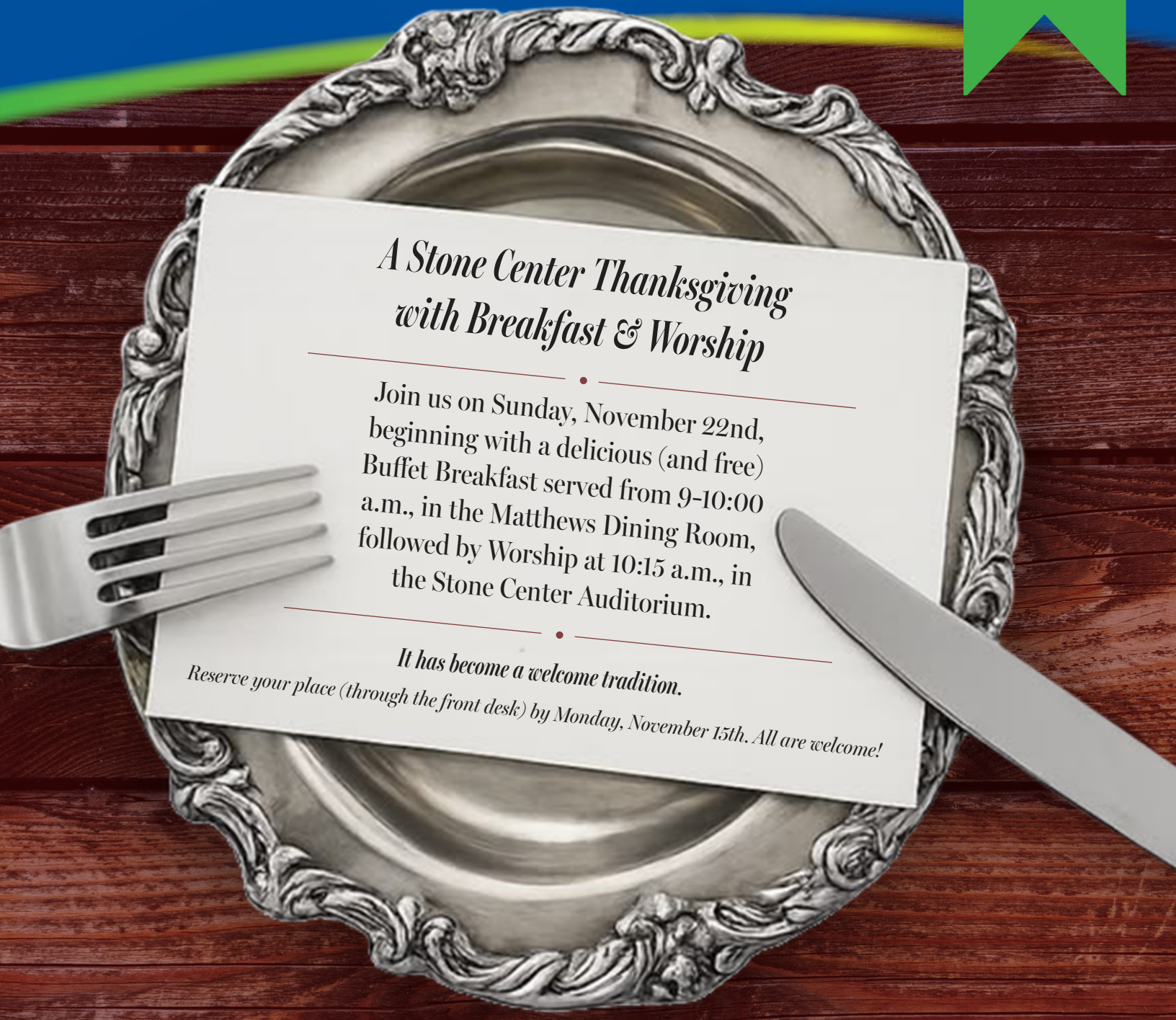
CHRISTIAN VILLAGE at MASON

The Village News

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

November 2026



A Stone Center Thanksgiving with Breakfast & Worship

Join us on Sunday, November 22nd, beginning with a delicious (and free) Buffet Breakfast served from 9-10:00 a.m., in the Matthews Dining Room, followed by Worship at 10:15 a.m., in the Stone Center Auditorium.

It has become a welcome tradition.

Reserve your place (through the front desk) by Monday, November 15th. All are welcome!

In the Village, we begin celebrating Thanksgiving a few days early—on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. If you've only watched our worship service over CVCTV, Stone Center Thanksgiving is the perfect day to check things out in person. Those who come almost always come back for more. And register today to reserve your place for breakfast, too.

Make Sunday, November 22nd, your early day to be grateful. It's our tradition!

Birthdays, Celebrations and Updates

October Birthdays

This information is for
The Christian Village at Mason residents.

October Anniversaries

This information is for
The Christian Village at Mason residents.

RESIDENT UPDATES

This information is for
The Christian Village at Mason residents.

Village Clinic Hours
7169 Village Drive

Monday – Thursday, 10:00 -11:30 a.m.

If you need to contact the nurse outside these hours, please contact Lisa Oehler, LPN, Purpose Care Home Care Coordinator (formerly Queen City Home Care) at (513) 489-0850 or Heather Carter at (513) 701-3403.

CVM Transportation:

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

Concierge Cards:
$37 for 13 trips
For errand and medical appointments within 5 miles.

Appointments by Mile or Hour:
For trips that would not qualify as a concierge trip:
$4.00/mile from drop-off and pick-up
$42/hour for the driver to stay with you

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.**

Scheduling Transportation:
Call **701-3415** to schedule an appointment.

Free Cincinnati Enquirer Access:

This information is for
The Christian Village at Mason residents.

Chaplain's Corner

Thank You for the FLEAS!?

By Chaplain David Ray

The Apostle Paul wrote, in 1 Thessalonians 5:18, "Be thankful in ALL circumstances . . ."

That's a tall order, don't you think? Because—to be quite honest—there have been some circumstances in my life where I've found it quite hard to be thankful. How about you?

When health fails, a relationship gets broken, it rains when you're counting on sunshine, the stock market crashes and retirement dollars are threatened. Surely Paul did not mean "in ALL circumstances"!

Unless . . . gratitude is an act of faith.

In her book, The Hiding Place, Corrie ten Boom tells the story of how, during WW II, she and her sister, Betsy, were imprisoned in a German concentration camp called Ravensbrück. It was their punishment for having harbored Jews in their home to escape Nazi atrocities. And the barracks in which the sisters were confined was both crowded with people and infested with fleas.

One morning, as they read their tattered Bible, they came to the verse that talks about giving thanks "in ALL circumstances." And upon reading it, Betsy said to Corrie, "We've got to give thanks for this barracks, and even these FLEAS." Corrie's response was: "No way am I going to thank God for fleas." But Betsy was persuasive, and they both finally did give thanks for the fleas.

Interestingly, over the months that followed, they found out why their barracks was left relatively free from inspection by their guards, allowing them to do Bible study, talk openly, and even pray during confinement there. It was because of those tormenting fleas, which their guards strongly wished to avoid, as well.

I'm not suggesting that God put fleas in their barracks, but he most certainly appears to have used them to help protect two women of faith who would later find freedom to share their story with all the world.

And who knows whether that bad thing we might experience in our own lives could be used by God for our good, too? I'd still find it hard to be thankful for fleas, but perhaps Paul didn't like writing his words about thanksgiving from a Roman jail cell, either. But God used even that hard circumstance for good.

Thanksgiving is an act of faith. For both the good and the bad. And maybe even for fleas!

Chaplain Chat

Wed., Nov. 25, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Hockley Chapel
Thanksgiving Stories

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.

In Memory of: Bobby Barnett, Ruth Falk, Elmer Ruff, Thelma Wright



You Never Know

BY RUTH ODOR,
GARDEN APARTMENT RESIDENT

Each year we planted squash in our garden. We always planted three kinds—yellow, acorn, and zucchini. I could never persuade the lady with whom we shared the garden to cook any of the squash, even to taste it. “My mother never grew or cook squash. She didn’t like it,” she said. “So, I never tried it.” No amount of persuasion could get Margaret to try the squash. Then one day at our Ladies’ Circle meeting, one person brought a squash casserole. Margaret tasted it. “Well, it’s good!” she exclaimed. And she went back for seconds. One reason we don’t study the Bible is that we don’t taste enough of it. A little here, a crumb there, but not enough to exclaim, “It’s good!”

The soul of man hungers for God. It has always been so. The psalmist wrote in Psalm 63:1b: “My soul thirsts for you…in a dry and weary land where there is no water.” It seems that never before has that hunger been so great. We hunger, we thirst, we cry out for God and can never be satisfied until we have found Him and tasted His goodness. “Taste and see that the Lord is good” (Psalm 34:8). He is the Bread of life. We eat of that Bread and know no more hunger. He is the Water of life. We drink of that Water and know no more thirst.

The goodness of God is stored in a Book. The goodness of God is revealed in His Word. But we have to read it, study it, to taste and see. A verse here, a quick reading there is not the kind of tasting used in Scripture language. To taste fully you must not slightly touch with your tongue, but eat or drink--receiving the substance. To taste death in the Scriptures means to die. To taste the Word of God means to feed upon it. God said to Ezekiel, “Eat this scroll I am giving you and fill your stomach with it.” “So, I ate it,” said Ezekiel, “and it tasted as sweet as honey in my mouth” (Ezekiel 3:1-3). This is figurative language of course and is God’s speaking to Ezekiel concerning prophesying, but we need to “eat” the Book, so to speak, digest it, and make it part of our very being.

We need to let it be the force that permeates our character, our personality, our attitude, our behaviors, the answer to our problems, the pattern by which we build our lives.

“God is great and God is good” may be only a child’s rhyme preceding prayer, but in those few simple words are great depth and meaning. Ah, the goodness of God! Powerful, almighty Creator reaching down to you and me, providing for our redemption, caring for us, listening to our petitions, giving us strength for the day, guidance for the way, giving us His Word as He says, “Taste and see.”

Social Service Scoop

By Heather Carter, LSW, Director of Social Services

Medicare Open Enrollment: Medicare Open Enrollment begins October 15 and will run through December 7, 2026. This is the time to review your current benefits and make any necessary changes.

We will have a representative from BOST benefits on site on November 17, 2026. They will provide a 30–45-minute presentation at 9:00a.m. in the Stone Center. See your flyer for additional information.

Following the session, 1:1 meetings will be available for review of your benefits. You will need to sign up for the 1:1 session. In person 1:1 review can be scheduled in advance. Contact Mary Brown at 513-701-3423.

You can also schedule a 1:1 by phone with the BOST representative following the presentation.

Caregiver Support Group: The Christian Village at Mason caregiver support group provides a welcoming and supportive environment for those caring for a loved one to share experiences, learn helpful coping strategies, and share resources. The group provides a connection to others who are going through similar experiences. This connection helps build meaningful relationships with others on this same journey. We hope to provide an atmosphere that reminds our caregivers they too deserve care and support.

Next group meets on November 10, 2026 in the Stone Center Conference room from 10:30a.m. – 12:00p.m.

The Well

By Tomi Maruna, Director of Fitness & Wellness

As Thanksgiving approaches, I've been thinking about what it really means to be thankful—and I keep coming back to one simple thought: **I am thankful to be here**.

Not because every day is easy. It isn't.

One of the hardest parts of working in a community like ours is becoming attached to people and then having to say goodbye. There are people we have laughed with, celebrated with, encouraged, and grown to love who are no longer here. There are also days when we watch someone we care about walk through a difficult season of pain, illness, loss, or uncertainty. Those moments are hard. They stay with you.

But maybe that is part of what makes this place so special.

Because I have come to understand that this community doesn't shy away from the hard things. You show up for one another. You notice when someone is struggling. You celebrate the victories—big and small. You sit beside someone in the difficult seasons. You encourage, serve, laugh, pray, and love one another.

You have taught me that **true community isn't about everyone having an easy life. It's about not having to walk through life alone.**



Galatians 6:2 says, "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

I see that verse lived out here, and I feel incredibly blessed to be part of it.

I came here to help others stay strong, active, and engaged, but I have discovered that I am learning just as much from all of you. You have taught me about resilience, generosity, courage, humor, compassion, and what it looks like to keep showing up—even when life doesn't look the way we hoped it would.

I'm thankful for the conversations, the laughter, the classes, the hugs, the stories, and even the difficult moments that remind me how precious our time together really is.

Most of all, I'm thankful for **you**.

Thank you for allowing me to be part of your community and for teaching me, in so many ways, what it means to truly care for one another.

I count it a privilege—and a blessing—to be here.

CBA Foundation

Year-End Giving Ideas to Maximize Your Tax Benefits

By Matt Hilderbran, VP of Development

As you consider your year-end giving, we invite you to prayerfully consider a gift to the CBA Foundation. Every gift, regardless of size, helps strengthen our ministry and allows us to continue serving older adults with Christ-centered care.

It's easy to become a part of our philanthropic family before the end of 2026! You can give a gift to the CBA Foundation by:

- Donating cash. You can give a little each month or one lump sum.
- Make an Entrance Fee Refund donation.
- Retirement Plan Gift (Qualified Charitable Distribution).
- Making a gift of other assets. Stocks, bonds, real estate and other property that have grown in value since you first purchased them make it possible to give a larger donation for less cost- and provide you with tax benefits.

You can also make a future gift, which will cost you nothing today, by including the CBA Foundation in your future charitable plans. Here are some ways to make a future gift:

- Include the CBA Foundation in your will or trust.
- Include the CBA Foundation as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy.
- Donate retirement plan assets. Make a simple designation on your plan's beneficiary form.
- Name the CBA Foundation as the beneficiary of your Entry Fee Refund or a Life Insurance Policy.

If you have already included the CBA Foundation in your estate plans, please let us know.

THANK YOU for all you do and for being a blessing to us! If you have any questions about making a gift, please contact Matt Hilderbran, VP of Development at 513.701.3345.

Library News

By Mary Ann Watrous

September/October Additions
Saundra Crum Akers: *Whispers In The Wind*

Non-Fiction
Jon Katz: *The Dogs of Bedlam Farm; Saving Simon*
Sally Field: *In Pieces*
Susan Page: *Rulebreaker The Life and Times of Barbara Walters*

Large Print
Sara Ackerman: *Red Sky Over Hawaii*
Denny S. Bryce: *In The Face of the Sun*
Chris Cander: *The Weight of A Piano*
Ann Patchett: *Tom Lake*
Richard Russo: *Somebody's Fool*

Mason Public Library Outreach: Friday, November 6, 10:00 a.m.
Please remember to turn in your used books to the craft room for pick up.

Auxiliary & Resident Organization News

Auxiliary Update

By Harold Lorton, Auxiliary President

Membership Meeting Minutes: A Quarterly Auxiliary Membership Meeting was held in Hockley Chapel on October 14, 2026. The Minutes, including Year-to-Date Treasurer's Report, is distributed to residents with this November Village Newsletter.

Christmas Fund: The Frosty Christmas Fund is officially underway! Keep an eye on CVC TV for updates and additional information on how you can contribute. You can also stop by the Frosty display outside the Matthews Dining Room to pick up information about contributing.

Save the Date: The Frosty Christmas Fund resident and employee Christmas party will be on Wednesday, December 9 at 2:00 p.m. in the Matthews Dining Room. We look forward to celebrating the Christmas season together!

Veterans Association Meeting

By Jerry Kohls

The Veterans Meeting will be on Wednesday, November 18 at 10:00 a.m. in the Stone Center for the recognition of our veterans and will be presented with a special medallion reflecting their branch of service. Representatives from the City of Mason will discuss upcoming activities for the veterans.

Following the meeting, a pizza lunch hosted by the CVM Hospice staff will be served in Hockley Chapel for any resident or guest who attends the ceremony. Sign up at the front desk for the pizza lunch.

Resident News

Village Clubhouse Rentals Now Open! We are excited to announce that the Village Clubhouse is now available to rent for your upcoming events, parties, and gatherings. Whether you are hosting a family celebration or a community get-together, the clubhouse is the perfect venue. You have the ability to reserve the card room, the lounge & dining areas or



the entire clubhouse depending on your event need, calendar, and outside Bistro hours.

A detailed insert is included in this issue of the Village News outlining rules, guidelines, and reservations.

To check availability or to secure your date, please contact Amie Kocher, 513-701-3448 directly to make a reservation.

Upcoming Music Concerts

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

Ohio Military Band: *Thursday, November 19 7:00 p.m. (*change in day)

Dancers from CHCA (Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy): Tuesday, November 24, 6:00 p.m. *(CHCA students of all ages will be performing excerpts from The Nutcracker: This will not be a full 1 hour performance.)*

Delta Kings Barbershop Chorus: *Monday, November 30, 7:00 p.m. (*change in day)

CHRISTIAN VILLAGE at MASON

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 lizz.stephens@christianvillages.org

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage
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Cincinnati, OH

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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

Christian Village Communities
Vickie Brashear, President & CEO
Diane Gumbert, CFO
(513) 701-3448

The Christian Village at Mason
Lizz Stephens, VP of Marketing and Business Strategy
(513) 701-3408

CVM Health Care Facility
Bob Slade, LNHA, VP of Operations
(513) 398-1486

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.

Want to support the ministry of Christian Village Communities? Visit **www.christianvillages.org/donate** to learn more about supporting our foundation and providing financial relief to our residents and employees.

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