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Contact: Patricia Montgomery, Director
Marketing Communications & Church Relations
pmontgomery@lyngblomsten.org | (651) 632-5322
1415 Almond Avenue | St. Paul, MN 55108

Lyngblomsten Announces New President/CEO

ST. PAUL, Minnesota (July 10, 2013) – The Corporate Board of Directors of Lyngblomsten, a Christian nonprofit senior care organization in St. Paul, has announced the selection of Jeff Heinecke, current Administrator of Lyngblomsten Care Center, to succeed current President/CEO Paul Mikelson who will retire in October.

“The process began almost a year ago,” shared Charles Norton, Chair of the Corporate Board. “We started by selecting a search firm to assist us and held a retreat for the Board to examine trends and the future of long-term care.” From there, the Search Committee (a subset of the Board), compiled goals and critical success factors for Lyngblomsten’s next top leader. From nearly 200 individuals contacted by the search firm, to 20 solid candidates identified, to 6 qualified candidates presented to the Search Committee for consideration, to 3 finalists presented to the full Board for interview, the process was thorough and ultimately led to a decision by the full 17-member Board to offer the position to Heinecke.

“The Board felt Jeff was uniquely positioned as already knowing Lyngblomsten,” Norton expressed, “and Jeff has proven himself to be an outstanding and compassionate leader of the Lyngblomsten Care Center, always giving the dignity and welfare of our residents highest priority.” Of the many successes during his seven-year tenure with Lyngblomsten, Heinecke led the care center to a zero deficiencies survey by the Minnesota Department of Health in 2012, a rare achievement for any long-term care facility. Perhaps even more impressive, this is the second time in his career Heinecke was able to do so.

“Lyngblomsten has a reputation of setting a high standard for quality in the services we provide in all areas of our organization,” Heinecke remarked. “Impassioned, creative, and loyal staff have made this possible.” Heinecke has worked as a nursing home administrator since 1997, serving the Good Samaritan Society until coming to Lyngblomsten in 2005. Heinecke holds a B.A. in Public Administration from St. Cloud State University. He is active in long-term care advocacy at the state and federal levels, mentors long-term care administrator students, and serves as the vice chair of the Managed Care Cabinet for Aging Services of Minnesota. Along with his wife and daughters, Heinecke lives in Champlin and attends St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Brooklyn Park.

“I fear complacency more than failure,” proclaimed Heinecke. That should prove helpful as he sets to work leading the development of a new strategic plan for Lyngblomsten. Heinecke will take the helm as president and CEO in early September, during which time Mikelson will step down and serve as an advisor until his retirement in mid-October.

“Jeff will take his strong leadership from one area of Lyngblomsten and implement it across the full organization,” Norton stated. “We’re confident he will prove himself to be the innovative leader we need for the future of Lyngblomsten.”

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Lyngblomsten is a Christian nonprofit organization enhancing the quality of life for older adults of all faiths and cultures through its healthcare and housing facilities as well as through its community-based outreach programs for seniors living independently. Lyngblomsten is affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America and is partnered in ministry with 30 Minneapolis/St. Paul-area congregations. Learn more at www.lyngblomsten.org.