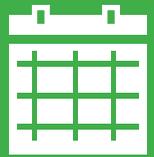




The Village News

A publication for the residents living in the friendly community of The Christian Village at Mason.



December
2025

A Christmas Message from

 Vickie Brashear, CEO 

Dear Beloved Staff and Residents,

As the Christmas season draws near, we pause to reflect on the beautiful story that lies at the heart of our faith, the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. In a humble stable, surrounded by simplicity and light, God gave the world the greatest gift: His Son, Emmanuel, "God with us." It is this miracle that continues to fill our hearts with hope, peace, and love, no matter the season or circumstance.

To our wonderful staff, your faithfulness and compassion have been living reflections of that divine love. Every smile you share, every gentle word, and every act of care is a reminder of God's hands at work through you. You serve not just with skill, but with heart and that makes all the difference. This year, as we celebrate Christ's birth, may you know how deeply appreciated you are. Your labor is never in vain when it's done in love.

To our cherished residents, you are the very heart of this community. Your stories, your faith, your laughter, and even your quiet moments of reflection enrich the life of everyone around you. The light of Christ shines brightly in each of you. This Christmas, may you feel that light surrounding you a warmth that reminds you that you are deeply loved by God and by those who walk beside you each day.

As we gather in worship, song, and fellowship, may we remember that Christmas is more than a day on the calendar, it's a living invitation to let Christ be born anew in our hearts. It calls us to share kindness freely, to forgive generously, and to hold one another with grace and understanding. If you don't know Jesus as your Lord and Savior, please feel free to reach out to me, and I would be happy to share the gospel with you.

Let us move into the new year with renewed hope, trusting that the same God who guided the wise men by a star continues to guide our steps. May His peace dwell richly among us, and may our community continue to be a place where faith, love, and joy flourish.

On behalf of all who serve and lead here, I wish you a blessed Christmas filled with wonder, and a New Year overflowing with God's goodness.

With heartfelt gratitude and love,

Merry Christmas and God bless you all.

Birthdays, Celebrations and Updates



December Birthdays

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.

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.



December Anniversaries

This information is for
The Christian Village at Mason residents.

RESIDENT UPDATES

This information is for
The Christian Village at Mason residents.

Grocery Pickups

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

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

Chaplain's Corner

BY CHAPLAIN DAVID RAY

A WALKIE-TALKIE CHRISTMAS



I WAS IN EARLY GRADE SCHOOL when, one year, my greatest wish for Christmas was a walkie-talkie.

But even kid's walkie-talkies were expensive back then, so I did not hold out much hope. Plus, I had two younger sisters, and Christmas presents had to

be doled out evenly to avoid competing jealousies. (I know, preacher's kids are supposed to be "perfect," but we weren't.)

But on Christmas morning, after I'd opened some smaller presents and thought my gifting was over, my dad brought out a small package that had been hidden away. And when I opened it—to my great surprise—it was a walkie-talkie.

But just ONE walkie-talkie!

What good is one walkie-talkie? My dad expectedly explained that my gift was expensive, along with some comments about fairness. And so I smiled and welcomed my very SINGULAR gift.

Later, Dad suggested I try pushing the button and talking into my walkie-talkie, and perhaps someone out there would respond. Fat chance, I thought. But after he had walked out of the room, I tried. And to my great surprise, a voice did respond—my DAD's.

Coming back into the room, he held a SECOND walkie-talkie in his hand, just like mine. He said he had bought it for HIMSELF. But that I or my sisters could borrow it to make my gift have greater usefulness.

I've thought about that gift many times over the

sixty-five some years that have followed. I've thought about my father's fairness, but also his LOVE. He wanted my gift to be complete, and he made it possible at HIS EXPENSE. (To be honest, I think he wanted a walkie-talkie, too.)

When God sent Jesus into the world—at his expense—he did it with hope that we would TALK to each other, but that we would especially TALK with HIM.

Ater all, what use is just ONE walkie-talkie?

DECEMBER HAPPENINGS

• A Sunday ADVENT SERMON SERIES:



• CHRISTMAS EVE:

5:00-5:45 pm: Wassail & Scones, in the Hockley Chapel, with music by a visiting harpist.

5:45-6:00 pm: Carol Walk to the Stone Center Auditorium led by vintage lantern leader.

6:00-6:30 pm: Candlelight Service in the Stone Center, with carols, spoken words, and media elements.



Closing Notes

Sunday Worship: Stone Center Auditorium, 10:15 a.m., and also live on CVCTV Channel 2493 and rebroadcast at 6:15 p.m.

Chaplain Devotions: Monday-Friday, at 9 a.m. and 3 p.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.

Social Services

BY HEATHER CARTER, LSW, DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Social Service Scoop

How to manage calls or solicitations that may be a scam or fraudulent -

Fraudsters continue to target older adults. Scams are typically done through phone calls, however, recently there has been an increase in solicitations.

Below are a few of the top 10 scams recently targeting seniors, according to the National Council of Aging.

- 1. Medicare / Social Security related**
- 2. Anti-aging products**
- 3. Internet**
- 4. Mortgages or Reverse Mortgages**
- 5. Sweepstakes/lotteries**
- 6. The grandparent scam**



Please remember to never provide the caller with personal information such as social security number or bank account numbers. If you are concerned about their request, particularly regarding your Medicare benefits, remember, Medicare and Social Security will never call you.

The Christian Village at Mason also has a 'No Solicitation' policy. If someone comes to your door, do not feel obligated to answer. You can reach out to the maintenance department by calling or using the emergency pull cords in your home, if you are fearful.

If you feel you have been a victim of a scam, you can contact the local police or the State of Ohio Attorney General's office.

Podiatry Services -

Dr. Norman provides podiatry services for residents of the Garden Apartments at the Garden Apartment Nurses Office. Visits are typically scheduled approximately every 60 days. Similarly, Dr. Norman provides services for independent living residents in the Village Clinic.

If you are interested in scheduling podiatry services and reside in a Garden Apartment, please contact your nurse. If you live in an independent living home and would like to receive podiatry services from Dr. Norman, please contact him directly at **937-431-4749**.

The Well

BY TOMI MARUNA, DIRECTOR OF FITNESS & WELLNESS

A Season for Joy — and Movement!

The Christmas season is full of fun, food, and festivities — but it can also be easy to set aside our regular routines. Between gatherings, travel, and all the holiday treats, staying active often slips to the bottom of the list. Yet a few minutes of movement each day can make a big difference in how we feel and enjoy the season.



Keep Moving — Even in Small Ways

You don't need a long workout to stay healthy and energized. A short walk after a meal, a few stretches while listening to Christmas music, or some chair exercises while watching your favorite holiday movie all count. Movement helps improve circulation, balance, and mood — and it keeps those extra cookies from catching up with us!

Move with Friends

One of the best gifts we can give ourselves this season is time together. Join a class, walk with a friend, or dance a little to “Joy to the World.” Movement feels easier — and more fun — when we share it with others. The laughter, smiles, and fellowship you find along the way are some of the best parts of staying active!

Balance Rest and Activity

The holidays can be busy, so listen to your body. Make time to move, but also to rest, refuel, and enjoy the moments that matter most. A little balance goes a long way toward keeping your energy up and your spirits bright.

A Heart Full of Joy

The true joy of Christmas doesn't come from busyness or perfection; it comes from love — the love God showed in sending His Son, and the love we share with one another. When we move our bodies, nourish our spirits, and take time to breathe and be thankful, we can experience the peace and joy that this season is all about.

So, this Christmas, let's celebrate with hearts full of gratitude and bodies full of life. Keep moving, keep smiling, and keep rejoicing — for the greatest gift has already been given.

By Matt Hilderbran, VP of Development

The Christmas season is upon us, bringing with it a time of gratitude and reflection. As I look back on 2025, I'm reminded of the many blessings that come from being part of a community like Christian Village Communities. The people who make up our communities are the reason CVC is such a wonderful place to live and work. With your help, the CBA Foundation has made a meaningful impact on the lives of our residents and employees in 2025. We are deeply grateful for your partnership and the difference your generosity makes every day.

This year, your support has been especially meaningful in sustaining the benevolent needs of Christian Village Communities. Many gifts to the CBA Foundation have helped ensure that every resident continues to receive the care they deserve. Your generosity is truly life-changing for friends and neighbors who encounter financial hardship.

I'm humbled by your love and kindness toward this community. Because of your generosity, we have accomplished great things together through the foundation. As we look ahead to 2026, I look forward to continuing to serve alongside you in meeting the ministerial needs of our communities. Merry Christmas and may God richly bless you and your families in the year ahead!

Auxiliary & Resident Organization News

Auxiliary Update

By Harold Lorton, Auxiliary President

Membership Meeting: The next quarterly meeting will be **Wednesday, January 14, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. in Hockley Chapel.** At this meeting, the Board and Committee Chairs will provide members with a final, detailed review of the organization's 2025 activities, fundraising and spending. Additionally, we will listen to CVM departments' funding requests for 2026 and vote on allocations.

Brief Recap: Calendar 2025 has been a very successful year for the Auxiliary. Every revenue source except Kroger Rewards is up vs 2024. On a quarterly basis, the Auxiliary receives a percentage distribution from a Kroger Community Rewards fund based on total purchases by registered CVM residents during the quarter divided by total purchases for all registered Kroger customers. We are competing with schools, churches and other non-profits for a share of a fixed pot of money. These other organizations are growing. Our percentage of the pot is shrinking. To link grocery purchases with your Kroger Plus Card to the Auxiliary, log into www.krogercommunityrewards.com, create an account and reference the organization's account number UY336 when asked.

Open 2026 Board and Dine Out Chair Positions: Auxiliary Secretary Shirley Clancy will step down in January. If interested in this Executive Board position, please send

an email with contact information to helorton3@aol.com with a copy to edclancy@fuse.net. In addition, Al and Dee Shelton, current Dine Out Co-Chairs are willing to provide supportive training for Dine Out Co-Chair(s) during 2026. If interested in helping the Auxiliary with this successful fundraising activity, please send an email with contact information to helorton3@aol.com with a copy to alton-10shelton@cinci.rr.com.

Christmas Fund 2025

The 2025 Christmas Fund Campaign has come to an end. We all need to recognize how grateful CVM residents are for our employees' hard work year-round on our behalf. The gift checks are heartfelt evidence of that appreciation. We are all invited to the fun Christmas party on **Wednesday, December 10, 2025, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. in the Matthews Dining Room** to celebrate this year's campaign with Santa, music, snacks and the distribution of the gift checks.

New Way to Submit Maintenance Requests: Google Form

We're excited to introduce an additional way to submit maintenance requests! In the **Resident App**, under **"Community Information,"** you'll now find a tab labeled **"Maintenance Request."** Simply click on it to open a short Google Form where you can describe your issue and

Auxiliary & Resident Organization News

submit it directly to our maintenance team. Once submitted, your request will be reviewed and completed within **1–3 days**. This convenient option allows you to send non-urgent maintenance requests anytime, without needing to call or leave a voicemail.

If you prefer to call in your request, please be sure to include the following information:

Your full name (e.g., Jane Doe)

Your complete address, including the street name (e.g., 7391 Village Drive)

A brief description of the issue (e.g., “My garbage disposal hums when I turn it on” or “My heat is not working”)

Please remember to include your full address (house number and street name) to avoid delays in processing your work order. Lastly, work orders should only be submitted for your own residence. Residents should not submit requests on behalf of their neighbors.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Celebrating the Inspiring Work of Ruth Odor

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Garden Apartment resident Ruth Odor, who has faithfully written over 50 inspiring articles for The Christian Village News. Ruth often says her inspiration comes as a “download from God”—she jots down her thoughts and then brings them together into messages that always seem to touch the hearts of those who need them most. Her writing ministry began here during the challenging days of 2020, when former CEO Larry Monroe and former Chaplain Tom Moll encouraged her to share her stories with our community. Ruth graciously agreed, motivated by her deep love for helping others.

Ruth’s passion for writing began as a young girl, composing poems with her brother. Though she once dreamed of a career in journalism—a path not easily open to women at the time—she pursued teaching, sharing her love of English with public high school students for four years. Eventually, God opened the door for her to pursue Christian journalism, and she joined Standard Publishing, where she served as Associate Editor and later Editor of Straight magazine. Later, she was Editor of all Children’s

Curriculum materials. Ruth also authored 35 published children’s books, that were stories about Christmas, the Bible, castles and palaces just to name a few.

Since joining The Christian Village at Mason eight years ago, Ruth has continued to bless us through her heartfelt words and faith-filled stories. Her articles have encouraged, uplifted, and inspired countless readers. We are deeply thankful for her faithful service, her compassionate heart, and the spiritual wisdom she has shared with our community. Ruth, thank you for using your God-given gift to touch so many lives!



Upcoming Music Concerts

Concerts will be held in the Stone Center unless another location is listed.

- Ambassador Choir Christmas Concert - Tuesday & Wednesday, December 2 & 3, 7:00 p.m.
- P & G Band Christmas Concert - Thursday, December 11, 7:00 p.m.
- Sycamore Presbyterian Church Bell Choir - Tuesday, December 16, 7:00 p.m.
- Larry Monroe & Tom White Christmas Celebration - Wednesday, December 17, 7:00 p.m.

Mason Public Library Outreach Friday, December 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



MY BEST FOR HIM

LONG after the music of Christmas has faded away and the decorations have been stored for another year, the phrase of a carol echoes in my mind:

I played my drum for Him,
Pa-rum-pa-pum-pum,
I played my best for Him,
Pa-rum-pa-pum-pum.

The little drummer boy's gift for the baby King was not just the gift of playing his drum, but of playing his drum the best that he could!

"My best for Him?" "My best for Him?"
The echo becomes a question. Daily I "play" for Him—in worship, work, service. But do I "play" my best for Him?



Having chosen Christ and given our lives to His service, we often comfort ourselves with this knowledge and give Him less than our best. And perhaps the higher one climbs the ladder of "success" in Christian service, the more and larger opportunities one has to speak or teach, the greater the temptation to mediocrity. After all, our second best is acceptable; it may be even better than some other person's best.

All this is not to say that the Lord uses only our best. It is marvelous how He accepts us as we are—how He uses not only our second and third best efforts but even our mistakes, our stumblings, to work His will! But this does not excuse us from giving Him our best!

"It might have been." Perhaps these are, as the poet said, the saddest words of tongue or pen. Oh, the tragedy of coming to the end of life and having reached the golden staircase, to look back and know what might have been—or because of mediocrity, not to have reached the golden staircase at all. So much that could be accomplished, which would add not only to our own lives, but to the lives of others, is lost because of those four little words.



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