



REACHING OUT

Volume 6, Issue 1

February 2017

Editor's Note

This issue is dedicated to former editor Patrick McMenemy, who resigned recently due to family needs. Patrick has been the first editor of this newsletter, and has overseen the publication of 49 issues over the past five years. We thank him for his excellent work and dedication as the lead promoter of our outreach ministries, and we gratefully pray many blessings to him and to his family.

Dear Readers,

The story is told of a little boy who asked his father, "Daddy, what's a Christian?" His father, a practicing Catholic, chuckled to himself, always amazed at the questions his son came up with. He began to patiently and lovingly explain how a Christian is a person who knows the Risen Lord Jesus and who tries to be like him in everything he says and does. The father was feeling pretty good about their conversation until his son asked a question that cut him to the heart: "Daddy, have I ever seen one?"

It's a question that challenges each one of us who bear the name of Christ. As the song says, "And they'll know we are Christians by our love." The fact is, our actions speak louder than our words.

Jesus emphasizes this when he says to us, "This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you." Knowing that we have a tendency to make things, especially religion, way too complicated, Jesus tells us that we must simply treat others the way that he treats us.

Outreach ministries are the fulfillment of this commandment. We treat people with mercy, with respect, with compassion, with generosity, with kindness, for this is the way Jesus is with us.

When we treat others this way, it gives credibility to our Christian words. People are more likely to respect us and our message if we

have treated them with love.

This was powerfully witnessed recently by members of our Jail Ministry team. Some of the inmates they were visiting had been served by our Food Pantry volunteers, and one said, "Oh, you're from Resurrection. You guys really help people there!" And it happens that this inmate was a Muslim. His heart was opened to hear God's Word proclaimed by our Jail Ministry because of the kindness and generosity of our Food Pantry ministry.

Please read on about the Food Pantry ministry, as well as the communion ministry to the homebound and the Dominican Mobile Clinic, and be inspired by these dedicated brothers and sisters who are giving credibility to Christianity through their loving service.

+ Deacon Patrick



Homebound Communion Ministry

**"When I was sick, you cared me."
- Matthew 25:36**

There are many ways that we can care for people (and, therefore, for Jesus) when they are sick. Visits, cards, food, medicine, trips to the doctor, prayers, and a compassionate presence all help to heal the body and bring comfort and strength to the soul.

Our Homebound Eucharistic Ministry provides what is perhaps the ultimate medicine for body and soul: the special Presence of Christ in his Precious Body and Blood.

Recently I was visiting a woman who is undergoing treatment for acute leukemia, and I was amazed at her insight into this:

"Jesus is giving me his healthy body in exchange for my sick one."

Even as her body is being ravaged by this terrible cancer and its toxic treatment, she experienced Jesus giving her his strength, his healing and his own body in her suffering.

Homebound Communion Ministry, Continued

This is the essence of what this ministry is all about. We have the incredible privilege of bringing Christ to those who are suffering at home or in convalescent homes.

Currently we have 10 parishioners who bring communion to 13 of our homebound members. The ministers are on a rotating

schedule, so on any given week two are taking communion to the 13 homebound members. They visit with the sick, share God's word with them, pray with them and give them Eucharist.

If you'd like to become a Eucharistic Minister to the Homebound, please contact me at 831-840-3750 (voice/text).

And let us all continue to pray for our suffering members!

+ Deacon Patrick



Food Pantry — "Yours are the hands with which Christ blesses the World." — Prayer of St. Teresa of Avila

The work of your hands supports the 8 food pantry volunteers who carry out the parish ministry of providing food to those in our community who are in need. The team takes turns preparing brown bags for people with kitchens containing 12-14 canned or dried items such as fruit, vegetables, chili or stew, tuna, pasta and sauce, rice, beans, mad & cheese, peanut butter and jelly, soup and sometimes cereal.

Those without kitchens receive plastic bags with fruit, peanut butter and jelly, crackers, pudding, granola bars, cereal, water and

sometimes small tins of tuna, Spam, or Vienna sausages. People can receive up to two bags per month.

In addition to the generous donations from parishioners, we also purchase food (thanks to your \$ donations) from Second Harvest Food Bank and from local grocery stores.

Who visits the pantry? In 2016, 362 families with a total of 757 individuals received food assistance from our parish pantry. Of these individuals **91% were**

below the poverty level, compared to 85% in 2015.



These were all residents of Santa Cruz County, with 54% living in Aptos and Soquel, 23% in Santa Cruz, 14% in Watsonville, and 4% in Scotts Valley. Ethnic backgrounds were 68%, 29% Latino, 2% African American, and 1% Asian.

The pantry is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 10 a.m. to noon.

We thank all of you who share in this ministry through your donations of food and money.

Would you like to volunteer as well?

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Pat and Bill Warmerdam
831-688-5762

Dominican Mobile Wellness Clinic



The mobile clinic continues to traverse Santa Cruz county providing care for uninsured and underinsured patients; we are now in our 6th year of operation. This year we have broadened our focus to include general community screening and education, as well as creating collaborative programs with other agencies.

The mobile clinic is at Resurrection on the first and third Mondays of the month from 9 am to 3 pm. Anyone can come in for healthcare, with or without insurance. A \$15 fee is asked, but no one is turned away for lack of money.

The clinic is also at these locations during the month: San Agustin in Scotts Valley, St. John's in Felton, St. Michael's in Boulder Creek, Our Lady Star of

the Sea and Holy Cross in Santa Cruz, St. Patrick's in Watsonville, St. Vincent de Paul in Davenport, and Assumption in Pajaro.

Research suggests that close to 30% of diabetics in this country remain undiagnosed, and 1 in 3 Americans are pre-diabetic. In an effort to include more community members in a discussion of lifestyles and health we are now offering free blood pressure and diabetes screenings at our regular sites and participating in community events.

We have provided health information and screenings at the Cinco De Mayo celebration in Davenport, Salud Para La Gente Health Fair in Watsonville, Loaves and Fishes in Watsonville, Project Homeless Connect in downtown Santa Cruz, and the Home-

less Garden Project Health Fair on the west side of Santa Cruz.

Our collaborative efforts include the training of several of our staff members to lead Healthy Living classes; they will work with Second Harvest, Central Coast Alliance for Health, Women, Infants and Children and other agencies to teach and promote self-management of chronic disease.

We have a direct referral program to Dientes Community Dental Clinic that provides for definitive dental treatment of urgent dental problems. In a review of dental visits to the emergency room over one month, 30% of those patients seen for dental issues had multiple visits for the same troublesome tooth. Lacking access to dental care they returned to

the emergency room either for pain management or recurrent infections. We have been able to break this cycle through our referral program and provide patients with permanent relief.

Check out our "Hello Humankindness" video! It's an inspiring portrayal of our mission and offers viewers a snapshot of our work on the mobile clinic. The video can be viewed at <https://hellohumankindness.org/mobile-wellness-clinic>.

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A condensed list of **Resurrection's Outreach Ministries** is on page 4 of this newsletter. A complete version with descriptions of each ministry can be found on our website at www.resurrection-aptos.org under the Resource Center, Outreach.

Resurrection Catholic Community Outreach Ministries

Outreach Ministry/ Organization	Contact	Outreach Ministry/ Organization	Contact
Angel Tree	Deacon Patrick Conway pfconway@sbcglobal.net 831-840-3750	Parish Assistance Ministry (PAM)	Jan Finney jer63jan@sbcglobal.net 831-684-2879
Association of Faith Communities Homeless Outreach	Pat Lorenzo pat.lorenzo@yahoo.com 831-708-2068	Prime Timers	Doris Duncanson djamassa@sbcglobal.net 831-662-8605 Sue Bruemmer sbruemmer@sbcglobal.net 831-688-4985
Community Table	Deacon Patrick Conway pfconway@sbcglobal.net 831-840-3750	Prison Ministry	Valerie Roach vmd@cruzio.com 831-274-1150
COPA	Mary Litel-Walsh mlitelwalsh@comcast.net 831-662-3376	Ruby's Outreach	Margaret "Ruby" Caylor riteaidruby@yahoo.com 831-662-3585
Dominican Wellness Mobile Clinic	Sr. Michaela Siplak, OP Michaela.siplak@dignityhealth.org 831-457-7168	Socks for People in Need/SPIN	Pat Lorenzo pat.lorenzo@yahoo.com 831-708-2068
Food Pantry	Pat & Bill Warmerdam 831-688-5762 Rody Hilbert, darhilb@got.net, 831-688-2270	Jesus, Mary & Joseph Home	Kathy Manus kathrynmanus@gmail.com 831-688-0129
Gabriel Project	Virginia Kaufman ginnypk@comcast.net 831-247-5461	St. Francis Catholic Kitchen	Kathy Manus kathrynmanus@gmail.com 831-688-0129
Get on the Bus	Renetta Parry pandas205@msn.com 831-662-3067	Senior Resource Ministry	Ellen Minahan McGibben emcgibben@att.net 831-688-4300 ext. 17
Homebound Ministry	Deacon Patrick Conway pfconway@sbcglobal.net 831-840-3750	Homeless Shelter Ministry	Pat Lorenzo pat.lorenzo@yahoo.com 831-708-2068
Hospice	Shirley Sapena ssapena@hospicesantacruz.org 831-430-3078	Thanksgiving Boxes	Deacon Patrick Conway pfconway@sbcglobal.net 831-840-3750
Jail Ministry	Bill Littell blittelljr@aol.com 831-688-8599	Tithing Ministry	Kathy Manus kathrynmanus@gmail.com 831-688-0129
Knights of Columbus	Larry Gonzales larrydgonzales@aol.com 831-722-3159	Tutoring Ministry	Hugh Voris hugo6184@gmail.com 831-688-7288
Manna Ministries	Kathy Manus, 831-688-0129 kathrynmanus@gmail.com Mike Howley, 831-688-8273 mikehowley1941@yahoo.com	Wings	Deacon Patrick Conway pfconway@sbcglobal.net 831-840-3750
Mantles of Caring	Susan Punches suepunches@aol.com 831-661-0732	Women's Guild	Betty Elder bncelder@comcast.net 831-708-2570
Nursing Home Ministries	Deacon Patrick Conway pfconway@sbcglobal.net 831-840-3750	For a more detailed description of the ministries go to www.resurrection-aptos.org,	Click on Resource Center and look for the Outreach Ministries Contact List under Outreach. As of 2/16/17