

Connection

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Larry Monroe

Our WHY



Simon Sinek is an English-born American author and inspirational speaker on business leadership. I first met Mr. Sinek at our industry's national convention where he was the keynote speaker. His speech was my first introduction to the concept of discovering your "WHY."

In his book *Finding Your Why* Mr. Sinek shares, "If we want to feel an undying passion for our work, if we want to feel we are contributing to something bigger than ourselves, we all need to know our WHY. WHATs are the products, services and job function we perform. HOWs are values, guiding principles and actions that make us stand out. The WHY defines what the organization stands for—it is the collective purpose, cause, or belief."

Why is it important to understand our WHY? Because I believe it is why God's hand of blessing has been upon our ministry for over sixty years, and it is what will be critical to our future success in a crowded field of competitors, all boasting of excellence in senior living and health services. Our WHY is our primary differentiating factor.

For Christian Village Communities the WHY goes to deeper levels. It transcends beyond beautiful facilities, manicured grounds, delightfully designed interiors, and great programming, all of which are very important to compete in our industry. We don't just provide excellence in senior living and health services; a higher objective is a calling to put Christ at the center of everything we do. We work diligently, intentionally to show the love of Christ to everyone with whom we come in contact. This includes the obvious, our residents and their family members, and the not so obvious, our vendors and our team members. We are committed to being Christ's hands and feet and showing His heart and His love.

"We don't just provide excellence in senior living and health services; a higher objective is a calling to put Christ at the center of everything we do."

It is common for people to share with me that they sense something unique when they walk the halls of our communities. It is something that they characterize as real, as palpable. I recall one daughter of a resident saying to me, "I hope you understand how special your organization is. I can't quite put my finger on it, but I feel something here that I did not feel when Mom and I visited some of your competitors." That daughter was referencing our WHY.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

In the Gospel of John chapter 13 Jesus tells His followers, “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples if you love one another.”

Simon Sinek reminds us, “When we align emotionally with our customers and clients, our connection is much stronger and more meaningful than any affiliation based on features and benefits. That’s what starting with WHY is all about.” Considering our ministry I would add, “When we align emotionally and SPIRITUALLY, our connection is much stronger and more meaningful.”

As you read this issue of the Connection Newsletter there should be no missing our WHY. We thank you for your support of such a ministry. Your prayers and financial support help to sustain our WHY, allowing Christian Village Communities to impact lives for Christ until He returns. ✝

Christian Village Hospice



By Heather Carter, LNHA, LSW, Assistant Administrator/Director of Hospice

The mission statement for Christian Village Hospice (CVH) is “to focus on comfort and quality of life for patients with life-limiting illness, and to provide Christian, comprehensive care to the terminally ill and support their families and caregivers.”

While there may be some hesitancy when one hears the word hospice and we acknowledge that conversations about end-of-life care can be difficult, there is something special that happens when we focus on comfort and quality of life.

The most important part of a patient’s care is to honor their wishes. Most often their primary goal is comfort. However, this is not just physical comfort but also a peace of mind. I’d like to share a few stories of how CVH has helped meet these goals providing care and compassion, quality of life and comfort.

One of our initial referrals was for a patient at The Christian Village at Mt. Healthy who was in the later stages of dementia. The relationship between the patient and her daughter had been damaged for years, to the point that the daughter rarely visited her mom. As the hospice team spent time with the patient and with the family, we were able to provide education and support. This helped foster an understanding that mom’s hurtful comments and actions were a normal part of the dementia process. This in turn helped facilitate a healing between mother and daughter before the patient passed away.

Another CVH patient had a daughter who lived several hours away. The daughter shared her hope of being present with her mom to hold her hand as she passed. As the patient’s condition changed, the hospice team provided communication regarding the changes. The daughter arrived at her mom’s bedside with time to share her love and express her appreciation. There was a specific moment during the visit when one of the hospice team members suggested the daughter come hold her mom’s hand. This patient passed away peacefully with her family present, holding her daughter’s hand.

Recently a Christian Village at Mason resident enrolled in CVH services a few days before his 45th wedding anniversary. As the social worker met with the patient, they discussed how different this anniversary would be and that this was probably the last wedding anniversary the couple would have together. The patient shared his custom of buying his wife red roses for their anniversary. The plan was for the patient to return to



Left: CVH surprised a couple with a cake to celebrate their wedding anniversary. Right: CVH recognized Lawrence for his service in the United States Navy.



the Garden Home he shared with his wife and receive hospice care there. Our hospice team arranged for a remarkable return home, on their anniversary. As the patient arrived at the home in a wheelchair, he presented his wife with a dozen roses. What a glorious homecoming that was. The couple spent the patient's final days at home sharing their wonderful memories.

Recognition of personal milestones and achievements is also important to quality of life. These milestones and achievements are a critical part of each patient's story and end-of-life journey. The CVH staff helps celebrate these events, such as birthdays and anniversaries with the patients and their families. We also share in honoring our Veterans.

Our families have commented, "We fell in love with the staff." "We love that the staff know our family members and remember special stories about them." "We have watched them cry and know how much they care." "Hospice has become an extension of the care we receive from the Christian Village Communities' staff." Our hospice families are thankful for these stories and milestone celebrations and achievements that we recognize. Familiarity, compassion, and Service From the Heart bring a sense of peace and comfort to the patients and their families, fulfilling our mission. ✝

Welcome Dr. Eger to CVC

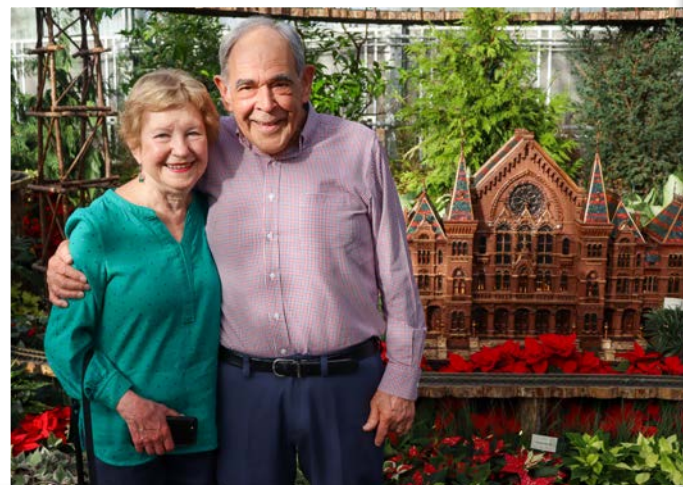


Christian Village Communities, along with its wholly-owned hospice subsidiary, Christian Village Hospice, welcomed Dr. Charles Eger to the hospice medical team.

Dr. Eger has extensive experience as a primary care physician and actively participates in diverse research projects. His knowledge and invaluable medical expertise will enrich the Christian Village Hospice team.

Dr. Eger will serve as alternate Medical Director to support the hospice in its endeavors to provide compassionate end-of-life care to the patients of Christian Village Hospice.

Dr. Eger's commitment to our hospice mission is evident through his service to Christian Village Communities and service on our Board of Directors. ✝



Community Life at CVM

Vibrancy in Shared Experiences



By Tracy Wolcott, Director of Community Life Services

I have the best job in the world! There are a myriad of resident activities that fill our community with joy, laughter, and camaraderie. From enriching educational experiences to lively social gatherings, our residents are actively engaged in a diverse range of events that have fostered connections and created lasting memories.

Laughter and good times are abundant thanks to the numerous social gatherings and entertainment events that have taken place. Music performed in our beautiful Stone Center Auditorium has provided residents with a variety of musical genres, such as our own CVM Ambassador Choir, Great Miami Blue Grass Band, or the Delta Kings Barbershop Chorus.

Our taste buds went on a journey of culinary adventures as we dined at some of the eateries in the area. From the authentic flavors of Hofbräuhaus restaurant to the mouthwatering barbecue delights of Montgomery Inn, these excursions left us craving more.



Olive Garden, Ford's Garage, Grand Oriental Chinese Restaurant and The Golden Lamb also provided delightful experiences, each meal a celebration of good food and great company.

There have been cultural explorations, touring the Wright Patterson Air Force Museum, the Krohn Conservatory, the Cincinnati Museum Center and being transported to the golden age of the Packard automobile at America's Packard Auto Museum where the elegance and craftsmanship of vintage cars was on full display.

Residents also tapped into their artistic talents and creativity, crafting jewelry, soaps, and charming birdhouses, each creation a testament to their ingenuity and imagination.

As memorable as what was learned and experienced at these events and excursions will always be, it's the enrichment experienced only through shared social interactions that is cherished most. The CVM Community Life Services team looks forward to continuing to enrich the joy of togetherness that defines our community spirit. 🌈

New NATCEP Classroom at CVMH

Christian Village Communities began offering NATCEP (Nurse Aide Training Competency and Evaluation Program) classes three times a year in June 2022. This class provides an opportunity to welcome untrained staff that want to pursue a career in long-term care. CVC is dedicated to fostering employee growth, and as a testament to that commitment the NATCEP class provides free training for employees who desire to become a State Trained Nursing Assistant (STNA).

All classes in 2022 and 2023 took place at The Christian Village at Mason (CVM). The Christian Village at Mt. Healthy (CVMH) wanted to join in this endeavor. In the fall of 2023, CVMH Executive Director, Julie Nagele, and CVMH Director of Maintenance, Jay Puckett, shared plans to create a spacious NATCEP classroom and a place for clinical skill practice. The idea of classroom renovation and remodel made sense because updated and modern learning facilities added value to the learning environment.

“The idea of classroom renovation and remodel made sense because updated and modern learning facilities added value to the learning environment.”

The team initiated making Julie’s vision a reality, and as soon as a connecting wall came down, full potential became clear. There would be a large area for lecture and study and a separate area to practice skills. The clinical area was large enough for two beds, with two practice mannequins providing the ability to teach multiple students the skills at one time.

Inventory was taken of the materials needed to provide the students with a rich learning environment. Some of the supplies were shared by CVM’s classroom and others were purchased for the new space.

On February 5, 2024, CVMH welcomed students to the new classroom. Jaimie Glancy, STNA Success Coach and NATCEP Instructor said, “The new classroom provides a good atmosphere to simulate care because the clinical area is set up very close to the layout of a resident’s room.” Students flourished in the new classroom environment, passing our NATCEP class with over 90% for their overall grade. The new classroom also made it easy to offer students the state test in the same type of environment as where they had been practicing. All of the students passed the state test and are currently working as STNAs. 🇺🇸



Personnel Achievements

Cassie Smith - STNA to LPN



Cassie knew in high school that she wanted to become a nurse, and her passion was always for senior care. One particular year in high school, she worked hand-in-hand with her Civics teacher to create a volunteer program available to all students. The students

received course credits for volunteering at the local long-term care facility. One of the highlights was a Senior Citizen Prom she helped to produce.

To begin her journey toward her goal she took a position at Eastgate Springs, because they offered to provide her with the training to become an STNA, often a first step towards becoming a nurse.

When she made her way to CVM as an STNA, she immediately felt welcomed and felt like she was “at home.” She says that the residents have become like family, and she’s very attached to her team of employees.

Cassie says that COVID is actually what pushed her to finally enroll in nursing school. She saw first-hand that nurses were needed, and she wanted to be a part of the solution. She wanted to contribute at a different level. She enrolled at Beckfield College Nursing School. She has nothing but good things to say about the instructors and the experience. However, she had some unfortunate setbacks that kept her from finishing. This didn’t stop her. She took some time to regroup and put into perspective her goals.

When again she felt the time was right, she enrolled at ATA Nursing School. This time everything fell into place. She makes sure to credit her coworkers with always helping her and pushing her forward.

Congratulations to Cassie Smith! She became an LPN in November 2023. 🎉

Ani Rodriguez - STNA to LPN



When asked why she wanted to become a nurse, Ani will tell you that it was because of Grey’s Anatomy. She’s quick to follow that up by saying that it’s really nothing like the show, but she still really enjoys it.

Ani became an STNA during high school at Butler Tech. From there she learned that the school was offering an LPN program where the first half of the program would be free of cost. It was a great opportunity, so as a sophomore she started nursing school.

The program was challenging from the start. There was so much work to complete in such a short time. They had a test every other day and a great deal of homework daily. On top of the hard work, there were other dilemmas. As a nursing student, Ani was unable to attend many high school events due to the requirements of the program. That made it difficult for a teenager. She says that she understood she needed to make those sacrifices to be successful and to reach her goal. Her class started out with 12 student nurses, and she was one of six who made it to graduation day.

Ani did her preceptorship here at CVM with Jennifer Hawkins serving as her preceptor. She loved the time she spent here and decided that this was where she wanted to work as a nurse. Ani started working at The Christian Village at Mason as an STNA on February 6, 2024.

Congratulations to Ani Rodriguez! On February 26, 2024, she became an LPN and is excited about serving here! 🎉

Talent Show at CVMH

By Victoria Irwin, Director of Life Enrichment

The mission of Christian Village Communities is to guide older adults to joyful and purposeful life experiences in a faith-filled community. The Life Enrichment Department of The Christian Village as Mt. Healthy exists to support this mission by providing the residents of our Life Plan Community with fun, informative, socially stimulating events and activities.

One example of an extraordinary event was a recent talent show. Individuals, including both residents and staff, put together their own routines and practiced for over two months. The result was an amazing hour-long show that featured thirteen unique acts, wonderful performances including singing, dancing, comedy, lip syncing, and inspiring story telling. One resident even taught the others sign language and how to sign, “Jesus Loves Me!”



The Life Enrichment Team works hard to create the best quality of life possible for the residents we serve. A resident said it best in a note sent to the Life Enrichment team about the talent show: “You and your staff have put a spark in us, and who knows what talent will be uncovered in the future. See, there is life in us old folks!”

There is indeed a great deal of life in our residents, and it is an honor to be a part of helping them show it! The smiles we bring daily and the life we live with them is a rare gift. Our “work” is a calling, a calling to serve others with Christian love and care in the twilight of their years.

We look forward to the future with hopeful hearts full of excitement for what is to come. ✝



Radiant Collective

Sowing Seeds for Future Blessings



By Jeff Bradley, VP of Development

I've always loved a good story. Not just any story, though. Only the tales that seem larger than life! As a kid, I couldn't get enough of fictional characters like Paul Bunyan or Rocky Balboa, or real-life heroes who "beat the odds" like Babe Ruth and Henry Ford.

Of course, Biblical giants like Moses, Joshua, David, and Jonah always captivated my attention. However, a peculiar story from American folklore that always amazed me as a child, and still makes me wonder today, is the story of John Chapman. Who is John Chapman? Well, you may know him by his famous nickname...Johnny Appleseed.

Johnny Appleseed's tale seems so unreal that I had to research it again to verify that it is actually true! Very little is known about him except that John was born in Massachusetts in 1744 and famously walked...and walked, mile after mile, spreading apple seeds along his way. Oral accounts of his daily life became legends. He slept outdoors and lived a very modest life, dedicated to sowing apple seeds that would eventually become trees. Historians believe that he planted his first trees in the Allegheny Valley of Pennsylvania and moved west, carrying his bag of apple seeds with him as he walked. John Chapman died in 1845 and this folk hero walked an estimated 100,000 miles during his lifetime!

I can only speculate that Mr. Appleseed had a vision for the future, and it does not appear that he planted seeds entirely for his own benefit. He must have been looking forward, planning for the needs of others. He would never see the harvest of his efforts or enjoy the literal "fruits of his labor." Those seeds became trees that would provide for pioneers who followed his trail of apples as they traveled west. Johnny labored and prepared a future for those who would eventually rely on his contributions.

I like to think that those who give to the CBA Foundation are planting seeds as well. Some gifts will provide immediate "fruit" while others will provide for a future

"harvest." The Radiant Collective, our planned giving program, was planted to preserve the legacy of the ministry for generations to come. Our vision is to provide a future of hope and light for those who may experience dark days by fortifying programs like the Compassionate Care Subsidy. Planning gifts as a part of an estate or another financial plan allows you to maintain your assets today while sowing seeds for a future harvest of hope tomorrow.

Would you prayerfully consider joining the Radiant Collective by including the CBA Foundation in your financial and estate planning? Join other members of Radiant Collective who are shining forth a radiant light, sowing seeds of love that will preserve a legacy of wisdom, virtue, and brilliant hope! Contact our development team today at 513-701-3418. ✝



"We love living at The Christian Village at Mason! We moved here earlier than planned, and the many activities and programs have justified our decision. The residents and staff are wonderful! To show our appreciation for the lifestyle we enjoy, we are pleased to contribute in a way that benefits both us and the community!"

Hank and Nina Coyle
*Radiant Collective Members
and CVM Residents*

Employee Longevity

A Hallmark of Christian Village Communities

Throughout the 57-year history The Christian Village at Mt. Healthy (CVMH) has been honored to work with many valuable employees. When one retires, it gives us an opportunity to reflect on their work journey and look back on fond memories. In 2024, we bid adieu to Inez Padmore, Sue Jones, and Sherrie Grubbs after many years of distinguished service. Combined these ladies have 65 years of service to CVMH.

Inez Padmore joined CVMH in 2009 in our Dietary Department and retired at the end of February. She was extremely devoted to the residents and always paid attention to every detail to make sure they were happy. This was true in our dining room as well as on the nursing floors. Inez will be especially missed by the kitchen staff, where she was known for being extremely knowledgeable and able to excel at every task. She plans to travel and spend time with her husband and family in her retirement, and we wish her the best.

Sue Jones joined CVMH in 1981 in the position of STNA, dedicating herself to our residents for 43 years. When she was 22 years old Sue worked as a carhop at the local Frisch's. At that time she was attending White Oak Christian Church where CBA visionary and first Chair of the Board, Dr. E. Richard Crabtree was the minister. When we offered her a job, she jumped at the opportunity and has never looked back. Sue says one of the best developments through the years has been that CVMH continues to feel more like home than an institutional nursing home. Her desire has always been for the residents to feel comfortable since for most we are their last home. She regards the resident's family members as her family, and she always tries to make it to every funeral when someone she has cared for passes. In her retirement, Sue plans to keep busy taking care of her 2-acre yard and garden and continue a long-established tradition of bringing fresh tomatoes and zucchinis to the CVMH employee breakroom for team members to share. We wish Sue the best in her retirement and will miss her dearly.

Sherrie Grubbs joined CVMH full time in 2017 in our Social Services Department. Initially she was hired temporarily to cover a position in the Admissions Department vacated by someone on maternity leave. While in that position we fell in love with her and offered her a permanent position in Social Services. Sherrie has worked in healthcare since she was 15 years of age and previously worked with at-risk youth. She has always felt called to be a caregiver and is extremely active in her church. She feels that helping others is what God has called her to do. After she retires on April 29th, Sherrie plans to spend quality time with her husband and family, traveling together with a goal of visiting all 50 states. We are grateful for the work Sherrie has done for us over the years and wish her a happy retirement. ✝



Jaimie Glancy, LPN, American Red Cross First Aide/CPR/AED Instructor

Jaimie Glancy, LPN, is now an American Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED Instructor, adding another layer of expertise to her role as STNA Success Coach at The Christian Village at Mt. Healthy.

CPR certification is a mandatory requirement for all nurses, ensuring they remain equipped with life-saving skills. Every two years, nurses undergo CPR/AED training to uphold their certification, with a focus on delivering high-quality CPR.

In January 2024, Jaimie approached the leadership team expressing her eagerness to enhance her CPR education and acquire instructor certification. Recognizing her dedication, the leadership team wholeheartedly supported her pursuit. Jaimie commenced online coursework in January and culminated her training with an intensive all-day session on March 12, 2024, earning her instructor certification.



Jaimie's motivation stemmed from the understanding that proper CPR training can significantly impact outcomes in critical situations. With her new credentials, Jaimie is poised to lead CPR training sessions for our nursing staff, emphasizing the importance of precise techniques for effective life-saving interventions. Providing this training is a big responsibility but also a tremendous honor. Few individuals can claim their work directly influences life and death outcomes, yet Jaimie Glancy stands among them. Through her guidance, she empowers our nurses to possess the same capability, ensuring our community receives the highest standard of care when it matters most. 🇺🇸

Night of Stars

Please mark September 12, 2024, on your calendar as we will host the third annual Night of Stars at 6:30 p.m. in the Stone Center Auditorium on the campus of The Christian Village at Mason. Join us as we honor ten (10) team members, five from each of our communities, who exemplify the mission of Christian Village Communities by their extraordinary performance.

This year at Night of Stars you'll enjoy beautiful music, amazing food, wonderful fellowship, and a whole lot of fun! You won't want to miss our featured speaker, Linda Page Mirante, as she shares her passion for God's love and His promises, infused with her distinct brand of humor, motivation, and encouragement. The "Stars" of our evening will then take center stage as we hear the heartwarming stories of our team members that display daily excellence in their care for our residents and patients.

Save the Date for this joyous event! You won't want to miss it! 🇺🇸

Memorial Gifts

In Memory Of

Alma "Clio" Adler

Robert & Deborah Adler

Nancy Arulf

William & Martha Mendez

John Bamber

Ruth Ann Bamber

Bart Bartholme & Jan Shelton

Dee Bartholme & Al Shelton

Eloise & Roy Beatty

Larry & Kathy Monroe

Sue Beck

Clifford Beck

Jean Beeson

Anthony & Linda Beeson

Thelma J. Beeson

Anthony & Linda Beeson

Sam & Henrietta Beitler

Mark & Karen Gambill

Alex Betley

James & Sherry Betlej

Dorothy Birt

Richard & Joanne Biedinger

Anne Clayton

Julianne Cryder

William & Martha Mendez

Linda Schaffeld

Kathleen Yeager

Jonathan Bowers

Rich & Nancy Miles

Marie Brandl

LuAnne Buck

Emily Diaz

Phyllis Marjamaki

Norman & Sally McAninch

Ray & Fern Brestel

Dick & Jerilyn Clegg

Eleanor Burt

Jeffery Burt

Donald Dufek

Richard Hanley

Michael Marek

Betty Cain

Herman & Nancy Samendinger

Ruth Swain

John Carter

Jim & Winnie Carter

Frank, Luke, Marie & Robert Clayton

Winifred Clayton

William Cox

Miriam Cox

Carlene Crum

Bonnie Brockert

Raymond Crum

Robert & Norma Crum

Marjorie Ellsworth

Trudy Fruechtemeyer

Mary Kane

Jean Kratochvil

Chris Meisner

Darrell Pitchford

Ann Ross

Larry Ross

Herbert & Dianne Schneider

Charlotte Stiens

Charles Zindel

Norma Crum

Blake Ross

Mabel Curtsinger

Ronald & Ann Saemann

Betty Dailey

Richard & Joanne Biedinger

Marilyn Buzza

James Dailey

Robert & Anne Dorward

Joyce Drake

Judith Johnson

Louis & Wilma Kressin

William & Martha Mendez

Tom & Kay Moll

Ralph Ohr

Herbert & Dianne Schneider

Ruth Sherbon

Julia Sprong Blanche Walker

Robert Dell

Mary Lohman

Naomie Devitt

Patricia Balboni

Verna Dolle

Dennis & Barbara Barger

Ernest Downs

Dorothy Downs

John Eger

James & Linda Eger

Ken Eger

James & Linda Eger

Robert & Joyce Eger

Charles & Sadie Eger

Edna Ellis

William & Martha Mendez

Ronald Fancher

Nancy Fancher

Charles Fowler, Jr

Lois Fowler

Dr. Wayne Gardiner

Nancy Gardiner

Greg Gardiner

Nancy Gardiner

Donald Griffin

Audrey Griffin

Cannie Hamilton

Elizabeth Osburn

Millie Hastings

Myron & Joyce Leistler

Arthur Henderson

David & Eva Grubbs

Fred, Ronald, and Stanley Henderson

David & Eva Grubbs

Robert Hesse

Deborah Stair

Dorothy Heuer

Bob & Carol Siebenburgen

Victor & June Hunter

M. A. Pitzer

Gwen Jasper

Joyce Drake

James & Boots Johnson

Sam & Donna Zalatoris

Robert Johnson

Wilbur & Phyllis Dils

George & Henrietta Kehler

William Kehler

Elaine Kennedy

Marilyn Schimanski

Irene Key

David & Jennifer Key

John Kinner

Paul Kinner

Everitt Kitchen

Susan Kitchen

William Kratochvil

Jean Kratochvil

Allen Kurtz

Steven Kurtz

Evelyn Landen

JoAnn Reese

Stephen Leslie

Rita Leslie

Mae Lindner

Lloyd & Judith Lindner

Ellen Mains

Douglas & Jane Kieninger
Harold Mains

James & Rosemary Maness

Greg & Brenda Martin

Sally Maritt

Richard & Joanne Biedinger
Joyce Drake
Louis & Wilma Kressin
Herman & Nancy Samendinger

Ralph Massmann

Barbara Murray

Betty McCann

Jonathan & Kathy McCann

Dale & Judy McCann

Jonathan & Kathy McCann
Philip Mitchell

Heidi Messinger

Robert Messinger

Marilyn Meyer

Fred Carty

Brian Monroe

Larry & Kathy Monroe

Bob & Dorothy Monroe

Larry & Kathy Monroe

Lance Monroe

Larry & Kathy Monroe

Ivan Morse

Evangeline Morse

Lois Morse

George & Elaine Breuer
Kenneth & Ramona Goble
Blanche Walker

Doris Odor

Anton Allen
Ernest Allen
Pamela Allen
Christ's Church at Mason
William & Rowena Dowden
Joyce Drake

Freda Hill

Louis & Wilma Kressin

Tom & Kay Moll

Jaqueline Moreland

Jason & Amy Newlon

Donald & Shelley Odor

Kevin & Ginger Odor

Fred & Eleanor Schreiber

Robert Schreiber

Jeanie Souders

Gertrude Omps

Bonnie Brockert

Marilyn Buzza

Doris Dicken

Robert & Anne Dorward

Marjorie Elsworth

Julie McKay

William & Martha Mendez

Dean & Mary Jo Perrigo

Herbert & Dianne Schneider

Charlotte Stiens

Barbara Vogt

Richard Walthour

Robert & Susan Wilson

David Phillips

Gerald & Delores Shannon

Richard Reeves

Charles & Bonnie Bauer
Roberta Reeves

Billie Reid

Joyce Sewell

Carol Rhyner

Orson & Judith Hornsby

Richard & Betty Richter

Anonymous

Robert Ruble

James & Cynthia Spicer

Robert Ryan

Barbara Lyons
Dick & Teresa Neel
Joe & Julie Ryan
Beth Stahl

Buddy Sarno

Bryan & Pamela Eubanks

Ivy Scheffel

Kenneth Scheffel

Janet Shelton

Alton Shelton

Gerald Siddall

Robert & Anne Dorward

Roger & Kathy Gross

Tom & Kay Moll

Julia Sprong

Thomas Smith

Josephine Smith

Mildred Spicker

Thomas & Carol Spicker

Jane Stoll

E Wayne & Janet Stout

Janette Taylor

Louis & Wilma Kressin
Beth Rowland
Herman & Nancy Samendinger
Blanche Walker
Doris Wotring

Rita Tenkman

Don & Pam Mortimer

Norma Tucker

David & Maxine Tucker

Alberta Vaughan

David & Donna Vaughan

Max Walker

Blanche Walker

Henry Wedig

Joyce Drake
Louis & Wilma Kressin

Ivan Wells

Nancy Wells

Kenneth Wernicke

Ann Appleton
Emily Pack
Dan Perlmutter
Janice Sauder
Judith Wernicke

Diann Werts

Laura Werts

Donald & Anna White

Tom & Rhonda White

Audrey Whitney

Greg Hauer
Sheri Talbot

Honor Gifts

Gifts Given July 1 – December 31, 2023

In Honor Of

Doris Berman

Richard & Joanne Biedinger
Herman & Nancy Samendinger

Pamela Bick

Meister Sports Management LTD

Howard & Martha Brammer

Tony & Laura George

Charles Eger

Dr. Charles & Sadie Eger

Dr. Charles & Sadie Eger

David & Mildred Merkel

William & Marion Fotheringham

Terri Baroch

Helen Fry

Lawrence & Joyce Kent

Eleanora Heidenreich

The Miramar Employees Annual
Giving Fund

Joe and Donna Immelt

Stephen & Susan Immelt

Ruth Odor

Anna Lucas
Mike & Rosemary Shannon
Tracy Wolcott

Alton Shelton

Judith Johnson

Julia Sprong

Gary & Pat Sprong

Bethany Stratman

Shirley Burke
Sharon Stratman

Henry & Marilyn Wedig

Marilyn Buzza

Thelma Wright

Ron & Liz Morris

Celebrating the Solar Eclipse

“The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display His craftsmanship.”

Psalms 19:1 (NLT)



On April 8, 2024, Christian Village Communities joined millions of Ohioans and millions more across the country in celebrating the cosmic phenomenon of the “total” solar eclipse. The “Great American Eclipse” is the first of its kind since 2017, and first total solar eclipse in Ohio since 1806!

It could not have been a better day for our residents and staff to enjoy this event! While previous forecasts had threatened potential cloud cover, all were blessed with clear skies, a light breeze, and 75-degree weather. Around 2:30 p.m., our outstanding maintenance crews positioned chairs and tables in the optimal viewing areas allowing our residents, visitors, and staff to pick out the best spots. The activities teams made sure to outfit each attendee with the appropriate eyewear, making sure to keep future optometry visits to a minimum! Of course, no once-in-a-lifetime event could go on without refreshments! Cool water and frozen drinks were enjoyed and a well-known southern delicacy, the Moon-Pie, made an appearance at the Mason viewing!





The skies began to darken around 3 p.m. as anticipation for the eclipse grew. While our campuses in Mt. Healthy, OH and Mason, OH are located just outside of the path of totality, it was “close enough” as the deep partial eclipse provided our communities a coverage magnitude of 99.77 percent. The automatic exterior lights in our communities were triggered as day turned to night and jackets, sweatshirts, and blankets wrapped up many as temperatures dropped. At 3:09 p.m., our version of “totality” was reached as protected eyes scanned the heavens, experiencing the universal miracle that only God could create.

As quickly as darkness came, it began to retreat, and the sun resumed its duties of warming and brightening our collective days. As our eclipse viewers began their retreat, going back to their regular schedules, many expressed their excitement, grateful to experience and enjoy this natural wonder. It is projected that the next total solar eclipse in Ohio will occur on September 14, 2099. So, mark your calendars, hold on to those eclipse glasses, and join us then! Hopefully, we can still find the Moon-Pies! 🇺🇸



Christian Benevolent Association Foundation

Helping People Finish Well



By Jeff Bradley, VP of Development

As of the writing of this article, we are just a few days away from experiencing the annual phenomenon known as...March Madness. The annual NCAA Men's and Women's National Basketball Championships are about to "tip-off." While some are very interested in the players, teams, and eventual outcomes of the tournaments, most Americans are more concerned about filling out their brackets! It is estimated that 70 million brackets are completed each year, some by die-hard basketball fans and some by those who don't even know what a basketball is! According to ncaa.com, the odds of a perfectly completed bracket are one in 9.2 quintillion! No wonder Warren Buffet pledged \$1 Billion dollars to any employee who would predict the perfect outcome of over 60 basketball games!

Predicting the future. If only someone could figure out how to do that! How much easier would life become if we always knew what was ahead of us. Planning for anything would be a piece of cake! We would make more decisions at the exact correct time. If only we had the ability to foresee the challenges ahead on our path of life.

We hear many stories of how challenges affected the plans and decisions of our residents and their families. In most cases our communities are the last earthly home our residents will inhabit as the last chapters of life are written. We are a part of their "retirement plan," one that provides a Christian continuum of care for the remainder of human life. But even with careful planning, gaps may occur and one's life may last longer than accumulated resources.

The Christian Benevolent Association Foundation (CBAF) can fill these gaps for those who qualify. Since its inception, the CBAF has partnered with many individuals, churches, and organizations to lovingly provide subsidy grants to those who need financial assistance. As life expectancies trend longer and health care costs grow, it is anticipated that the need for subsidy grants will increase. For some, what should have been a comfortable retirement and a fitting end to a plan, now becomes filled with uncertainty and concern.

While often these unexpected shortfalls are unpredictable, together, we can provide a certain future that honors lives well-lived. There are many ways you can partner with us and support the CBAF. One popular avenue is through a qualified charitable distribution (QCD). In lieu of receiving a required minimum distribution (RMD) from a qualified retirement account, you can designate these funds to pass directly to the CBAF and avoid income tax. This allows you to give more, avoid the IRS, and, most importantly, aid someone at a time of their greatest need.

"While often these unexpected shortfalls are unpredictable, together, we can provide a certain future that honors lives well-lived."

To those who support us, please accept our sincere appreciation. Your partnership helps to transform an uncertain ending into a beautiful one. If you haven't supported the CBAF, please accept our invitation to join us today and ensure that those in need finish well.

Oh, one more thing...if you had a perfect bracket, give us a call! 



Volunteers - A Service From the Heart

By Heather Carter, LNHA, LSW, Assistant Administrator/Director of Hospice



A volunteer is described as someone who willingly offers their time, talents and service, for a cause or organization. They are committed to helping a cause or an organization become stronger.

Volunteers contribute to a more enriching and fulfilling quality of life for those receiving care. They help provide companionship, socialization and friendships and meaningful activities to help fill the days of our residents. I believe you could summarize these descriptions by saying that volunteers truly exemplify, "Service From the Heart."

Over the years our residents have benefited from volunteers, who have provided one-on-one visits, pet therapy, music therapy and assisted with a variety of activities, such as calling a Bingo game or helping with a craft. A few years ago, as the initial wave of the COVID-19 virus hit our communities and the public, volunteer programs came to a halt.

Our communities have greatly missed our volunteers. We miss the smiles and joy they bring our residents. As we look to rebuild our volunteer program, we encourage everyone to take a few minutes to consider how becoming a volunteer can bless your life. Volunteering helps promote physical activity, offers opportunity for skill utilization, and contributes to a healthier, more active lifestyle. The act of giving has been linked to increased levels of happiness. Volunteering provides a path for individuals to make a positive impact on others, leading to a sense of accomplishment and overall well-being.

There are many ways to serve the residents within our communities. If you or someone you know has an interest in providing social engagement with others through volunteerism, please contact us at Christian Village Communities. Volunteer applications are located on our website (www.christianvillages.org). We look forward to your service and the many benefits for everyone. ✝



Community Life at CVMH



By Victoria Irwin, Life Enrichment Director

Resident life is a priority at The Christian Village at Mt. Healthy (CVMH)! We have been filling the days with engaging crafts, exciting outings, invigorating parties, socials, and most of all, fun!

We honored our esteemed Veterans during our Veteran's Day Luncheon. It was a pleasure to pay tribute to the men and women who have so dutifully served their country.

In December we enjoyed the always anticipated Annual Family and Friends Christmas Party. Residents enjoyed violin music, hot cocoa, gifts, games, a sing-along, and a very special visit from Santa (our own Director of Environmental Services, Jay Puckett) and his merry band of happy helpers! To further ring in the holiday season, the residents enjoyed a trip to Reindeer Ridge to pet the reindeer, saw the lights one last time at Coney Island, and admired the beautiful train displays at EnterTRAINment Junction. The New Year was welcomed in with an exciting New Year's Eve Party. Many shared their New Year's Resolutions and enjoyed some trivia and games.

2024 marked the very first annual "Snow-Ball." The Resident Community Center was decorated from floor to ceiling with white glowing lights. Residents arrived dressed in their best and the night was filled with dancing, music, friends, and fellowship. One resident exclaimed, "It's been over 30 years since I have danced! If you had told me years ago that I would be dancing in 2024 I wouldn't have believed you!" Another resident took the lead in a conga line, and everyone joined in smiling as they made their way through the room. It was a magical night to say the least.

We are looking forward to many future events and fun activities as the year continues. Many residents have already begun planning their act for the next talent show in the Fall. As the weather warms, we look forward to outings, picnics, and enjoying the beautiful grounds at CVMH.

The Life Enrichment Team and the events they plan are an integral part of resident happiness and satisfaction at CVMH. One resident sent a note to the team saying, "You have put a spark in us, and reminded us that there is still life in us "old folks!" It's hard to regard what our team does as work when caring for others fills us with such a sense of love and pride. 🏡

"It's been over 30 years since I have danced! If you told me years ago that I would be dancing in 2024 I wouldn't have believed you!"



New Leaders at CVC

The Christian Village at Mt. Healthy

Jay Puckett



Jay joined the maintenance team at CVMH in May of 2010. He was promoted to Maintenance Director in January 2024.

When reflecting on this new position Jay shares, “I have always enjoyed working at CVMH and I love doing my part in taking care of our residents. A move into a retirement community can be difficult for a new resident and their family member. My goal is to make this a little easier for them. I look forward to working everyday to make our campus a brighter, happier place for all.”

When not working, Jay enjoys spending time with his wife, grandkids, and family. He likes to work outside in the yard and flower gardens.

Michelle Smith



Michelle moved to Mason, Ohio, from Pennsylvania in 2021. She joined The Christian Village at Mason housekeeping and laundry team in October 2022 with over 4 years of experience in the field. In December 2023, she was promoted to Housekeeping Supervisor at The Christian Village at Mt. Healthy. She’s working hard in this new role and enjoys helping the residents and other employees.

In her leisure time, Michelle enjoys doing new things around the city with her daughter. They attend hockey games, baseball games, and like to try out new restaurants and visit new parks. During the summer months, you can find them at Kings Island!

The Christian Village at Mason

Jenny Hawkins



Jenny joined the CVM nursing team in January 2024 as the Nursing Scheduler, responsible for arranging schedules for over 120 employees.

She brings with her 20 years of experience in healthcare. Of those, 18 were focused on scheduling, Human Resources, and other administrative responsibilities.

Jenny has 2 beautiful daughters and one wonderful and sweet grandson. She loves spending time with them all. In her spare time, she loves to hunt, fish, listen to live music, travel, and spend time with friends and family.



Laura Kurtz

Laura joined CVM in October 2023 as a Billing Specialist in the Business Office. She is a graduate of Ross High School and attended Miami University following high school.


When Laura is not at work she enjoys spending time with her family. She and her husband have been married for 6 years. She has a 14-year-old daughter who plays Club Volleyball for Borderline as well as for Hamilton High School. She also enjoys being outside swimming, hiking, off-roading, growing vegetables in her garden, taking vacations, and spending time with the family at Lake Norris.



Tomi Maruna

Tomi joined CVM in February 2024 as Director of Fitness and Wellness. Certified as a Functional Aging Group Exercise Specialist and a SilverSneaker instructor, she is dedicated to promoting active and healthy aging. Tomi's passions include fall prevention, Parkinson's programs, and "Movement for Every BODY" through an organization known as, Original Strength.

As a full-time advocate for senior fitness, her desire is to lead engaging classes and build exercise programs that will keep everyone fit, active, and having a great time.


Tomi is married with 3 children and 4 grandchildren. She loves being active and spending time with friends and family. 

The Required Minimum Distribution

A Great Way to Give for Many Donors

Have you ever considered giving to our ministry through the RMD (Required Minimum Distribution) from an IRA or Employer Sponsored Retirement Plan?

Depending on a donor's financial situation, gifts made directly from the RMD to a qualified not-for-profit such as the CBA Foundation may be an advantageous way to give. If the income from these required withdrawals is not really needed, tax on the withdrawal can be avoided by rolling it directly to the CBA Foundation as a donation. It is important to consult with your financial advisor or tax consultant for assistance with these gift transfers, as certain limitations apply, and IRS forms are required for an RMD transfer.

Additional information about the RMD in general and how to use these withdrawals as a donation is available by contacting Jeff Bradley, Vice President of Development, at jeff.bradley@christianvillages.org. 





Pavilion Ribbon Cutting

By Lizz Stephens, VP Marketing & Business Strategy



The Christian Village at Mason (CVM) and The Christian Village at Mt. Healthy have a long-standing reputation as two of Cincinnati's finest Life Plan Communities. From the gorgeous campus settings to the award-winning healthcare, they are two very special communities that are home to about 650 residents.

CVM is situated on 75 immaculately manicured acres and features an array of beautiful amenities to be enjoyed by our robust independent living population and our residents who reside in our healthcare center. You may recall reading about the new outdoor pavilion in a previous edition of the Connection. The new pavilion replaced an original picnic shelter that was used by residents often in the warmer months for activities and events including cookouts, ice cream socials, and concerts. The management team recognized that our residents deserve only the very best and over the past months we have invested considerable resources in improving this structure.



“The management team recognized that our residents deserve only the very best and over the past months we have invested considerable resources in improving this structure.”



The original shelter had no restrooms and no kitchen for meal preparation. In addition, it had limited space for resident use and a small storage area that was not impervious to the elements and was not climate controlled. The old shelter was demolished and following a construction process that spanned several months, the beautiful new pavilion was finally ready for our residents to enjoy!



Residents and guests were invited to a ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony on April 16. After remarks from Larry Monroe, President and CEO of Christian Village Communities, Jeff Bradley, Vice President of Development and a prayer by Chaplain David Ray, residents enjoyed refreshments while previewing the new 3,600 sq. ft. pavilion featuring a beautiful gas fireplace with fireside lounge area and restrooms. Other added features of the new structure include 3,500 sq. ft. of climate-controlled storage and 48 new parking spaces.



A special part of the ribbon cutting event was the naming of the pavilion kitchen galley fellowship area as The Brammer Galley. This was named to honor CVM residents Howard and Martha Brammer in conjunction with a generous donor gift in support of the pavilion.



The new pavilion is an amenity our residents will enjoy for years to come, and our guests and prospective residents are sure to find as inspiring. ✚



411 Western Row Rd
Mason, OH 45040

If you have an address change or would like to be removed from our mailing list, please email amie.kocher@christianvillages.org

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage
PAID
Cincinnati, OH
Permit No. 4962



The Christian Benevolent Association does not discriminate on basis of race, sex, religion, age, qualified handicap, or veteran.

Christian Village Communities

Larry Monroe, President & CEO
Vickie Brashear, CFO
411 Western Row Rd
Mason, OH 45040
(513) 701-3448
www.christianvillages.org


The Christian Village at Mason CVM Health Care Facility

Bob Slade, LNHA, VP of Operations
411 Western Row Rd
Mason, OH 45040
(513) 398-1486
www.christianvillages.org

The Christian Village at Mt. Healthy

Julie Nagele, LNHA, Executive Director
8097 Hamilton Ave
Cincinnati, OH 45231
(513) 931-5000
www.christianvillages.org

The mission of Christian Village Communities is to guide older adults to joyful and purposeful life experiences in a faith-filled community.

Care is the heart and soul of everything we do. We are devoted to maintaining the highest standards of expertise and service in health and wellness. We are committed to serving each person as though they were our own family; with love, compassion and excellence. 

BE SURE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO VIEW THE CALENDAR OF EVENTS
www.christianvillages.org

Make a profound difference in the lives of seniors and give today!

