



CHURCH OF CHRIST CARE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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FALL/WINTER 2025

Sail On The Beach Boys Tribute



SAIL ON is the most booked Beach Boys Tribute Band in the world!



David S. Stewart, CEO

Inside this issue

- ® Page 1—SCR: Great Success!
- ® Page 2—Day to Honor Event
- ® Page 3—Society Giving Levels
- ® Page 4—Golf Focus
- ® Page 5—Finazzo Family
- ® Page 6—Keith Simms Story
- ® Page 7—Honor/Memorials

STEAK & CORN ROAST 2025: A Great Success!!

The music was beautiful, the food was very tasty, decorations reminded us of summer at the seashore, the fellowship was warm, and most of all, the evening was a huge financial success to benefit the campus of the seniors at the Church of Christ Care Community. Thank you for coming!

David Stewart (CEO) got the evening off to a great start by sharing some stories about residents of the past to help remind us of what our evening was really all about. It was all to benefit our residents.

Perhaps the biggest surprise of the evening was when emcee, Doug Edwards, was expecting to announce the annual **Agape Award recipient**. The board chair, Mark Wilson, and CEO, David Stewart, came onstage to announce that Doug himself would be receiving the award. Mark read a specially prepared statement about the selection. The distinction came as a huge shock to Doug, who gratefully accepted the award.

Another surprise was when it was announced that the person who would be leading our traditional program closer, **"How Great Thou Art"**, was not able to attend our event, but it would be led instead by two members of the Beach Boys Tribute band. They loved leading the audience in an A Cappella version of that song. (Please see page 3 for the rest of the story.)



CHURCH OF CHRIST
CARE COMMUNITY

F O C U S

We have 9 beautiful Churches of Christ that conduct two afternoon worship services on a rotation on Sunday afternoons. 3 or 4 other congregations are considering helping at the 2:00 PM service in the nursing home or 3:00 PM service in Assisted Living. We love to have visitors come to sing and visit our residents. Call Bill Nocita for details at 586-285-7141.



Doug Edwards
Executive V.P. / Philanthropy

Looking Ahead to our *Day to Honor* in October 2026

In 2018, we established the first modest version of our **Day to Honor** program on campus to honor our exceptional donors. Some major remodeling had been done in Assisted Living and we decided it would be a great time to show off our upgraded digs. It was also a great day to enjoy succulent hors d'oeuvres prepared by our exquisite chefs, Joe and Asunda, for all to enjoy.

Our plan was to have the honoring day every two years instead of every year, to make it more special. When our CEO, David Stewart, came on board, he encouraged us to be a bit more bold. Why not have it at a place that would make a bigger statement about honoring our donor friends? We decided to have an honor luncheon at the fabulous Meadowbrook estate in Rochester Hills, home of auto heiress, Matilda Dodge, and lumber magnate and second husband, Alfred Wilson.

The following event, our tour took us to the beautiful Edsel and Eleanor Ford estate home in Gross Pointe Shores. Edsel was the only son of Henry Ford. Edsel died before his father, Henry. The Ford family has added some new modern facilities for entertaining that have added additional joy to group visits. The food was exquisite. It was a very special honoring day for our guests.

Our next honoring day is planned for October 2026. The exact day and destination have not been determined yet due to scheduling issues. We are considering a couple of options, but I will tease you with a possible idea: The Michigan Central Station which was at one time the tallest railway station in the world. This beautiful Beaux-Arts building is now well over 100 years old. It fell into decline for several decades and finally closed. It was vacant about 30 years before its current gorgeous renovation. Bill Ford convinced the Ford Motor Company to invest about a billion dollars to make it a showpiece and an incubator of businesses. Thank you, Bill Ford!

For information, ideas, or questions about eligibility for the event, contact Doug Edwards at **586-551-5747** or **dedwards@cofccc.org**



Michigan Central Station

Yes, I want to help care for elderly residents!

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Gift In Memory/Honor of: _____

Please Acknowledge to: _____

AmEx____ VISA____ MC____ Disc____ Sec Code____

Enclosed is a gift of \$_____ to be used for:

Credit Card #: _____ Expir _____

☐ Unrestricted gift for greatest need

☐ Infrastructure Campaign

☐ Other _____

☐ My company (name) _____ is a matching gift company

Please remember the Church of Christ Care Community in your will or trust:

☐ I would like to discuss my final estate plans.

☐ I want to acknowledge that I/we have included the Care Community in my Estate Plan.

If you wish to make a gift online, please go to:

www.cofccc.org/ways-to-give

11/2025



S&CR and Golf Tournament Funds Benefit Resident Needs

Our summer fundraisers raised about \$67,000 gross and nearly \$38,000 net to benefit the Care Community in 2025. About \$12,000 from the recent golf tournament and \$26,000 from the Steak & Corn Roast will be used for resident technology including upgraded and expanded television stations for our residents.

David Stewart stated at the golf tournament that he was so grateful for the work that goes into the special events that provides funding for things that benefit our residents so deeply.

Elevators are among those expensive needs

Sometimes we talk about very expensive things that are on our need to buy list. Over the years, we have put some of them aside and have bought less expensive items we know we can afford. But some needs cannot be ignored. We will likely need two elevators replaced in the next year in Assisted Living, or the near future! We believe the cost for each elevator will be in the neighborhood of \$300,000. Our Assisted Living building needs both of these replaced—soon!

We are praying that someone will see this need and will be moved to make it happen or a portion of it. Our residents use those existing elevators every single day. So, we are motivated.

We will ensure these elevators are safe, but some things need to be replaced in a timely manner. We want to be prepared. Please help us find people or churches that that may be willing and able to provide the resources so that we will not have to drain our limited reserves. We pray there is a friend of the Care Community who can help make this happen in a timely way. Remember us in prayer that a donor will step forward to make this gift a reality. Please feel free to call if you have questions at 586-551-5747. Thank you!

A Day To Honor

GIFT HONORING SOCIETIES

All donations given from:

January 1, 2025 to October 1, 2026

Those who meet one or more of these levels of gifting will be invited to *A Day To Honor* and receive an award.

ACCUMULATIVE GIFT AMOUNTS

Blessing Society	\$500
Samaritan Society	\$1000
Solomon Society	\$2500
Barnabas Society	\$5000
Heritage Society	\$10,000
Builders Society	\$25,000 (and over)
Legacy Society	Final estate gifts*

*Mature gifts and new expectancy awards.

Follow the Chart Above:

The above chart helps us to monitor where we are in our personal giving towards our target goals. Some of our needs for some projects are more moderate and may just need paint and basic supplies. But some needs are much more expensive (like elevators, roofs, and furnaces) and our donation funds can help cover some budget shortfalls with a generous response.

It costs a massive amount of money to operate a Care Community. We mostly depend on our residents to pay their way. Generous Christians, who make contributions, help us maintain additional campus standards we want and need — needs that are not covered in standard billing.

Here is how our Day to Honor works: Those who are motivated by love to give at one of the Society levels above will be invited to celebrate with us and receive an honoring award and dinner. We may invite you to tour a special site of interest. Everything you give or have given from January 1, 2025 until October 1, 2026 will count towards your Society Award honoring as a special donor.

Please call Doug Edwards at **586-285-7128** or email at **dedwards@cofccc.org** with questions.



2025 Golf Champions at The Orchards in the Church of Christ Care Community tournament: Mike Winters (team captain) and (L-R) Blake LaBaere, Noah Winters, and Joey Mazzola.



For many years, Janet Edwards (right) has watched the hole-in-one contest assisted by volunteers. No one has yet won the prize, but some were close!



David Stewart (CEO) recruited an excellent team with 2 advisory board members, Farrah Ramdayal and Mike Embry, along with Farrah's husband, Dave Howard, to earn a 64 score.

18th ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC AT THE ORCHARDS / 2025



Bill Nocita, Campus Minister, leads golfers in prayer



Patti Jenema (right) and her sister-in-law Julie Thornbro (left), get ready for another outstanding golf event at The ORCHARDS GOLF CLUB. Patti began the Annual Golf Classic 18 years ago. Julie assisted with registration again this year. We are grateful for all of our volunteers. We are especially indebted to Patti's leadership to build this golf fundraiser! She is highly respected for her excellent organizational work.



Finazzo family adds some spice to the Little Deuce Coupe song

As our fundraiser program was getting close and we knew the Beach Boys Tribute show was a major part of our evening, we were hoping we could find a little deuce coupe to add some interest as they sang that song. As Doug Edwards spoke with Rachel, who works in the activities department, she felt that someone might help us. About that time a nearby resident, Larry Finazzo, said, “my brother can get you one!”

It turns out that his brother had a vehicle that was close to what we wanted. A “Little Deuce Coupe” is a 1932 Ford truck that was converted into one of the first hotrods. It was very popular for racing and was highly sought after. The gentleman who was trying to find the right car for me owned a 1930 Ford A-Model Coupe that he generously let us borrow. It was a neat car that we situated very near the front door. It was very much admired.

Larry Finazzo is a resident at the Care Community and his brother Mike has an auto repair shop in Roseville. They gave a meaningful contribution to our event.

Thank you Larry and Mike for helping us to have a special evening!



Doug and Janet Edwards enjoy this beautiful 1930 Ford before the dinner.

People who attended the dinner could take photos in the car and even enjoy sitting in the rumble seat.



Veterans are regular visitors to our campus. They inspire our residents in many ways. They provide music and donate flags. We love having many veteran residents who inspire us with their love of our country.



Friends from the North Broadway Church of Christ are very faithful to attend our dinners and provide support. They have been very active to help in many ways over the years. Virgie Crawley graciously served as a Hostess at our event.



QUESTION: Is Serving Others a Therapy, a Lifestyle, or Just a Great Heart for God and Mankind? The Keith Simms story.

Our youngest resident at the Church of Christ Care Community is a young man who obviously loves God, but was devastated by a horrible stroke at age 40. He was paralyzed and could not walk or talk. A year later, he still cannot stand up or walk on his own. He has depended on a hooyer-lift for a long time to get out of bed. Thankfully, he can now get out of bed with the help of a care giver.

Keith Simms has been with the Care Community for one year now and it has been agonizing for him to work to regain his strength and begin to use his body again. He is very weak and has a long way to go for the progress he desires. But he is making excellent progress and believes he may be able to go home in 3 or 4 months.



Keith Simms

Some people in this situation might want to languish in bed all day and do as little activity as possible. But Keith is eager to be active in his faith and even desires to be more active in serving his fellow residents. Most of all, he is a man of prayer, and has a wonderful heart for serving God and man. One of the first things he does each day is to read newspaper stories to those who need help reading the paper. Sometimes the general public assumes everyone can read a newspaper, but for those who cannot, Keith is a blessing.



Keith Loves Animals

Some of the things he enjoys doing with other residents are speaking and sharing an inspiring Bible story when possible. He loves to pray with people or do other acts of service for fellow residents who can use his help. Even though he is in a wheelchair himself, he is willing to help others. He loves to help with worship activities, reading scripture, praying, and speaking about his faith when called upon. As Keith himself says, he *"loves to help those who cannot help themselves."*

Keith lived in Detroit in his early years. Then he moved north of Detroit, close to our Church of Christ Care Community. When he lived at home, he only lived about a half mile from the Care Community. He was always active in church and loved to attend VBS or the Pioneer Club in his youth.

This is where he started learning and sharing his faith. So, it made a lot of sense for him to come to our Care Community.

He was not only very active in his church, but also in his elementary school (located just behind our campus). He also loves to cook and that has been one of his joys, but is on hold for now. When his health was better, he loved to bowl and was quite a good bowler.

Keith worked for the L'Anse Creuse Public Schools for 18 years. He hopes to work again when he gets his strength and mobility back. Please join us in praying for Keith that God will bless him and help him heal quickly.



HONOR AND MEMORIAL GIFTS FOM MARCH 1, 2025 TO OCTOBER 3, 2025

GIFTS IN HONOR OF:

Dawn Prince
Donna Prince

Doug Edwards
Peter & Krista Jacoby

Sam & Mattie Snowden
Donna Prince

GIFTS IN MEMORY OF:

Austin & Dorothy Gilley
Suzanne C. Hunt

Betty Ann Loshier
Robert and Karen Loshier

Bob & Mary Jean Wilson
Bob and Sue Wilson

Carolyn Elliott
Joe and Lori Mason

Char Dean
Joe and Lori Mason

Charles & Marilyn Thornbro
Joe and Lori Mason
Todd and Patti Jenema

Chuck Bresch
Donna Prince

Clarence Pratt
Donna Prince

Connie Reagon
Donna Prince

Dale Lewis
Donna Prince

Danny Philips
Donna Prince

Doris Kelley
Donna Prince

Dorothy Hay
Doug and Shelia Selke

Ed George
Gunther & Jane Schlender

Edward Bonior
Carol Bonior

GIFTS IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Elda Brady
Hugh Brady

Eliase Snowden
Donna Prince

Elizabeth Dash
Donna Prince

Evie Marie Brazel
Doug and Shelia Selke

Fred Stone
Donna Prince

Gail Churikian
Samuel Churikian

Gene & Mary Monroe
Bob and Sue Wilson

Glen Evans
Donna Prince

Harold & Leora Willert
Don & Nancy Christenberry

Jack Bills
Doug and Shelia Selke

Jan Howard
Eleanor Gurich

Jennie Morrow
Donna Prince

Jim & Nell Chamblee
George & Jeanne Price

Joan Scherrer
Annette Lozen
David & Rosanne Breloski
Don Scherrer
Julie Sisson
Lawrence & Mary Barnes
Lorraine Bergler
Lynn Dettloff
Roger Simmons

Joe DioGuardi
Donna Prince

John Bizovi
Keith Ingalls
Marge Knapp

John Leffler
Doug and Shelia Selke

John & Carolyn Swan
Gary and Debbie Johnson

Kathy Anspach
Doug and Shelia Selke
Jimmy & Wendy Burcham

Ken Burman
Barbara Theisen

Lora Jones
John and Diana Cox

Lydia Senn
Eleanor Gurich

Marlene Dyer
Dale and Laura Sawyer

Mary Fleth-McCray
Donna Prince

Mary Gaston
Donna Prince

Mary McQuillan
Marilyn Markey

Maxine Whittle
Charles Whittle

Naomi Appollonio
Al and Donna Marino
Bill and Karen Nocita
Cheryl Spurlin
Dale & Kathleen Archibald
Gary and Jill Mostek
Joe and Lori Mason
Kevin and Gloria Conti
Nick and Kim Leone
Samuel Churikian
Thomas & Anne Wozniak
Todd and Patti Jenema

Oliver & Dorothy Schick
Gary and Debbie Johnson

Pamela Reeves
Charlotte Tackett-Tweed
Jimmy & Wendy Burcham
Karen Uhley
Linda Bagnowski
Tim and Pam Reeves

Pat Wright
Dale and Laura Sawyer

Ralph Bauer
Donna Prince

Regina Pepper
Donna Prince

Richard "Dick" Messier
Bob and Sue Wilson
Kevin and Anna Messier

Richard Luce
Donna Prince

Robert "Pat" Johnson
Gary and Cindy King

Robert & Mable Johnson
Billy and Loretta Wright
Gary and Debbie Johnson
Ron and Elaine Loshier

Roosevelt Green
Donna Prince

Ruby & Britt Ellis
Norma Castellucci

Sarya Randolph
Donna Prince

Ted "TJ" Morris Sr.
Donna Prince

Tedd Case
Barbara Napp
Linda Case

Terri Finnern
Donna Prince

Tom and Edith Tucker
Laura Tucker

Walter & Laverne Szych
Linda Case

Will Henry Cathey
Donna Prince

William & Alice Gillespie
Fredrick Gillespie



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Church of Christ Care Community FALL/WINTER 2025

Where the special needs of aging are met with special care.



Manu Florescu, of the Troy Church of Christ, preaches in the afternoon service at Assisted Living.