

Heartfelt Thanks

A Year of Record-Breaking Donations for CVM Employees

There are endless reasons why being an employee at The Christian Village at Mason is so wonderful. Our team members would agree that the most important reason is our residents. We are so honored to be able to serve our Independent Living, Assisted Living, Memory Care, Nursing, and Hospice residents each day and provide what we call “Service From the Heart.”

Certainly, no “Thanks” are needed for doing a job that is considered a privilege. But each year, our residents take it upon themselves to do so in a simply amazing way! These generous, caring individuals collect donations for the Christmas Fund Campaign (more commonly known as the Frosty Fund!) And at the very special annual Resident and Employee Christmas Party, our dedicated employees receive a Frosty Check from our residents to show their appreciation. The employees are so grateful for this beautiful gesture! Many of them share with us what it means to them and their families to receive this monetary appreciation at Christmastime. It’s heartwarming to listen to their excitement and their plans and hear how appreciative they are.

We would like to thank the Employee Frosty Fund Committee. The Committee’s hard work and efforts simply must be recognized. They put so much into the campaign each year, beginning right after the previous year’s campaign is completed. They work diligently to keep the campaign alive and well and focused throughout the year. Thank you for all you do and have done each year!

2023 was a record year for donations with over \$53,000 raised! The Christmas Fund party was truly magical as residents and staff alike beamed with happiness as they enjoyed delicious snacks and each other’s company.

We are truly blessed to have such generous and thoughtful residents.

Thank you, thank you, THANK YOU!



Birthdays, Celebrations and Updates



January Birthdays



January Anniversaries

This information is for
The Christian Village at Mason residents.

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Village Clinic Hours

7169 Village Drive

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.

Grocery Pickups

Please turn in one list per week on Monday or Thursday into the Front Desk. (4 or 5 items).

Please give list and money to the front Desk or call Transportation at (513) 703-3415.

CVM Transportation

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.

RESIDENT UPDATES

This information is for
The Christian Village at Mason residents.

Chaplain's Corner

BY CHAPLAIN DAVID RAY

A Late Christmas Present for Our Residents

I'm happy to say that later this month you will have access to an extensive library of over 20,000 Bible-based videos! Watch for formal launch announcements and a Stone Center demonstration to help introduce you to this new resource in January.

RightNow Media has videos for all ages on topics like Bible studies and devotionals, marriage, parenting, personal finances, leadership, spiritual and emotional health, and much more!

A promotional graphic for RightNow Media's 'MERRY AND BRIGHT' program. It features a light yellow background with two stylized Christmas trees on the left and right. The trees are green with gold and red diagonal stripes. In the center, the text 'rightnow MEDIA' is at the top, followed by 'MERRY AND BRIGHT' in large, gold, serif font. Below that, it says 'We've purchased unlimited access to thousands of Christian videos and are giving free access to everyone in our Village.' and 'GET FREE ACCESS' in gold. At the bottom, it says 'Scan this QR code SOON to create your FREE account!' next to a QR code. There are also several Christmas ornaments in red, green, and gold scattered around the text.

rightnow MEDIA
MERRY AND BRIGHT
We've purchased unlimited access to thousands of Christian videos and are giving free access to everyone in our Village.
GET FREE ACCESS
Scan this QR code
SOON to create your
FREE account!

Videos are accessible on all your major streaming devices including: iPhone and iPad, Android, Chromecast, Roku, Apple TV, and fire TV. Or you can find videos through our unique Village RightNow Media site you can access on the internet through a web address we will provide.

Many have asked for resources for personal study, or to provide materials for small group gatherings, and this site can become your “go-to” place for everything you might need—even including downloaded study guides for many videos. RightNow Media also has great videos designed for children (and grandchildren) to provide spiritual encouragement and entertainment.

Finally, we hope to provide access to a personal RightNow Media channel that will include a whole CVM library of past recorded Stone Center Sunday Sermons that many have asked about having available.

I have used RightNow Media and can heartily recommend it as a valuable and ever-growing media resource!

Stone Center Sermon Series

Join us in January as we study the book of **Ruth: An Old Testament Love Story**.

Contact Information

Office (513) 701-3406, **Cell** (513) 218-6548, or **Email** david.ray@christianvillages.org. If you need assistance to attend worship, desire communion, or welcome a visit, please contact us.

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.).

This information is for The Christian Village at Mason residents.

Social Services

BY HEATHER CARTER, LSW, DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Personal Emergency Pendants

CVM offers personal emergency response pendants for residents in the Garden Homes and in all areas of the healthcare center.

Regardless of age or health, these devices can be lifesaving. In the event of an injury or other emergency, the button on the device is pressed and the staff from the facility is alerted to send help immediately. Having a personal pendant is sometimes better than simply dialing 9-1-1, because a phone is not always readily available in the event of an emergency.

Garden Home residents' security panels are set up with an option to have a pendant that can be pushed in the event of an emergency. The pendant works like the pull cords in the home and will alert someone in the main building that you need assistance. The device works within the boundaries of the Garden Home.

If you reside in the main building, you also have the option of using a pendant at an additional cost. These pendants work just as your emergency pull cords in the apartments or rooms would work, alerting staff you need assistance. These pendants will work anywhere within the main building and have a location sensor, to alert staff of the area in which you are closest.

If you have questions or would like more information about the pendant services offered at CVM, please feel free to give call (513) 701-3403.

Caregiver Support Group

The support group will focus on various aspects of caregiving. Our team will facilitate group conversations, provide resources and education related to dementia care and caregiving in general. The next group meeting will be on Tuesday, January 9. The group will meet from 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The Caregiver group will meet in the Christian Village Hospice Office located at 7169 Crescent Drive. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to (513) 701-3403.



The Well

BY KYRA SCHROER, DIRECTOR OF FITNESS & WELLNESS



Left picture: Back row: Pam Cape, Patricia Horvath, Dee Bartholme (Shelton), Judy Johnson, Martha Johnson, Front row: Kyra and Maxine LeForge

Right picture: Rhonda Closson (Serenity Center), Linda Lipman (Special Care), Rozina Malik (Guardian Center)

Oh What Fun

Residents and patients from three units gathered in the Serenity Center to be entertained by some Christmas line dances. Thank you to our fabulous activities team for gathering so many people for the audience this year and for joining the dancing to our final song. It's a busy time of year, so thank you to the line dancers who were able to fit this into the schedule. We had a great time and enjoyed seeing the smiles from everyone. I am thrilled that many people joined in the singing so my voice could just blend.

I Don't Know

I'm sure you've heard the common phrases "What you don't know can't hurt you" and "Ignorance is bliss." While these are certainly not always true, sometimes they are.

It is inherently human to desire knowledge, yet it's hard to admit when we lack understanding of some things. The good news is that, as with most things, practice makes better. Saying "I don't know" and letting that be enough is liberating - try it! If it is important you can follow up with "I'll find out" but if not; let it go. I'm working on trusting God to inform me of the things I need to know when the time is right.

"For with much wisdom comes much sorrow; the more knowledge, the more grief."- Ecclesiastes 1:18

Auxiliary & Resident Organization News

CVM Christmas Fund Recap

The Christmas Fund Committee would like everyone to know how the exciting total amount donated to the Fund this year was \$52,890. It is so greatly appreciated. What fantastic support!

Thank you all! This increased amount over prior years' campaigns seems to answer the greater need this particular year, in view of the increased economic inflation throughout our country. It does seem that everything we buy has gone up in price amazingly. This includes all necessities, not simply "extras" like unnecessary travel or trifles, but the basic family costs, like groceries, gasoline, and health care. Frosty says, "Thank you so much for the wonderful support this year!"

Where's Larry?

Dear Residents,

The first few weeks of January I will be out on medical leave for a procedure related to a minor issue my physician has been strongly encouraging me to do for several years. I've repeatedly rebuffed that encouragement with, "I'm just too busy." I have decided that with things being as slow as they usually are in early January, it would be a good time for me to do this. I will of course be available to my team by phone, and in my absence CFO Vickie Brashear will be, as they say, "in charge." I will see you in 2024!

Larry

Kroger Shopping Bus

If you are a Garden Home resident and would like to use the CVM Bus to go shopping at Kroger on Tuesday, January 16 at 9:00 a.m., please contact the front desk with your name and Garden Home address. The bus will pick you up at your home. Shopping trips require a Concierge Card — (\$36 for 13 trips). The cards can also be purchased at the front desk.

Transportation Information

Our Transportation Department is very busy and isn't always able to pick up the phone when you call. When you are calling to schedule your transportation needs, please leave a detailed message with your name, phone number, date of appointment, and Dr.'s name and address. This will help our drivers get back to you in a timely manner.

CVM Healthcare Residents Celebrate Christmas Together

The Community Life Services Department would like to thank the Auxiliary members for their financial support in funding for all Healthcare residents to receive individual Christmas gifts, such as throw blankets, shirts, sweaters, body lotions, jewelry etc. In addition to the Christmas gifts, the Auxiliary also provided funding for the residents' Christmas parties. So much joy, gratitude and smiles made for a special celebration.



Auxiliary & Resident Organization News

Functional Fit Testing

Functional Fit Testing is a standardized assessment of strength, balance, endurance, and general wellness. This test will be conducted by the CVM Physical Therapy Department January 23-25. Residents will be provided with a comprehensive assessment including how they compare to their peers. They can call Abbie McKee at (513) 468-1010 to schedule an appointment.

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.

- **Cincinnati Jazz Train** Tuesday, January 16, 7:00 p.m.

This group is sure to dazzle you with their upbeat jazz renditions! They are always a good time!

- **Jan and Robin House** Tuesday, January 30, 7:00 p.m.

Jan and Robin are a music duo that play a variety of musical styles including 50s, 60s, classic country, sing-along songs and popular hits from the golden age of music, using comedy and trivia to keep things entertaining and fun!

CVC TV Weekend Schedule

- Saturday, January 6, 3:00 & 7:00 p.m.
"2023 Nobel Prize Concert"
- Saturday, January 13, 3:00 & 7:00 p.m.
"The Alaskan Archipelago with an Unforgiving Climate"
- Saturday, January 20, 3:00 & 7:00 p.m.
"Iceland Travel Documentary - The Grand Icelandic Road trip"
- Saturday, January 27, 3:00 & 7:00 p.m.
"Deadly Disasters: Blizzards"

CVM Veterans Association Meeting

The next veterans meeting is Wednesday January 17, at 10:00 a.m. in Hockley Chapel.

There will be a guest speaker from the Cincinnati Reds Charitable Foundation, and she will present a program to explain what the team does to support the local communities. All are welcome to attend.

Library News

By Mary Ann Watrous

November/December 2023 Additions:

- Alex Berenson, *Twelve Days*
- Lee Child, *The Secret* (New)
- Ann Cleeves, *Blue Lightning, Dead Water, Cold Earth, Thin Air, Wild Fire* (Shetland Series)*
- Anna E. Collins, *these numbered days*
- George Dawes Green, *The Kingdoms of Savannah*
- Silas House, *Clay's Quilt, A Parchment of Leaves, The Coal Tattoo*
- Freida McFadden, *The Locked Door, The Coworker*
- Boo Walker, *The Singing Trees, The Stars Don't Lie, A Spanish Sunrise*
- Jude Deveraux, *Scarlet Nights* (LP)

Non Fiction

- Pauline Boss, PhD, *Loving Someone Who Has Dementia*

*The Shetland Series is set in Shetland, Scotland. Read them in order and watch how the main characters are developed! Beth and I love this author!

Mason Public Library Outreach

Friday, January 5, 10:00 a.m.

Please remember to turn in your used books to the craft room for pick up.

You Never Know

BY RUTH ODOR,
GARDEN APARTMENT
RESIDENT



CHANGE CAN BE DIFFICULT

Beginnings!

A new year. A new day.

A new notebook. A blank sheet of paper.

This is a good time to take a look at ourselves and see if we need to make some changes in our life.

Even though we do not like change, some changes are comforting. Same schedule, same routine.

Boundaries make us feel secure and safe. And our hearts are filled with gratitude for the One who never changes, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

At the same time, when we take a good look at ourselves, we often see changes we need to make, and we are reluctant to make. The truth hurts, and we don't like to be hurt. The truth makes us uncomfortable, and we don't like to feel uncomfortable.

Mary Lou Lacy says it this way:

*"I'll shine my shoes; I'll scrub my face;
I'll wash and style my hair,
But please don't make me clean my heart--
It hurts to polish there!*

*I'll take a course --improve my mind;
I'll make a whole new start,
But please don't ask for inner growth--
It hurts to change your heart."*

We read books, study the Bible, listen to sermons, without reminding ourselves that there is little profit in any of these things unless they result in action. We are very good at self-deception. James has a great deal to say about self-deception. In Chapter 1, Verse 22, he says, "Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says." Receiving is the root of the Christian life; doing is the fruit of the Christian life. The receiving spirit is right, but it is not enough. Action must follow.

And so, what action will we take in this new year?



The Christian Benevolent Association does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ethnicity, sex, religion, age, qualified handicap or veteran status.