

A New and Improved Pavilion

Lizz Stephens, VP Marketing & Business Strategy

CVM has a long-standing reputation as one of Cincinnati's finest Life Plan Communities. From the beautiful scenery to the award-winning healthcare, it is a very special place that about 450 residents call home. Our community is situated on 75-acres of immaculately manicured grounds and features amenities such as the Renewal Fitness Center, Matthew's Dining Room, the Stone Worship Center & Auditorium, a large woodworking shop, and a picnic pavilion.

The picnic pavilion is one amenity that is used often in the warmer months. It is a place for a vast array of activities and events including cookouts, ice cream socials, and concerts. The management team recognizes that our residents deserve only the very best, and we have thought for some time that the picnic pavilion could be enhanced to create a better atmosphere and a more useable space.

If you attended the January 26 meeting hosted in the Stone Center about the upgrades planned to the pavilion, you will recall that it was shared that the existing pavilion does not have an ideal design. There are no restrooms and no kitchen for meal preparation, so it's really limited to be used for picnics. In addition, the pavilion has storage that the community desperately needs, but the storage is limited and not water-tight or climate controlled. To resolve these design dilemmas, we partnered with an architectural firm to look at the existing pavilion and help us brainstorm ideas on how we could improve it. Our goal was to create a new pavilion that was beautiful, functional, provides restrooms, and a limited kitchen. After months of research and hard work, the final design is one that we can be very proud of.

The new pavilion will be about 3,600 sq. ft. which is much larger than the existing pavilion. It will have a beautiful gas fireplace creating a fireside lounge area, kitchen serving space and the much-needed addition of restrooms! An added benefit is that there will also be an additional 3,500 sq. ft. for storage and 48 parking spaces. Our timeline is to start construction late spring or early summer of 2023 with completion in fall of 2023, meaning the pavilion will be out of commission through the end of the year.

We are thrilled to get this project underway. Our residents deserve the very best, and the new pavilion is sure to provide that.



Birthdays, Celebrations and Updates



March Birthdays



March Anniversaries

This information is for Christian Village at Mason residents.



CVM Transportation

NEW 2023 RATES

Transportation services are available to all residents.
Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

*Concierge Cards - \$36 for 13 round trips

For errand (non-medical) trips within 5 miles.

*Appointments by Mile or Hour

For medical appointments or other trips that would not qualify as a concierge trip.

- \$3.00/mile from drop-off and pick-up
- \$40/hour for the driver to stay with you

Scheduling Transportation

Call (513) 701-3415 to schedule an appointment.



Village Clinic Hours

7169 Village Drive

Updated Village Clinic Hours:

Monday - Friday - 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

If you need to contact the nurse outside these hours, please contact Diane Reed, R.N., Queen City Skilled Care, Home Care Coordinator at (513) 314-0562 or Heather Carter at (513) 701-3403.

RESIDENT UPDATES

This information is for Christian Village at Mason residents.

Chaplain's Corner

BY CHAPLAIN DAVID RAY

Anniversary

March marks the beginning of my second year as chaplain within this remarkable village!

They say that “time flies when you are having fun,” and I guess that’s true. But in many ways, the year has been long and full because of how I serve in various ways. Part of my work connects me with the many residents in our healthcare and assisted living units, while another part reaches into the wider circle of those living independently. There is also the regular rhythm of our Sunday worship services that bring together many of our Village residents, along with several who come from beyond our campus. Recent months have added being a part of preparations to launch CVC’s own hospice ministry.

Some might ask: What have I learned so far?

Well, quite a bit, but I’ll share only a few observations:

- **Life can be rich and full, well into the golden years.** Early on, I got a note from a resident that said: “I think you will find that most of us did not come here to die!” Clearly stated, it reminded me that most of our residents still have much life to live. And I have never heard greater life stories—still being written.
- **Life can be hard.** While life goes on, that does not mean it is free from struggle. Every day I watch people move around our Village, some with ease, while others are clearly slowing down. Some need an occasional stop to rest. Some push on through pain. Still others welcome help to get them through their hard places. We care for each other.
- **Heritage is a treasure.** Many here are believers whose faith was tenderly planted in the soil of youth, growing on through the years that followed. We like to sing songs that remind us of our past and hear Scripture we long ago put to heart. There are even some, unable to be fully present in the moment, who come to life when old songs and words are heard.

Faith lingers beyond the time when many other things are long-forgotten.

- **Love is the greatest thing.** We are made to live in relationship. When we lose someone long-loved, it’s good to have others remain about us. Neighbors become family, strangers close friends. We are not left to walk alone. I’ve had many funerals over the course of this single year, but I’ve found that love does not go away. I see evidence of it every day!

And now I look forward to moving into my second year. More to learn and more to do.

Stone Center Sermons

March 5 Rick Shonkweiler (Guest Speaker)

HOME COMING (Luke 15:11-32)

Lessons from the Greatest Short Story Ever Told

March 12 Leaving Home

March 19 Longing for Home

March 26 Coming Home

Contact Information

Office (513) 701-3406, **Cell** (513) 218-6548, or **Email** david.ray@christianvillages.org.

Tune to CVC TV for Chaplain’s live: **Word of the Week** (Monday, 9:30 a.m.), **Daily Devotions** (Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00 a.m.), & **Stone Center Worship** (Sunday, 10:15 a.m.).

If you need assistance to attend worship, desire communion delivery, or would welcome a visit, please contact us.

This information is for
Christian Village at Mason residents.

Social Services

BY HEATHER CARTER, LSW, DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Christian Village Comfort Care Update

In the November 2022 newsletter, I reported that our application for Christian Village Hospice was submitted to the Ohio Department of Health and there is at least a 60-day waiting period prior to surveyors granting approval to begin enrolling patients in our Comfort Care program.

We are currently still waiting for our initial survey. Upon a successful survey, we will be able to provide services to a limited number of patients. The Ohio Department of Health will return to review charts and watch patient care before providing us with our license.

We welcomed Nikkia Strickland, STNA (State Tested Nursing Assistant) in January. Nikkia has over 20 years of experience as an aide, which include many years with various hospice agencies. Nikkia has been working with Ashli Gordon, Hospice Clinical Director, and has been learning about our Mason and Mt. Healthy campuses.

We continue to work on our program structure and outline of programs Comfort Care will offer. Specific programs will include volunteer services, grief support and bereavement.

We look forward to our start up and continuing to fulfill the mission of Christian Village Communities to our residents and their families.

If you are interested in learning about our volunteer opportunities, please contact Heather Carter at (513) 204-2185 or (513) 701-3403.



The Well

BY KYRA SCHROER, DIRECTOR OF FITNESS & WELLNESS



Save the Date

The 2023 Heart Mini will take place on Wednesday, April 19, at 2:00 p.m.

If you want the t-shirt, you must “officially” sign up online and register as part of The Christian Village at Mason team.

Contact Kyra for the team link if interested. The El Caporal food truck will be here from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. on the event day.

Prioritizing Heart Health

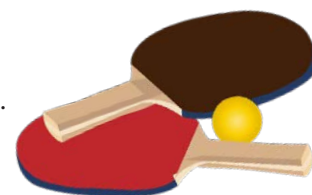
A recent morning devotion reminded me of something important. If my heart has bitterness and unforgiveness, it isn't a good home for the Holy Spirit. A goal of keeping my heart healthy begins with letting go of disappointments and hurts. Here are three additional ways I can prioritize heart health:

1. Exercise - walking frequently, even if for small amounts of time, because it all adds up!
2. Dental care - visiting the dentist and keeping up on recommended care, including flossing. Research indicates that bacteria present in gum disease can travel throughout the body triggering inflammation in the heart's vessels and infection in heart valves.
3. Hydrating - keeping the body hydrated makes it easier for the heart to pump blood through the blood vessels to the muscles, thereby helping our muscles work efficiently.

February was declared American Heart Month back in 1964 and continues today as a month when people focus on their cardiovascular health. On March 19, Cincinnati will celebrate 46 years of fighting heart disease and stroke with six running and walking events held downtown Cincinnati. Our Christian Village at Mason team will once again participate “virtually” with an event one month later (warmer weather please) on our beautiful grounds. Start training today and look for more details in next month's Village News.

Ping Pong Anyone?

Join us on Thursday, March 9 and Thursday, March 23 from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. in the RFC. Is there a better time or a better day for this activity? We need more players!



Auxiliary & Resident Organization News

Kroger Community Rewards

Kroger Community Rewards is a CVM Auxiliary fundraiser. The money is used to purchase items for the benefit of all residents. Mason Christian Village Auxiliary supporters can enroll their Kroger Plus Cards online at the secure website, <https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards>. Auxiliary account number UY336.

Every time an enrolled member shops at Kroger using his or her Kroger Plus Card, the Auxiliary will earn rewards. The Auxiliary will also receive Kroger Rewards credit if you forget your card and provide your alternate ID (usually phone number). Ask your family and friends to enroll using the Auxiliary account number UY336 as well.

CVM Veterans Program

Jerry Kohls

The Veterans Association will hold the next meeting on Wednesday, March 15, at 10:00 a.m., in the Hockley Chapel.

The speaker will be a representative from the new military branch, Space Force. He will discuss how this new branch developed and what it is all about.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Access Cincinnati Enquirer Online

Did you know that you can access your free “eNewspaper” online by following these steps:

1. Go to www.cincinnati.com
2. Click on “Sign In” in the upper right-hand corner.
3. Enter the email address: subscriptions@christianvillages.org in the Sign In box.
4. Enter Password: CVM45040



Crafters Wanted

We are looking for those of you with “crafter skills” that might be interested in being a vendor in CVM Auxiliary’s Annual Fall Craft Show. It will take place on October 28 in the Stone Worship Center and Auditorium. You can get an application by:

1. Email: CraftShowCVM@gmail.com
2. Call: (513) 486-4438 and request one.
3. Vendor Registration Form: Pick up a form for the Annual Craft Sale at the front desk.

Dave Doty and Lowell Bowie are co-chairpersons for the show and would be delighted to visit with you. If you know of an individual who might be interested, please share this with them. As you know, this is sponsored by the Auxiliary, and all proceeds from the event will benefit the residents here in the Village.

Auxiliary & Resident Organization News



Upcoming Concerts

Concerts will be held in the Stone Center. They may not be available to be aired on CVC TV if music groups bring their own sound equipment.

- **Sycamore Community Band** - Thursday, March 16, 7:00 p.m.
- **Denny Duvall, Performer** - Tuesday, March 21, 2:00 p.m.

Entertaining vocals, live piano, guitar, trumpet & Ukulele. This one band show is sure to make you laugh and smile!

- **Squeeze Play Accordion Band** - Tuesday, March 28, 7:00 p.m.

This is a unique group of well-established musicians who perform using accordions. You don't want to miss this fun and entertaining show!

CVC TV Weekend Schedule

- Saturday, March 4, 3:00 & 7:00 p.m.
"Somewhere on Earth: Cambodia"
- Saturday, March 11, 3:00 & 7:00 p.m.
"World's Greatest Sacred Sites"
- Saturday, March 18, 3:00 & 7:00 p.m.
"World's Greatest Journeys: Cruises"
- Saturday, March 25, 3:00 & 7:00 p.m. Movie:
"Billy Graham God's Ambassador" (The story of Billy Graham's extraordinary life and ministry.)

Library News

By MaryAnn Watrous

January/February 2022 Additions:

- Adams, Sara Nisha, *The Reading List*
- David Baldacci, *Dream Town* (New)
- C.J. Box, *Dark Sky, Free Fire*
- Rita Mae Brown, *Out of Hounds*
- Patricia Cornwell, *Livid* (New)
- Jennifer Chiaverini, *Mrs. Lincoln's Rival*
- Coleen Coble, *Beyond A Doubt*
- Clive Cussler, *Atlantis Found, Treasure of Khan*
- Janet Evanovich, *Going Rogue Rise and Shine Twenty-Nine*
- Vince Flynn, *Oath of Loyalty* (New)
- Kathleen Fuller, *A Man Of His Word*
- Kristin Hannah, *Between Sisters*
- William W. Johnstone, *A Colorado Christmas*
- Bonnie Garman, *Lessons in Chemistry* (fun novel)
- Scott Kelly, *Endurance* (non-fiction)
- Barbara Kingsolver, *Demon Copperhead*
- Michele Martinez, *Cover-Up*
- Susan Meissner, *The Last Year of the War*
- Brad Meltzer, *The President's Shadow*
- Robert B. Parker, *Potshot, Hugger Mugger, Cold Service, Back Story*
- Elizabeth Peters, *Children Of The Storm*
- Matthew Quirk, *Hour of the Assassin*
- John Sandford, *Storm Front*
- Brad Thor, *Blowback*
- Alex Trebek, *The Answer Is...* (Biography)
- Stuart Woods, *Hothouse Orchid* (LP)

Mason Public Library Outreach

Friday, March 3, 10:00 a.m.

You Never Know

BY RUTH ODOR,
GARDEN APARTMENT
RESIDENT

PATTERNS FOR PRAISE

God, in His infinite wisdom and love, has given us patterns for that which He would have us do. We have been given a pattern for prayer, a pattern for the church, and patterns for praise.

Most of these patterns for praise are in the Old Testament. One of the oldest is in the book of Isaiah, in Chapter 6. Isaiah was ushered into the presence of God, and the seraphim cried, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory." When we come into the presence of God we recognize His holiness, His power, and His glory. In the presence of God we are aware of our sinfulness. We can never see ourselves as we need to until we stand before God. We cry out for forgiveness as did Isaiah. We are forgiven, cleansed, and made whole. He restores our soul. Then in answer to God's question "Whom shall I send?" we answer, as Isaiah did, "Here am I. Send me." And we get out of our places of praise and into the world with the message of God's love. Praise culminates in service. Paul reminds us of this in Romans 12. "Offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--which is your spiritual worship."

Most of our patterns for praise can be found in the book of Psalms. In fact, the book has been given the subtitle "Patterns for Praise," and was known to the Hebrews as the book of praises.

The Psalms not only reveal God to us but also conduct us into His very presence. They present the exalted majesty of God, helping us to know that He is great but near. The psalms are songs that come from the soul of the worshiper. They give us words to express the feelings of our hearts--the words that we cannot find.

Sometimes we simply cannot find the words to express our questions or our praises to God. At those times we can just borrow the words of the psalmist. We can pray the same words that are on the page of the Bible before us. What better words of praise than the familiar passage from Psalm 8:

"O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! . . . When I consider the heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him."

Or:

"Many, O Lord my God, are the wonders you have done.

The things you planned for us no one can recount to you:

Were I to tell of them, they would be too many to declare." (Psalm 40:5)

Then there is Psalm 71:19-24 and Psalm 89:1,2,14,15, and many other passages. Often a psalm written in the third person can be changed to second person, addressing God as we make it our prayer to Him.

The language of these words works for us today even though we live on this side of the cross. They are indeed patterns for praise.



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