



Carelines Newsletter

The True Meaning of Thanksgiving

In the Bible, the meaning of Thanksgiving reflects adoration, sacrifice, praise or offering with the true meaning of Thanksgiving focusing upon the relationship between God and man. Thanksgiving is an attitude of the heart that reinforces an intimate relationship with God and is more than a Holiday that is observed the last Thursday of November, once a year.

Obviously, the *attitude* of thanks is more important than the *act* of thanks. Most churches practice some form of public thanksgiving in weekly worship services and most Christian organizations acknowledge God's call and provision for their ministries. It is also likely that most Christian families "say grace" at meals. Those are all good practices; however, far more important is the issue of how God's people practice thanksgiving all the time. At the core of our hearts are the firm beliefs of our mind, and at the core of our actions are the attitudes of our hearts (Matthew 15:19).

"I am truly blessed." "I thank God everyday." "God is good." These are just a few of the phrases from residents at Christian Care who have a relationship with God. God has a plan for them and they are working on doing better.

"Wrangler" grew up on a farm in Carroll County, Illinois. After graduating from high school, he worked as a janitor for a while at a local company in Savanna, Illinois. He suddenly became unemployed when the business closed. From 1994 – 2010, Wrangler traveled across the country in search of a new home and employment. He became more and more frustrated by the lack of stability in his life. He returned to the Midwest to be closer to his childhood home, but without the financial resources to support himself, he found himself at Christian Care. For 9-10 months, Wrangler was a resident of the Christian Care homeless men's shelter. During his stay, he became employed as a resident advocate here at the shelter 2 days/week. After a short time, his hours were increased to 4 days/week. Wrangler was then able to save enough money to move out on his own. In 2016, Wrangler became a fulltime employee at Christian Care, working 40 hours/week as the 3rd shift resident advocate. Wrangler states that he cares about the residents and relates well to them because he knows what they're talking about and he "knows what it feels like to be helpless." His advice to others who may find themselves in a similar situation of need is "find the people who can help you, help yourself." Wrangler would like to return to farming one day, do some volunteer work and make some donations to organizations that are near and dear to his heart. He believes in giving back.

*100 years of Transforming Lives
1916 - 2016*

November/
December 2016

In this Issue:

Page 1

A Resident's Story
Resonates with
Thanksgiving

Page 2

Christian Care
Events and
Activities

Page 3

Thank You,
Needs and
Volunteer
Spotlight

Page 4

Contact Us

**"An ounce of
practice is worth
more than tons of
preaching."**

Mahatma Gandhi

EVENT HAPPENINGS

These last few months have been busy at Christian Care. In August, our residents participated in a Drumming Circle facilitated by Philip Seward of Hand and Heart Drumming. The drumming circle provided an opportunity to explore an alternative holistic method for stress relief, self-awareness and freedom of expression while at the same time building community because it emphasizes cooperation and the importance of being a part of something bigger than oneself.



On September 17th, Christian Care celebrated its' 100th Birthday with an Open House featuring a Health and Wellness Fair, 50/50 Raffle, tours of the facility and complimentary luncheon complete with cake and ice cream. Below is a picture of some of our residents with a staff person wishing Christian Care, Happy Birthday!



Heartfelt thanks go out to all of our staff, board members, volunteers, donors and community partners who helped make our 100th Birthday Celebration a success. Keep us in your thoughts and prayers as we work toward the next 100!

Thank you to those who brought food and served at our Meal Site during September/October

All Saints Episcopal Church - Bethany Baptist Church
Bible Study Group - Camelot Therapeutic School
Tom Case - Church of the Cross - Colona First Baptist Church - Colona United Methodist Church
Community Christian Fellowship - Teresa Fey - First Christian Church - Friends of Christian Care
Geneseo First United Methodist Church - Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church - Greater Harvest
Heart of Hope Ministries - Holy Cross Lutheran Church - Tonya McGee Girl Scout Troop - Memorial Christian Church - Mighty Fortress Church
Pentecostal Church of God
Risen Christ Lutheran Church - Roots QC - Scott Schaefer - Janne Short - Trinity Lutheran Church Coal Valley - Troop 5130 - Pat Turner - Zion Lutheran Church

Also, many thanks to the countless groups and individuals who dropped off donations of any kind—monetary gifts, fresh produce, food items, clothing and other items!

We extend our thanks for the following grants received: Amy Helpenstell Foundation, John Deere Foundation, Rock Island Community Foundation, Rock Island Gaming Funds and Rock Island County 708 Mental Health Board

Christian Care's Current Needs:

- Fresh fruit and vegetables
- Dairy products: milk, yogurt, sliced cheese, and butter
- Eggs
- Cooking Oil
- Coffee, tea and creamer
- Powdered milk
- Sugar
- Salad dressing - large bottles
- BBQ sauce
- Pork & Beans
- Non-stick cooking spray
- Bus tickets—IL & IA
- Cleaning products - Lysol spray, bleach, shower cleaner, oven cleaner
- Hygiene products - shaving cream, razors, deodorant, body wash
- 13 and 33-gallon trash bags
- Paper towels & dinner napkins
- Automatic dishwasher detergent
- Daily planners for our residents
- Running/Tennis Shoes (men's sizes 10-13)

Please bring all items to Christian Care at 2209 3rd Avenue in Rock Island between the hours of 8:00 am and 7:00 pm

Volunteer Spotlight

Barbara Montgomery is many things to many people: a military offspring, a wife, mother, grandmother, retired teacher and a dedicated and committed Christian Care volunteer.

She is a member of St. John Vianney Catholic Church in Cambridge, IL, and is a member of PEO (Philanthropic Educational Organization), Delta Kappa Gamma International Teacher Society, Community Foundation Legacy Society, and the RI Retired Teachers Association.

Barb works tirelessly to raise awareness about homelessness in our community and to raise funds to support shelters, programs and services for the homeless. Barb first learned about homelessness in 2012, when one of her students became homeless and needed to move to Clinton, Iowa, to live with her mother in a shelter there. No room in any of the Quad-Cities shelters was available at that time.

After her retirement from teaching in 2013, Barb turned her awareness and concern for the homeless into her mission and ministry. She created the "Have a Heart for the Homeless Luncheon". The luncheon is a venue for raising consciousness around homelessness, particularly the issue of homeless veterans. February 4, 2017 is the date for the luncheon. Proceeds from that event will be donated to two shelters because they house homeless veterans. Christian Care is one of those shelters. For more information on the luncheon, please visit:

<http://helptheqchomeless.wixsite.com/heartforthehomeless/>.

Thank you Barb, for all you do for us and homeless veterans across the community. We, at Christian Care are fortunate to have you as a friend, faithful volunteer and generous donor.



2209 3rd Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201-4176

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #83
ROCK ISLAND, IL
PERMITNO.83

Transforming Lives for 100 years!



Homelessness is a reality in our community.
Each year, we care for hundreds of men,
by offering nutritious meals, warm clothing and safe shelter—
as well as services and programs focused on positive change.
Please consider making a donation today.

Go green and save postage. To receive your newsletter electronically,
contact Pam at phauman@christiancareqc.org

24-Hour Crisis Hotline: (309) 788-CARE (2273)

Visit us at christiancareqc.org or  Find us on **Facebook** at facebook.com/christiancareqc.org