



Thanksgiving 2021

Father Carr's Place 2B

From the Executive Director

Thank you to our dear volunteers and donors who have kept our mission going strong for 47 years.
Happy is how I feel about all the Blessings bestowed upon our work.
As you read this newsletter, enjoy all the wonderful happenings here at Father Carr's.
Never doubt the power of prayer. It sustains and uplifts you.
Kindness to all who enter our doors is what you will receive.
Service to others is what Thanksgiving is all about!



John Nieman
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John

New Local Cable Access TV Show, The Place to Be, Spotlights Non-profits and Volunteers

Father Carr's Place 2B is pleased to announce an exciting new community engagement initiative in partnership with the Oshkosh Herald. The two organizations teamed up to launch The Place to Be - a new local cable access television show produced by Oshkosh Media and anchored by John Nieman, Executive Director of Father Carr's. The Place to Be spotlights the work of non-profit organizations and volunteers in the Oshkosh community.

"Oshkosh is an incredible community and there are countless individuals and organizations working together to support one another and those in need," explained John Nieman, Executive Director of Father Carr's. "This new endeavor allows us to bring attention to the critical work going on and to raise awareness of the needs and opportunities that exist right in our own community. At Father Carr's we know that only by working together can we truly support those in need and we are excited to join together to spotlight the good work and missions of our fellow non-profits and dear volunteers."

New episodes of The Place to Be air monthly on Oshkosh Media's Life TV and are replayed weekly - 2:30 p.m. Mondays, 7:30 a.m. Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. Thursdays, 9:30 p.m. Fridays, and 10:30 a.m. Sundays; available on Spectrum Cable Channel 2 in the City of Oshkosh.

The September 2021 episode featured Habitat for Humanity Oshkosh, and the October 2021 episode featured the UW Oshkosh Center for Civic and Community Engagement. Each episode is led by John Nieman, who previously produced and hosted the award-winning Helping Hands television series for 17 seasons. Set design is provided compliments of U Bloom, a new local floral shop located on Witzel Avenue.



Introducing the New Interns

My name is Nicolas Bedolla and I am a social work major attending the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. While majoring in social work I also have a minor in psychology. Outside of school, I love exercising and hanging out with friends! A population that I am interested in working and advocating for would include those facing homelessness that may need help getting back on their feet. Aside from this population, helping individuals going through any hardship has brought value to my life. While interning at Father Carr's I have the pleasure of working and aiding with multiple resources that this center has to offer. I have been primarily working in the Men's Shelter alongside the Life Enrichment Program Director. On Friday's I also help with the Drive-Thru Food Pantry. I am thankful for the warm welcome that I have received from all the staff, volunteers, and residents of Father Carr's. I cannot wait to continue my internship with such a wonderful organization!

Nicolas Bedolla

My name is Samantha Gass and I will be completing my foundational internship here at Father Carr's Place 2B. I am a second year, full-time, Master of Social Work student at the University of Kentucky. I grew up in Tennessee, but relocated to Oshkosh, WI in 2014 to complete my undergraduate degree in Psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. I currently work full-time Monday-Friday and am blessed to spend my weekends interning here at the Place 2B. I am a mother of two daughters, and I enjoy spending my free time making memories with them. We love to cook together and talk about the challenges the world faces. They always remind me to persevere and see things from a different perspective.

I began my graduate degree at the University of Kentucky with the intent of moving back there, but COVID-19 had other plans for me and my family. Luckily, it led me here to Father Carr's Place 2B. A place where I can continue my education while serving those in need. For as long as I can recall, my passion has been to serve others and create a positive change in the lives of the people I come into contact with. My deepest passion is to support families that are struggling, and guide children away from intergenerational struggles. Here at the Place 2B, I am able to do both of those things every day! I began my journey here at Father Carr's Place 2B at the end of August, and I am committed to being here every Saturday and Sunday from 8am-2pm through the end of December. I hope to meet you while I am here!

As an intern at the Place 2B, I am most looking forward to working with the women and children at the Holy Family Villa and with Olivia Walton, John Nieman, Sister Angela, Sister Grace, and Sister Rebecca to enrich the lives of the women here. Throughout my time as an intern here, my goals are to gain a better understanding of how homelessness is affecting women and children in the Oshkosh and surrounding area, and to assist the women in our care with attaining long-term self-sufficiency. I am blessed with the opportunity to be here, to learn from the ministry's mission, and to expand my knowledge of the Oshkosh communities struggles so that I will be better equipped to practice social work in this area. My life motto is: "Always help someone. You might be the only one that does."

Samantha Gass

My name is Branden Parks, and I am a returning intern from UW Oshkosh! I am a double major in psychology and criminal justice and will be graduating in December! I chose to spend a second semester at Father Carr's because it is a very welcoming environment and contains many volunteers and staff that deeply care for the well-being of others. Father Carr's Place 2B has allowed me to use my skills to help others in ways that I have never been able to before. Additionally, once I graduate from UW Oshkosh, I plan to work towards earning a master's degree in social work. Through this, I am striving to work with other nonprofit organizations throughout Wisconsin in assisting in the rehabilitation of incarcerated individuals as they enter a life outside of our prison system. During my time at Father Carr's Place 2B, I have been assisting with improvements to the security of our buildings, volunteer applications, and more recently, meeting with residents and assisting them with daily issues and concerns.

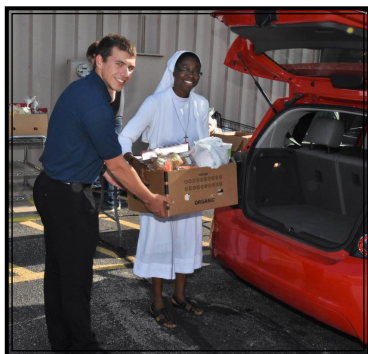
Branden Parks



An Experience in Our Friday Drive Through Food Pantry

For almost two years now with the pandemic crisis, our food pantry services changed from its usual ways to a new form – as a drive through. This practice has been ongoing every Friday from 8 – 11 a.m. As usual, Father Carr's has always been blessed with numerous volunteers from the community of Oshkosh and beyond.

One of the interesting things that I have experienced through these services is the joy of serving people irrespective of their background. These people are very appreciative with the services we give to them, some respond by blessing you which I value so much, because the graces are continuously made manifest throughout my daily life. Personally, I find joy interacting with people, listening to their stories and sharing my little experiences with them as well. Sometimes I feel a bit stressed, but the moment I begin seeing these people with their facial expression of gratitude then I experience a change of mood. It has always been a joy each Friday.



Working with a different caliber of volunteers and learning from them as well has been fantastic especially, Hussain's dedication as well as committed people like Mary, Margie, Sherry, Diane, Jerry, Bruce, Jim, Ron, Randy, Larry and many others between the age range of 70 and above who constantly show up as early as 6:00 a.m. to help put things in place making sure that all the items are put in the boxes to be given to the people. Another great group of volunteers is Father Kevin, Fr. Zach and their students. I am always inspired by their selflessness. These are great people that Father Carr's is so blessed with to share in our ministry.

- Sister Grace

LIVING – AND ENHANCING – OUR MISSION

Driven by Volunteers. Funded Privately. Guided by Faith.

HOUSING

Helping our neighbors – We provide short and long-term shelter for those experiencing homelessness. Father Carr's is open to those who have demonstrated an ability to contribute to a safe environment as well as a willingness to follow our program guidelines and work towards self-sufficiency.

LIFE ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Leading people to greater independence – Our residents have their own Life Enrichment Plan designed to address individual needs. Plans provide goals and support for housing, employment, medical care, substance abuse recovery, mental health needs and financial management. Residents meet regularly with a social worker that monitors their progress. All residents are required to commit to our Life Enrichment Program.

COMMUNITY CAFE & GATHERING SPACE

Coming together as one – In 2022, a new gathering place will be available inside our Mother Teresa Center. We've remodeled to form a bright and inviting space. Anyone will be able to gather for conversation, refreshments or to relax by themselves. Wifi, snacks, and beverages will also be available for free. We also welcome the community, families and organizations to schedule formal events.

FREE COMMUNITY CLINIC

Serving those in need – Our St. Francis Free Clinic offers general medical care and some specialized medicine for the uninsured and underinsured. Led by volunteers, medical staff includes medical doctors, psychiatrists, nurses, nurse practitioners specialists. The clinic is available on a walk-in basis. Similar to our entire organization, the St. Francis Free Clinic operates entirely by private donations and individuals giving of their time.

FOOD PANTRY

Feeding the hungry – Our weekly food pantry is open to the public every Friday from 8 – 11 a.m. and was transitioned to a drive-thru format to better serve those in need during the ongoing pandemic. Additionally, perishable food is available almost daily through Our Daily Bread - a grocery store-style food pantry located inside of our Mother Teresa Center.

Advocap Heartily Thanks Father Carr's

Thanks to the generosity of Father Carr's Place To Be, Advocap has been able to continue to offer GED /HSED classes in Oshkosh. Class space at Advocap has been unavailable due to the pandemic. Instructor Mark Burns says " Father Carr's has become a second home". Acting Director Anthony Beregszazi and Business Development Director Kathy Doyle for Advocap said " Father Carr's gracious offering of space at their facility has allowed us to continue to work with young adults to continue their education, take their GED tests, and become successful". Approximately 50 students have attended classes at Father Carr's since the beginning of the pandemic.



Volunteer Rose proudly standing by our Autumn Tree. Our volunteers decided they wanted to keep our tree up all year and change the decor for the seasons and Holidays, it has been well received by everyone who passes thru our doors.

Residents from our mens shelter enjoy some time for fellowship and fun, Lots to do in The Mother Teresa Community Center.



2021 Annual Father Carr's Thanksgiving Meal

Drive-thru

Thursday, November 25, 2021

10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Father Carr's Campus (1062 N. Koeller St)

Donations Needed:

Turkeys

3 compartment take out trays

Thanksgiving candy to put with meals

Bus tokens/passes

Festival or Kwik trip cards

Check out our Facebook Page and website for more information and how to register!



Neil Romenesko
May 13, 1949 - June 16, 2021



Son, Brother, Uncle, Child of God,
Friend, Mentor, Servant, Inspiration!



Is There a Phone App for Giving Thanks?

Our use of modern technology can be a blessing or a curse. It can facilitate our accomplishing more in less time or using our time foolishly and thereby accomplishing less. An app can give us a procedure and a method for doing a myriad of things. It is based on a program of logical procedures. But, can it express the deepest sentiment of our heart and soul? There are times when we ourselves struggle with the right words to capture "that something" that stirs within us.



If an app cannot aid us in giving thanks, then what will? Prayer.

Always be present to God in prayer and become intimate in the love that God has for you. His love is enduring and surpasses any circumstances that we may find ourselves in. Things could always be better or they could be worse. The only thing in life that doesn't change is the love of God. We may struggle at times and most of us are in this current situation in the world. Isn't it comforting to know God will not abandon us in our time of need? Shouldn't we be thankful for all that we have knowing we could have less? Unfortunately, some do. For all of you that support our ministry at the Place 2B, we give thanks for your love of God and others in need.

Giving thanks is an act that shapes our very being so as to form within us a heart of gratitude that is an inspiration from our all-loving God. Giving thanks comes from a heart receiving, reflecting and sharing the love God has for each one of us. No app is capable of so much.

Father Dave

CALENDAR



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|------------------|---|
| NOV. 10TH | FOX 11 FOOD DRIVE FOR FATHER CARR'S |
| NOV. 13TH | STIEG FOOD/WINTER ITEM COLLECTION FOR FATHER CARR'S |
| NOV. 25TH | THANKSGIVING DAY DRIVE THRU MEAL, 10:30 - NOON |
| NOV. 26TH | NO DRIVE THRU FOOD PANTRY |
| DEC. 18TH | CHRISTMAS EXPRESS DRIVE THRU 2 |

**CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS
WITH FATHER CARR'S
PLACE 2B**

We will once again be transforming our annual Christmas celebration into a drive-thru style wonderland that the whole family can enjoy. The Christmas Express 2 will feature a variety of holiday activities that families can enjoy from the comfort of their vehicle.



Father Carr's
**CHRISTMAS
EXPRESS**

Drive-thru 2

December 18th, 2021

9 - 10:30 A.M. | 11 - 12:30 P.M.

*Father Carr's Campus
(1062 N Koeller Street)*

**Check our Facebook and website
for more info and when you can
register!**



DONATIONS NEEDED

Fr. Carr's will again be celebrating Children's Christmas in a safe and socially distanced way this year. You can help by purchasing a \$20-25 value toy and dropping it off at Fr. Carr's by Saturday, December 11.

Some suggestions are : Legos, remote control cars, dolls, adventure playsets, bath and body items, sports equipment. We will also need to stock up on board games to give away to each family.

We are also accepting monetary donations to help us fill in gifts for age groups where gifts are more scarce.

Thank you for helping to brighten a child's Christmas season!

We are a Parish without Walls

As a Life Enrichment Center, we are driven by Christian values to provide a sense of community and support for people in need. We strive to foster hope, self-worth and a self-sustaining life, through housing, food, health care, educational programs and volunteer opportunities.



Matthew 25:31-46

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www.fathercarrs.org

We're Smiling Because of Amazon Smile

Father Carr's has been blessed to be a part of the Amazon Smile program. We are grateful to Amazon for providing this opportunity and to all the Father Carr's supporters who designated Father Carr's Place 2B as the charity to support. If you have not done so simply log in to smile.amazon.com, then select Father Carr's Place 2B as your charity.

