

Thanksgiving 2016

Father Carr's Place 2B

"Celebrating over 40 years
of enriching lives"



Calendar of Events

November 20

Mass with Bishop Ricken
St. Martin De Porres Chapel
@ 5:30pm

November 24

Thanksgiving Mass at 9:00 AM
Thanksgiving meal deliveries from
10:30 AM to Noon
Thanksgiving meal from
12:00 PM to 1:30 PM

Celebration of Lights

Help us collect food at Menominee Park
from 5-9 pm
November 25-27
December 22-27
Call 920-231-2378 to volunteer

December 3

Karaoke Party
6:30 Welcome and Registration
7:00 Competition Begins

December 24

Children's Christmas Breakfast and Program
9 AM to 11 AM

December 25

Christmas meal deliveries from
10:30 AM to 12:00 PM
Christmas meal from
12:00 PM to 1:30 PM

St. Francis Community Free Clinic A wonderful service to our community.

BY JAYE ALDERSON FOR THE COMPASS Reprinted for Father Carr's
Newsletter

For more than 40 years, Father Carr's Place 2B has been living the words of Jesus in Matthew's Gospel: Matthew: "Whatsoever you do to the least of my brothers, you do for me" (25:40).

Along with offering shelter for the homeless, daily meals, spiritual guidance, a food bank, a community center and other services, the Place 2B also offers free medical care for the uninsured and underinsured through St. Francis Community Free Walk-in Clinic, which was also founded by Fr. Martin Carr more than 20 years ago.

ALL VOLUNTEERS

The clinic is operated entirely by volunteer medical professionals and receptionists, with private donations of funds and medical supplies. On average, about 50 clients a week and over 2,500 individuals are served each year. Clients come from Winnebago County and adjacent counties, and as far away as Green Bay and Fond du Lac.

"There's no motivation other than just to help people," said Bob

(continued on inside)



Dr. McAvoy takes a break
between patients.

Thank you to our donors who support the clinic with supplies, medicine and many other expenses. We need all of you to continue our mission of providing healthcare for those in need.

1062 North Koeller Street, Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54902-3245

Telephone: 920-231-2378

Email: blang@fathercarrs.org www.fathercarrs.org



Pat is one of many volunteers at our St. Francis Community Free Health Clinic.



The Thrivent Lutheran Golf Event helped raise money for Father Carr's on October 7th. Lutheran and Catholic organizations joining together truly represents the spirit of togetherness and serving others.



We are proud and thankful of our community partnerships. St. Vincent De Paul recently donated new shoes and clothes to Father Carr's.



On October 1st many people enjoyed a reception following mass as we celebrated our annual "Share the Vision" event. It was a great time to celebrate our mission and those who give their time, talents and financial support.

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Lang, executive director of the Place 2B. "The people who have made this clinic possible are the most loving, compassionate and giving people. This clinic is the result of philanthropic people giving money freely and people who come and serve. It only works because there are people who want to give back to the less fortunate, people who realize they have been blessed and gifted and want to share."

That was the motivation for Dr. Alejandro Eisma, a consulting internist at Winnebago Mental Health Institute. He has volunteered at the clinic since moving to this area in 2002. After working for more than 30 years in New York City, he wanted a "change of atmosphere" and found it through a friend living in northeastern Wisconsin.

A colleague, Dr. Curt Radford, had volunteered at the Place 2B for several years, and told Eisma about the opportunity. "He didn't need much to convince me," Eisma said. "I wanted to volunteer. I recommended myself."

Originally from the Philippines, Eisma said, "I always felt some of us are blessed with some gifts. Both my parents were school teachers, and education is the best gift. I felt I was lucky. I see around me some folks who are not as lucky. I wanted to share my blessings."

A PROMISE

Twenty five years ago, his wife, Delia, was very ill and needed two surgeries. He said he made a promise to the Blessed Mother: "I will give back and say thank you" if things went well for his wife. They did. For the past 14 years, Eisma has volunteered from 1 to 5 p.m. every Tuesday.

"There are a lot of unfortunate folks who need medical care," Eisma said. "Many have lost their insurance. Sometimes they can't get an appointment with their doctor. We're here to buffer that. I'm seeing a lot of patients I never expected to see here. We don't turn them away. If I get a chance to give care, I'm going to do it."

Although the clinic offers basic medical care, some testing and some prescription drugs, the main part of his service is educational, he said. "We try to educate them. ... We teach them about medications, lifestyle, what they should be learning about their disease. We're here to help them or give them a second or third opinion."

Eisma lives in Omro and is a member of St. Raphael the Archangel Parish in Oshkosh. He plans to continue at the St. Francis clinic. "If I had to do it all over again, I probably would have come here sooner," he said.

Rosemary Langenberg of Omro is the volunteer director of the clinic. She started volunteering years ago at the Place 2B food pantry, and Fr. Carr, in his will, asked her to take over as coordinator of the clinic after his death in 2007.

She coordinates the schedules of the volunteer doctors, nurses and receptionists, and places orders for medicine.

"It's so rewarding," she said. "I'm going to be 70, but I'll keep in there as long as I can. It's all about helping the poor. That's what Fr. Carr's dream was. We're always here. The corporal works of mercy is what happens here. If someone is in pain, dentists will come in after hours."

"I just love it here," she added. "All the volunteers come because of love and joy. There's a lot of joy in their service here."

Carol Shikoski, of Oshkosh, has been a volunteer of three years and is gratified by the help the clinic is able to provide.

"There are a lot of people you're able to help, she said. "They don't know where else to go. We are here to serve the people who are in need."

Lang said it also is important to reach out to their clients spiritually.

"We want people to be touched," he said. "Maybe something will spark them to bring them back on a faith journey. We want to touch them in mercy and love. We're all on a faith journey. Maybe, through our experience, we can make a difference for somebody. Through a lot of prayer and the work of the Holy Spirit, God has provided us with volunteers, resources and everything we need to operate and touch people in Christ."



Thank you to Dr. Eisma, Rosemary, Carol and all of our dedicated clinic volunteers.



Preparing for the next patient at our free health clinic.



Father Carr's is lucky to have many doctors, healthcare professionals and other volunteers give of their time and skills to care for others so generously.

Happy Thanksgiving from the Director

Greetings and Blessings to You and Your Family,

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the volunteer staff we hope this newsletter finds you and your family in good health and spirits. Summer has passed, autumn is here and winter is quickly approaching. It was truly a summer to remember and autumn has been equally beautiful and filled with abundant blessings. Give the glory and praise to our God! On Saturday, October 1 st we gathered together for the annual "Share the Vision" event. After celebrating Mass in our beautiful St. Martin de Porres Chapel, we enjoyed fellowship in the Mother Teresa Center. As Father Carr's tradition would have it; plentiful snacks, cake and ice cream, numerous stories told and all among joyful volunteers and benefactors who attended. An emotional slideshow was presented of people and happenings at the Place 2B. It illustrated our rich past, highlighting the individuals and groups who share their time, talent and treasure and those who faithfully serve with such great love and joy.

What then is our mission and vision for Father Carr's Place 2B? You all know Father Marty Carr's mission. **Mathew 25, verses 31-46.** *Then what is our (and your) vision for the Place 2B?* As I listen to others share their vision for the Place 2B, this is what I hear. We are a place of hope; a place where men, women and especially children can find a place which is safe and secure; a sanctuary which offers peace and quiet and the presence of Christ; a place where the volunteers serve with understanding, patience and compassion; a place where those who come find stability, structure and order; a place where an individual has an opportunity to heal, make a friend and a chance to receive needed assistance; and finally a place of faith and love (perhaps even heaven on earth). These are our visions, desires and our hopes. Do you remember Father Carr commenting "We cannot help everyone and we cannot save the world, BUT we can be Christ to those who come here". As Saint Teresa of Calcutta would assert; "If you cannot feed a hundred people, then just feed one" and "Do small things with great love." Herewith, thank you for your generous support. We will continue to minister and assist those who come to this holy place. Always know you have made a positive difference in the lives of others.

Thank you and God bless!

May the Peace of Christ be with You.

Bob

Thanksgiving Message from Father David Duffeck

The Lord's Fruit Basket

Many of us in the course of our lives have received fruit baskets. Often times, they come as a surprise and we are elated at the thoughtfulness of the giver. A closer look reveals those fruits we really enjoy and some fruit we are less fond of. We would rather regift them to a friend or neighbor. Does this lessen our gratitude toward the giver? We all have our personal likes and dislikes, wants and desires, hopes and dreams. Sometimes the mixed basket of fruit like the mixed baskets of our lives may be the best gift for us. The Bible reminds us: "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28).

In these current times of difficulty and uncertainty, we need to rethink about the gifts and blessings in our lives. All may not be what it seems and even the things we dislike will draw us into a deeper understanding of the meaning of our lives. Trials in life are not necessarily bad for us. They help us to reevaluate our direction in life, strengthen our convictions, help us grow in faith, which ultimately pushes us on the path of holiness. The menu of life is prepared for us but we must receive it with the abundance of faith.

May the gift of God's love fill your hearts with thanksgiving,

Fr Dave



Mary Pat Carr, Father Carr's sister stopped in for a visit recently. We are blessed to have her remain a part of our family.



The Crop Walk helped raise funds for Father Carr's and the Day by Day Shelter.



Neil with 3 generous volunteers who cut hair at the Resource Fair.



Penzey's Spices recently donated thousands of jars of pepper. Thank you.



Personal Profiles

A woman recently stayed with us who had previously been living on the streets. After living at Father Carr's she found a job at a local factory and worked hard to save money for her own apartment. This drawing of Jesus is an example of her talents. She helps cope with the challenges of life by drawing, writing poetry and using her faith. We appreciate all of our volunteers and financial supporters for allowing us to help her and many others.

Children represent about one quarter of all people in the United States that are homeless and children in Wisconsin are no different. A recent family living at Father Carr's included a mother and her four children including an infant. We are proud to say that they just moved into an apartment. Living independently is such a significant milestone. The challenges of families that are homeless are great. Obtaining a job, finding an apartment and gaining financial independence while raising 4 children as a single mom is an enormous accomplishment. This mother obtained employment as a home health aide and found good childcare for her kids. Her older children were extremely helpful while living at Father Carr's and we are proud of them too. Our volunteers and financial donors can be extremely proud that this is one of many families that we support.



Volunteer Needs

Looking for:

- Someone handy to help with maintenance needs and projects.
- Men and women coaches and mentors
- Clinic coordinator and receptionist
- Volunteer coordinator
- Receptionist at the Mother Teresa Center



Needed Items

- Flour
- Cans of shortening
- Sugar
- Cans of evaporated milk
- Turkeys
- Butter pads
- Gravy - jars or cans
- Gift cards: (Menards, Wal Mart, Lowe's, Fleet Farm)
- Kwik Trip gas cards
- Bus tokens
- Children's gifts, especially ages 12-15

Don't Forget to Like us on Facebook

Thank you to Katherine Pecora for volunteering to update our facebook page and keeping everyone informed of what is happening at Father Carr's. Please "like" our "Father Carr's Place 2B" page. You will be able to view lots of pictures, hear about our events and learn about great people doing great service.

