

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS of Promising Futures

PEOPLE | PLACES | THINGS

In 1919 William Wise, a Meadville farmer with a passion for helping others, donated his 130-acre farm, farming equipment and livestock to the Pittsburgh Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church for "the care of children who are bereft of their parents and are left without homes or material aid in the world." That was the beginning of what is now Bethesda Lutheran Services. A century later we continue working every day to provide promising futures to more than 900 children, youth and families across Northwest Pennsylvania.

Someone once said that "Leaders instill in their people a hope for success and a belief in themselves. Positive leaders empower people to accomplish their goals." At Bethesda Lutheran Services, we have been extraordinarily lucky to have had the leadership which allowed us to dream big and achieve our goals.

We want to take this opportunity to thank those men who have served as Chief Executive Officers and acknowledge their impact on our success: Pastor Ralph Yeaney, Mr. George Black, Pastor William Blair Claney, Mr. Tom Duchene, Mr. Frank Sheehan, Mr. Gene Wisinski and our current CEO, George Trauner.

Of course, no success would be possible without the help of our staff; the heart of our agency. There is no way for us to thank everyone personally but please know that we are so appreciative for your time and dedication.

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www.bethesda1919.org

