



1070 West Jefferson Street • Franklin, IN 46131

Today the Franklin United Methodist Community campus covers 120 acres with a continuum of living choices available to older persons. But, a little over sixty years ago the community was just an idea in the minds of the laity and ministers of the old Indiana Conference of the Methodist Church. In 1948 that idea took form in the establishment of an investigative committee under the direction of the Conference Committee on Hospitals and Homes.

In 1949 a corporation was formed, officers were elected and committees appointed. In June of 1950 a plan was developed for purchasing a forty-acre site. The site was to be purchased by Grace Methodist Church, the Franklin Chamber of Commerce and friends from the Franklin community. The Indiana Annual Conference of the Methodist Church accepted the plan at its 1950 session. Architectural work started in 1951 and plans were accepted by the Board of Directors in 1954.

The site was officially dedicated in 1953, the cornerstone was laid in 1955 and the building was opened January 9, 1957, with the first resident moving in January 11, 1957. Twenty-two months later, construction was started on the west wing. Air conditioning in both the original building and the new wing were added at that time. The west wing was occupied in 1960.

Construction on the east wing was begun in 1963 and was completed in 1965. The Wright Memorial Chapel and Fellowship Hall were also built along with the east wing. The completed building contained 207 apartments in 189,000 square feet of floor space.

Construction of cottages located around Methodist Drive were begun in the early sixties and continued through the years. In 1980 a new 101 bed Health Center was opened. Additional cottage construction was begun in Brookside, the 79 acres adjacent to the original property, purchased in the early 1990's. Construction continues today with several new cottages being built each year.

In 1992 the W.T. Murphy Special Care Unit was opened providing state of the art care for persons with Alzheimer's and other kinds of dementia. This facility continues to be a leader in dementia care.

In 1994 Glenburn Home located in Linton, Indiana, requested the Franklin United Methodist Community accept responsibility for their continuing operation and management. Also affiliated with the United Methodist Church, Glenburn Home has become a part of our outreach and a valued asset to the people of Greene County.

A new Community Center, a new nursing wing for the advanced care of Alzheimer's, an addition to the Health Center third floor complete with a remodel of both floors, and a new entrance to Wesley Center were completed in January 2001.

In the summer of 2005, United Methodist sister facility Indiana Asbury Towers in Greencastle, Indiana, became a controlled interest of the Franklin United Methodist Community by virtue of a new board of directors consisting of FUMC leaders. This extended our outreach to Putnam and surrounding counties.

During 2007 to 2009, the Franklin United Methodist Community undertook an expansion and major renovation project. As a part of this effort, the Clubhouse in Brookside was enlarged and refurbished, a new dining room was added to Wesley Center, and additional accommodations for 28 persons opened on the Health Center. The Wellness Center doubled in size, and the completed face lift of Wesley Center included new windows, floor, wall, and ceiling covers, lighting, elevator updates, boilers, sprinkler system, kitchen renovations, and more.

The continuing care retirement community, just 18 miles south of Indianapolis, currently serves over 600 residents, with the assistance of nearly 400 employees and 200 volunteers.

Governing the work of the Franklin United Methodist Community is a volunteer Board of Directors made up of lay persons and clergy from throughout the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church and other elected persons. Members of the Board are approved by the Indiana Conference. The Board meets quarterly during the year and exercises its oversight and authority through various committees including Admissions, Executive, Facilities Resources, Finance, Personnel and Strategic Planning. These committees report regularly to the full Board for their action.

The Board of Directors employs an Executive Director whom in turn employs an executive management staff. This staff includes the Associate Executive Director, Associate Administrator, Chief Financial Officer, and the Director of Human Resources. These staff members are responsible to see regulations are met and policies are effective and efficient and assist the Executive Director in overseeing the various departments serving the residents of the Community.

For additional information or for a personal tour, please call 1 – 87 – RETIRING or visit us at www.fumeth.com

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