Caulder, funeral director of Leavitt Funeral Home and longtime Anson County Advisory member, for his help and support with this event.

