



Celebrating the Leadership of Larry Monroe, President & CEO

Residents and staff came together to celebrate the outstanding leadership of Larry Monroe, who served for twelve years as President and CEO of Christian Village Communities. We expressed our heartfelt gratitude for his service, compassion, and dedication to Christian Village Communities throughout his tenure. Under his leadership, we achieved unprecedented milestones. We wish him a wonderful retirement!

As Larry moves into retirement, we joyfully welcome Vickie Brashear as our incoming President and CEO. We look forward to the continued expansion of CVC's mission under her guidance.

Birthdays, Celebrations and Updates



January Birthdays

This information is for
The Christian Village at Mason residents.



January Anniversaries

This information is for
The Christian Village at Mason residents.

Village Clinic Hours

7169 Village Drive

Monday - Thursday, 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 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

*Concierge Cards—\$36 for 13 trips

For errand & medical trips within 5 miles.

*Appointments by Mile or Hour

For medical appointments and other trips over 5 miles, or if you require the driver to stay with you, pricing listed below:

- \$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



Back toward the beginning of the last century, Louisa Fletcher published a poem that's long held my attention. It voices a wishful yearning—after review of things undone or misdone in days past—to come upon **“some wonderful place called the Land of Beginning Again.”**

The NEW YEAR is often a time of making resolutions, purposeful promises that we will try to change our lives for the better. Wanting to start over again, to become something NEW. Occasionally, we succeed. Often, we don't. But the longing is still there.

The truth is, most of us—left to our own human strengths—don't do so well at change. But we have divine help, if we accept it.

Paul, the Apostle, wrote in 2 Corinthians 5:17 (Msg) that: **“ . . . anyone united with the Messiah (Christ) gets a fresh start, is created new.** The old life is gone; a new life emerges!”

Let me now take you to the opening lines of Louisa Fletcher's poem to capture her yearning (and perhaps yours, too):

**I wish that there were some wonderful place
Called the Land of Beginning Again,**
Where all our mistakes and all our heartaches
And all our poor, selfish grief
Could be dropped, like a shabby old coat,
at the door and never put on again . . .

Our life here is full of re-beginnings at best—the first our new birth into Christ, and then all those progressive acts of change that God helps us further achieve along the way.

But there is coming a day when all that is broken will become **NEW forever.**

I love the words of Revelation 21 which describe our life to come, where “. . . there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.” (vs. 4 NLT)

Then follows a word from “the one sitting on the throne” who says: **“Look, I am making EVERYTHING NEW!”** (vs. 5 NLT)

Here's to the new in 2025, but especially to “everything new” that will be ours in the life to come!



And, to borrow the poem's words, that will be anything but “shabby!”

Contact Information

Tune to CVC TV for the Chaplain's Devotions (Tuesday & Thursday, 11:00 a.m.) and Stone Center Worship (Sunday, 10:15 a.m.).

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

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

This information is for
The Christian Village at Mason residents.

Social Services

BY HEATHER CARTER, LSW, DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Social Service Scoop -

File of Life

The File of Life is an important document. This provides medical and emergency contact information to both Christian Village at Mason and to local paramedics in the event of an emergency. The File of Life should be kept in the red magnetic pouch and placed on your refrigerator.

There have been recent situations where paramedics have not been able to locate this information or the information on the form was not current. This may cause a delay in notification to your emergency contact. More importantly, this may cause a delay in proper treatment.

It is just as important that you keep a copy of Advanced Directive accessible. Advanced Directives include Health Care Power of Attorney, Living Will and State of Ohio Do Not Resuscitate forms. I would recommend that these documents be kept near the File of Life. You may consider notating on the File of Life form where 911 responders can easily access the Advanced Directives. I recommend a copy of the forms be placed in an envelope placed on top of your refrigerator.

I would also encourage you to provide Christian Village at Mason with a copy of these documents.

While we hope none of these documents are ever needed, it is important that medical responders are aware of your health needs and your wishes.

There are copies of the blank File of Life forms available at the reception desk and in the Social Service Office. If you have any questions about any of these documents or how to complete Advanced Directives, please feel free to contact me at **(513) 701-3403**.

I urge you to keep your File of Life up to date.

Support Group

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 meeting is scheduled for **January 14, 2025**, from **10:30a.m. – 12:00p.m.** The Caregiver Support Group meets in the **Village Clinic** located at **7169 Crescent Drive**.



The Well

BY TOMI MARUNA, DIRECTOR OF FITNESS & WELLNESS

Happy New Year! A Fresh Start for Your Fitness Journey

As we welcome the New Year, it's the perfect time to reflect, reset, and refocus on our health and wellness goals. Most of us are already familiar with the benefits of regular exercise and nutritious eating—better energy, improved strength, and a healthier outlook. But what if the missing piece isn't what you do, but how you think?

A positive mindset can make all the difference in turning your goals into lasting habits. Instead of viewing exercise or healthy eating as chores, try reframing them as opportunities. Each workout is a chance to grow stronger, and every nutritious meal is a gift to your body. Set small, realistic goals that align with your lifestyle, and celebrate even the smallest victories. Progress isn't about perfection—it's about persistence.



I understand that many of you may be managing chronic pain or recovering from injuries. These challenges are real, but they don't mean movement isn't possible. There's always something you can do! Gentle chair exercises, stretching routines, or even a short walk can have a profound impact on your quality of life. Movement, no matter how small, improves circulation, boosts mood, and helps maintain independence.

This year let's focus on what we can do rather than what we can't. Explore classes or activities that work for your abilities and interests—Strength & Stability, Chair Fit, Virtual classes, or working with me one on one to find what options are available is a good place to start. Find joy in movement and surround yourself with a community that supports your journey.

As you set your intentions for the year, remember this: Every step, stretch, and healthy choice matters. Doing a little bit of movement is always better than doing nothing! You're investing in a healthier, happier you, one moment at a time. Let's embrace this New Year with positivity, determination, and gratitude for the bodies that carry us through life.

May God richly bless you this year with health, joy, and the strength to embrace every new day.
Happy New Year!

Auxiliary & Resident Organization News

The Quarterly General Auxiliary Meeting

Mark your calendar now!

January 8th at 2:00 pm in Hockley Chapel.

Items on the agenda include: review of Annual 2024; election of board members, and planning for 2025 including requests for funds. The Annual Auxiliary membership campaign will begin on February 1st. Membership is open to all residents of the Village including those living in the Garden Apartments.

One of the easiest ways to help the Auxiliary is to register your Kroger Plus card. Kroger distributes funds based on a percentage of all participants. The more Auxiliary friends purchase, the more the Auxiliary receives. To register, go to "Krogercommunityrewards.com". Link your card to an organization. Search for Christian Villages at Mason. The Auxiliary account number is **UY336**. Follow the remaining instructions.

In 2024, the Auxiliary received over \$1,100 from the Kroger Quarterly Rewards program with over 100 households participating. If you shop at Kroger and are not a rewards member, consider becoming one.

If you have any questions about, or suggestions for the Auxiliary, please give Ed a call at **(513) 492-7020** or email at **edstagnay@yahoo.com**.

Veterans Association Meeting

By Jerry Kohls

The next Veterans meeting will be **Wednesday, January 15th at 10:00 a.m.** The guest speaker will be Dick Young. He is on the committee that is building the memorial to the USS Cincinnati at the Voice of America Park in West Chester. The USS is a retired Navy submarine. He will speak on the history of the navy submarine and the memorial that is being built and should be completed next summer.

Christmas Fund Recap

By Bob Moorehead

The Christmas Fund event has run its course for 2024 with our hearts full of joy and love since this year's total contribution has reached a record level for our staff to enjoy their Christmas Season a little more!

Many of us at CVM do recognize how grateful we residents are for all our employees' hard work all year for our ability to enjoy living in this fantastic place! The evidence is the heartfelt appreciation via monetary gift checks-with an even higher total this year of over \$56,000! Frosty says "Wow! You all are awesome!" Thank you so much!"

Have a blessed Holiday Season and a Happy, Healthy New Year! - The Christmas Fund Committee.

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 an extra special celebration.



Auxiliary & Resident Organization News

Get a Jump on 2025-Cross Estate Planning Off Your To-Do List

By Matt Hilderbran, VP of Development

It's 2025!! That's hard for me to comprehend, but a New Year offers a fresh start to all personal goals and new resolutions. It's also a great time to take stock of where you're at in your estate planning. When thinking about your plan, review the following:

Wills and trusts - Review your will or trust for any life changing events.

Beneficiary designations. Update any beneficiary on your life insurance or retirement plans and consider adding a charitable organization like the CBA Foundation.

Durable power of attorney. Make sure your durable powers of attorney for financial and health care are current.

Safe-deposit box - Catalog the contents of your safe-deposit box. Give a written copy to a trusted family member and note any items you are holding for someone else.

Bank or brokerage accounts. Name designated heirs or the CBA Foundation of bank or brokerage account proceeds at your death.

Charitable contributions - If you've included a gift to the CBA Foundation in your estate plan, review the details of your gift and let us (and your loved ones) know of your intentions. This will guarantee that your wishes are carried out.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact **Matt Hilderbran, VP of Development** at **(513) 701-3345**.

Upcoming Music Concerts

Jan and Robin House - Tuesday, January 7th, 7:00 p.m. Jan and Robin are back for another performance! This music duo plays a variety of musical styles using

comedy and trivia to keep things entertaining and fun!

Cincinnati Jazz Train - Tuesday, January 21st, 7:00 p.m. This group is sure to dazzle you with their upbeat jazz renditions. They are always a good time!

Library News

By Mary Ann Watrous

November/December 2024 Additions

- Terri Blackstock, *If I Run; If I'm Found; If I Live (Series of 3)*
- Janet Skeslien Charles, *Miss Morgan's Book Brigade*
- Amy Clipston, *A Hopeful Heart; A Mother's Secret; A Dream of Home; A Simple Prayer (series of 4 Amish books)*
- Colleen Coble, *Anathema; Alaska Twilight; Fire Dancer; The Inn at Ocean's Edge; Mermaid Moon; Twilight at Blueberry Barrens (series of 3)*
- Amanda Cox, *The Edge of Belonging*
- Eva Marie Everson, *Chasing Sunsets*
- Robin Lee Hatcher, *The Perfect Life*
- Lindsay Harrel, *the heart between us*
- Emily Henry, *Funny Story*
- Neta Jackson, *The Yada Yada Prayer Group Gets Real*
- Karen Kingsbury, *Take One, Take Two; Take Three; Take Four*
- Ariel Lawhon, *Flight of Dreams*
- James Patterson, *Texas Outlaw*
- Brad Thor, *The Lions of Lucerne*
- Beth Wiseman, *His Love Endures Forever*

Non-Fiction

Janice Jones, *Dr. Beare's Daughter*
J.D. Vance, *Hillbilly Elegy*

Mason Public Library Outreach

Friday, January 3, 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



THE PASSING OF THE BATON

This new year is a year of transition--a time for the passing of the baton by management. Those of us who are residents do not like transitions. We have gone through, or are in the process of going through, enough of them. But this transition is different. It is a seamless one, a smooth one, and for that we are most grateful.

One who was a leader here years ago noted that for the first time in our history a woman would lead the organization. But not just any woman-OUR VICKIE. Not an outsider who would have to learn. Not someone who did not understand our mission or our core values. Not someone who did not walk with the Lord or depend upon His guidance. For years she has managed our money, under the guidance of course of the CEO. And, like it or not, without good money management we simply could not exist. You may not know our new leader yet but be assured that she is one of US and be grateful for the blessing of a smooth transition.

The one who is letting go of the baton does it reluctantly for he loves this place and the residents and staff who live and work here. The one who accepts the baton does it with a firm hand for it is an exciting new door that has opened for her, and she knows that she will be relying on a Higher Power for guidance.

The sky in faraway Michigan is bright blue. The sunlight glistens on the water as the fisherman casts his line. The phone in his pocket rings and he answers it. It is Vickie seeking his advice on an important matter. And he gives it. The distance between the village and the cottage in Michigan is far but the caring is here.

God's hand was on our two villages in the beginning when they were only a vision and not yet a reality. His hand is still there. And just as He has guided the one who is handing over the baton, He guides the one who accepts it. For you see, the baton is really in His hand, and He will never let it go.



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