



REACHING OUT

Volume 6, Issue 2

Spring 2017

Editor's Note

Dear Readers,

I write this on Holy Thursday morning, looking forward to our Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper and the unfolding of these special days of grace. On Holy Thursday our Lord Jesus gives us his Body and Blood to forgive, heal and nurture us so that we can go forth and "wash feet" in humble service to others.

After he washes the feet of the disciples, a dirty job done only by the lowliest servants, he says, "Do you know what I have done for you? I have given you an example, that so you also may do."

All of the Church's ministries are ways that we "wash feet" and serve others, but perhaps our Outreach ministries are the clearest witness to

this humble servanthood of Christ.

This special Easter issue of Reaching Out presents several of our Outreach ministries that are listed on the back page. Please allow yourself to be touched by the witness of these ministries, and be open to the call of the Risen Lord to follow his example of humble service. Feel free to contact me or one of the many ministry representatives for more information.

If you are a visitor or are unable to give your time and talent to one of these ministries, we invite you to give financial support for them. Outreach Ministry donation enve-

lopes can be found on the counter above the bulletins in the church entrance. They are white and have various ministries listed. You can des-

ignate or write in a particular Outreach ministry, and 100% of your gift will be used for that specific purpose.

And please keep the poor and the suffering always in your prayers and in your heart.

Easter Blessings,

+ Deacon Patrick
pfconway@sbcglobal.net
831-840-3750



Senior Resource Ministry

Our Senior Resource Ministry was born out of our experience of helping our senior members and their families through times of transition and crisis. Our part-time coordinator, Ellen Minahan McGibben, helps to provide a variety of programs to enhance the lives of our seniors.

- **Many Hands** – volunteers provide rides to mass and to medical appointments, welfare

checks after surgery, minor household repairs, referrals to professionals for larger repairs, and donations of medical equipment.

- **Spirituality** – seasonal retreats and pilgrimages
- **Single Seniors** – social gatherings and outings
- **Chair Yoga** – each Wednesday at 1:00 pm in the parish com-

munity center; increases stability, mobility and serenity!

Contact Ellen Minahan McGibben for further information about Senior Resource Ministry
emcgibben@att.net
831-688-4300 x17



Prison Ministry

Volunteers visit the state prison in Soledad to lead meditative prayer groups three times a month.

Get on the Bus

Children of parents who are incarcerated need in-person contact with their mothers and fathers. It is a basic human need and inspired Sr. Suzanne Jabro, CSI to establish **Get On the Bus**, a special program that brings children and their caregivers from throughout the state of California to visit their mothers and fathers in prison.

Originally this event was held every year on Father's Day and on Mother's Day. Now, the trips are made also in September, November and December. This is only possible because of the dedication and hard work of all the donors and volunteers. Because of this generosity and compassion of so many, last year over 1100 children were united with their parents serving time in 11 prisons throughout the state (7 men's and 4 women's facilities).

This year, through the kindness and support from the people of Resurrection Church and other churches in the Monterey Diocese, many buses will again provide free transportation to the prisons for the children and their caregivers. These buses will go directly to the two prisons in the Salinas Valley. There they will spend three to four hours visiting

with their fathers and grandfathers. The buses come from all over the state of California and many of the children and their chaperones have been on the bus since the middle of the night. After their visit, they will be taken by bus to the various participating churches.

Get On the Bus helps to unite and connect children with their parents in prison and, more importantly, when parents are released from prison. Data reveals that recidivism decreases when families stay connected. Children who are allowed regular visits with their incarcerated parent demonstrate better emotional and social adjustment; they can be assured they are loved and that their parents have not abandoned them by choice. The number one barrier families list as preventing children from visiting is distance, followed by finances. Thanks to the generosity of Resurrection parishioners and other churches this program survives and grows.

"Last June I had the opportunity to volunteer inside one of the prisons in Soledad. It was something I never expected to do but God put this on my heart (in fact it was on Holy Thursday that I sub-

mitted my application—how timely and appropriate since Holy Thursday is about serving others).

I wasn't sure what to expect and arriving at the prison was intimidating. I knew I would be locked inside with guards, inmates, kids, chaperones and volunteers. What I didn't expect to find was humanity—but I did. The inmates are just people. They are dads, husbands, brothers and sons. I saw families, and unconditional love, joy and the mercy of God. Children rushing up to their dads and being swung into a hug with huge smiles was a joy to see. To the children it is just their dad.

On behalf of the children and their families I thank you for your past and continued generosity. Donations are due by May 1st. Please use an Outreach Ministries envelope. This is the seventh year that Resurrection Church has participated by sponsoring a bus."

Karen Victorino, Get on the Bus volunteer
kmvictorino@sbcglobal.net
831-688-4300



Parish Assistance Ministry (PAM) & Food Pantry

The Parish Assistance Ministry and Food Pantry provides food, bus passes, laundry vouchers, financial support and referral information to anyone in need. Both

ready-to-eat and other foods are provided from the food pantry (packed by our wonderful team of volunteers). PAM is open Mondays and Fridays (and on the first

Wednesday of each month) from 10 am to noon in Markey Community Center. Volunteers welcome those in need and work with them to help in the best way pos-

sible. Records are kept to ensure that resources are distributed fairly and responsibly. Our faith-filled and dedicated volunteers fulfill the words of Jesus, "When I was in need, you helped me."



COPA: Communities Organized for Relational Power in Action

COPA is an organization of 22 faith communities (Resurrection is a founding member) and other institutions in Santa Cruz, San Benito and Monterey counties that helps us to address large problems such as affordable housing, public safety, immigration, healthcare, and jobs. Initially funded in part by grants from the Catholic Campaign for Human Development nearly 20 years ago, it is now self-sustaining, with an office, a paid staff of three, and over 200 volunteer organizers from its membership. COPA's mission is to develop the leadership skills of ordinary people to engage effectively in public life with power to negotiate with public and private sector leaders to change the economic, social, political and cultural

pressures on their families.

Some of COPA's many accomplishments over the past few years:

Affordable Housing - In June 2004, COPA won a unanimous vote from the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors for an ordinance requiring that at least 40% of homes be constructed for moderate, low and very-low income families when land is re-zoned for residential use. This led to the creation of 300 units of housing for low and medium-income families.

Public Safety - Monterey County leads the state with the highest youth murder rate of 31.24 per 100,000 residents ages 10 to 24. Santa Cruz ranked 15th in this same study by the Violence

Policy Study. COPA's approach to stemming the tide of gang violence is to engage in prevention strategies to complement the suppression and intervention efforts of local government. We believe that if our kids are provided opportunities for supportive family life and positive community activities, they can find dignity, self-worth, and meaningful connections with caring adults to create high expectations for achievement. To this end COPA launched a free Summer Futsal (indoor soccer) program for 200 kids in Live Oak in collaboration with the Sheriff's Activity League, Live Oak School District and Live Oak Family Resource Center, and organized for the



construction of 11 soccer fields as part of the Regional Soccer Complex in Salinas.

Healthcare - Resurrection parishioners and other COPA members worked to prevent threatening 10% pay cuts to home health care workers (from \$11.50 to \$10.35 per hour) and organize a petition drive that led to actions with the Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors in support of the Long Term Care Workers. 400 signatures were collected; COPA leaders met with supervisors and testified at public hearings. After a year and a half of negotiations, the Board of Supervisors agreed to maintain wages at \$11.50.

Gabriel Project

The Gabriel Project protects unborn children by giving material and spiritual support and encouragement to their parents. The large sign on our corner property invites anyone in a crisis pregnancy to contact us for support.



Communion Ministries to the Homebound, Nursing Homes & Incarcerated

Each week trained volunteers take communion to the homebound, to several nursing homes and to the county jails.

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 |