



# SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2025

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## THE YEAR OF HOPE AT FATHER CARR'S

The late Holy Father, Pope Francis stated in his writings on the Jubilee Year of Hope, "In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring." Hope is in the heart of every human person, because it is inherent to us to believe in goodness, for it is goodness by and for which we are created.

But, when it comes to the meaning of hope, often our minds go to the question "What if? What if something good comes from this difficult or uncertain situation?" But the reality is that having hope doesn't mean we believe something good could happen, it's having confidence that something good will happen. How do we know this? Because the God of the universe is Goodness Himself. He only works for our good and the good of the world. Every evil thread that unravels in our world, He has a plan to tie up in a bow of goodness.

So, when Pope Francis said that hope is in the heart of every human person, he deeply meant that. It is most inherent to us to be certain that goodness will always conquer evil, because we are rooted in goodness. Although hope is the certainty of goodness, it can be difficult to maintain hope among challenges, suffering, or simply in the midst of a broken world. This is why in this Jubilee Year of Hope we are called to live as pilgrims of hope with one another. Our encounters with others are some of the most intimate encounters of God we have. It is often those around us that strengthen our hope because they reveal reflections of goodness that no one else can.

In reflecting upon this, it is of the utmost importance that we seek those who have little or no hope. We have brothers and sisters in this world who have no one to love them, nothing to live off of, are prisoners of addiction or isolation, and are victims of hopelessness. As pilgrims of hope, we have been given a duty to bring hope to the hopeless.

At Father Carr's we have the privilege of living this out in intentional and deeply personal ways. The brothers and sisters who come through our door are on the verge of hopelessness, but we get to receive them with great hope that God has goodness in store for their life. Yes, we can provide food and shelter, but the experience of Father Carr's unfolds when those who come to us are able to believe once again that they are good, that their life is good, and that through trusting in the Lord, goodness will prevail for them. Despite not knowing what the future brings, it is in the heart of every person to expect good things. Let us revive that spark in the hearts of those around us during this Year of Hope.

***Sami Boehm, Contributing Writer***

## ME AND THE PLACE 2B

I want to take this opportunity to share with you my experience at Fr. Carr's Place 2B over the last 25 years. It's been a wonderful 27 years in Oshkosh, Wisconsin and so grateful for the opportunity to live, work, volunteer and raise my family here.

27 years ago I retired from the Navy, Married Paul (whom I met while we were both stationed together in California) moved to Wisconsin with my son Travis, gave birth to two additional wonderful boys William and Michael, it has been a wonderful place to raise a family and grow in faith.

I first met Father Marty Carr when he hosted groups of kids at the Place 2B, when it had all kinds of arcade games, pool tables, and even an indoor basketball court, which is where I would bring my oldest son Travis with his Boys Scout Troop. There were always lots of volunteer opportunities for the boys to sign up for and participate in. This is where I learned of all the great things Fr. Carr was doing for the community.



Fast forward a bit to when my two younger boys joined Scouts, we would also help in delivering meals and helping where needed. As my boys became more independent, I found myself with more time to give back, so I became a front desk receptionist answering phones, meeting many kind and generous donors, comforting the hurting souls looking for food or shelter or just sometimes someone who just wanted someone to talk with. You just never knew what was in store for the day and who was going to walk through the doors or make a phone call. It was never a dull moment.

We as a family have enjoyed volunteering with the delivery of meals, Breakfast with Santa, the Bridge Walk, CARRnival for KIDS, food collections for the pantry and so much more. Setting the example for our boys the importance of helping others. Watching them now as grown adults helping others and volunteering in their communities has been a blessing.

I have so many fond memories of getting to know so many sisters that have cared for the women and children at the shelter, they have been and are all truly angels in white. One special memory of a sister I taught to drive, I will never forget that experience, we survived it and had so much fun! May God Bless them all for what they do.

I have made so many good friends with whom I volunteered with. We have spent countless days and evenings outside of Fr. Carr's enjoying each other's company, so blessed to have made such wonderful friends.

Getting to know the directors and interns that have managed the Place 2B has also been a pleasure as well, seeing them care so much for the residents, the volunteers and guest that have entered through the doors.

Seeing the comradery the food pantry volunteers have with one another and especially with Hussain the pantry manager is so heartwarming. I just don't know whether they come to socialize or to work, but somehow, they get so much done.

I have also taken pleasure in planting flowers in pots, painting statues inside and outside to give the Place 2B some additional color. I have also made hundreds of rosaries for Fr. Dave and his ministry, which I thoroughly enjoyed making. I have helped at the clinic when needed, served as a Spanish interrupter for the doctors, even for a resident who had just given birth at the hospital. I became an election poll worker and was lucky enough to serve here at Fr. Carr's Place 2B, I would lock up at night so staff wouldn't have to stay late.

I guess I cared so much about the ministry that I was recommended and invited to join the board of directors. I was honored that they found me worthy of being invited. I always felt like part of the family at Fr. Carr's, but now I felt like a parent who had an input on raising and helping direct the path of Fr Carr's Place 2B. Sort of how we did in raising our boys, always thinking of what was best for them and guiding them on the right path to take and now I was helping decide the best path for Fr Carr's Place 2B.

## ME AND THE PLACE 2B CONT.

But what truly touches my heart the most is hearing stories of the residents who have lived here and have turned their lives around with the help of Fr. Carr's Place 2B. So many wonderful success stories, one earned her college degree, one a manager at a department store, so many happy souls just having enough to buy their own cars and move into apartments of their own. These were huge accomplishments for these wonderful people, things that many of us take for granted, it has been humbling.

But now, as with everything else in life, new opportunities come along. Being that my husband and I grew up and raised in different states, we do not have family here and our boys all moved to other states to pursue their lives as well. So, it is time now for us to fly from our nest and head south. We are not leaving Oshkosh completely; we will maintain a residence here to come and spend our summers. We cannot totally uproot from this place where we have called home for so long. I will still volunteer at Fr Carr's at the front desk or wherever else I might be needed.

I thank God for the people I have met here, and if God willing, I'll continue to make my appearances at Fr Carr's Place 2B to work or just to visit because it's truly a place to be. I will always feel as if I were a part of a family here, it has been such a welcoming place for all. If you have not experienced the opportunity to give some of your time here, I urge you to do so, in any way you can.

Thank you for taking the time to read my story. God Bless you all,  
**Laura Schmidt**

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Laura,

*Thank you for the generous contribution of your time, talent, and treasure to Father Carr's ministry. You have made a profound impact on the souls who have looked to us for help. We wish you, Paul and your family good health and happiness as you journey forward.*

*May the Lord's peace be with you always!*  
**Jim and the Board of Directors.**

## IRA / QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS (QCD) GIVING OPTION

Father Carr's Place 2B would like to remind those of you who are 70.5 years or older, gifts up to \$100,000 from your IRA may be directly transferred from an IRA to a qualified charity such as **Father Carr's Place 2B LTD**, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Even though the SECURE Act raised the required minimum distribution (RMD) age to 73, the QCD age remains at 70.5, so QCDs can be used for charitable giving even before RMDs begin.

***Check first with your IRA administrator or tax advisor for more detailed information about Qualified Charitable Distributions' processes and timeline.***

**For more information** on the IRA/QCD option and other additional ways to donate to Father Carr's, please contact either **Jim Boehm, Father Carr's Executive Director at (920) 231-2378** or at [jimboehm@fathercarrs.org](mailto:jimboehm@fathercarrs.org) or **Deacon John Ingala (Father Carr's Board of Directors' Development Committee Chair) at (920) 203-9272** or [deaconji@gmail.com](mailto:deaconji@gmail.com).

## CFK 2025 WAS SPECTACULAR

CARRnival for KIDS 2025 (CFK) was nothing short of amazing. The Lord provided a beautiful day, and the community took advantage of it by attending this free carnival.

- Over 3500 souls enjoyed this incredible event
- 2000 hamburgers and 2000 hot dogs were served
- 100 gallons of ice cream were scooped.
- Over 200 volunteers helped make this day possible

Thank you to our sponsors for making this day happen.



### 2025 CARRnival for KIDS Sponsors

4Imprint  
Aegis Financial  
Amcor  
Anthem  
Badger Mill Supply  
Blended Waxes  
Care Partners Assisted Living  
Cumulus Media  
Dairy Queen

Discher Millworks  
Festival Foods  
Fox Valley Savings Bank  
Ganther Construction  
Humana  
Image 360  
Omni Glass & Paint  
Oshkosh Herald  
Rick & Nancy Manion

Sadoff Iron & Metal  
Schiek Sports  
Shea Electric  
Thrivent  
West Pointe Bank  
Wihlm Dental  
Winnebago Community Credit Union  
Winnebago Oral Surgery



**CARRnival for KIDS 2026 is Saturday May 30<sup>th</sup>**

**TMIY**  
THAT MAN IS YOU!  
BECOMING A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART

**Coming to Father Carr's Place 2B  
September 10th**



## TOO BLESSED TO BE STRESSED

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Too often in today's world, we find ourselves chasing the next thing. We stay in a constant state of "busy, busy, busy," and too seldom do we take the time to slow down, relax, and enjoy the ride.

I recently traveled to Hawaii with my husband for our honeymoon, and it was nothing short of incredible! We were able to sleep in late, swim at the resort's saltwater lagoon with sea turtles, ziplined, took a sailboat ride, tried spam musubi for the first time (If you haven't tried it before- I highly recommend it!)

While we were there, we also went to church on Sunday morning. We found a small church with a 10am mass, and were surprised to see "stadium" seating. It had a warm, welcoming atmosphere, and was composed of visitors from all over the world, including the deacon who gave the homily, who was traveling from San Diego.

The homily spoke to me deeply. He spoke about the importance of hospitality, and embracing the Hawaiian expression, "Aloha". For those who do not know, "Aloha" means both hello and goodbye, but carries a deeper meaning as well. It represents "love, affection, compassion, and mercy". The deacon encouraged us to embrace this meaning of "Aloha", and exhibit these traits in our daily lives.

He also spoke in admiration of Hawaiians, that they live on "island time" and take the time to slow down and enjoy life. Throughout the rest of the United States, we often live in a "what's next" approach. Rushing to get the next task done, get to the next meeting, etc. We don't always slow down and appreciate our blessings.

One line from the homily that really struck a chord with me was, "We are too blessed to be stressed". I am definitely one to try to accomplish all the things be the best mom, wife, daughter, sister, friend, director to the clinic, etc. And sometimes I stress myself out in the process trying to be and do all the things.

I think most of us need to take a second to truly say "THANK YOU, God, for these blessings", and reconsider, is it really worth stressing about?

Aloha,  
**Emily Htwe RN, BSN,**  
**Clinic Director, St. Francis Free Clinic**



## FATHER CARR'S PLACE 2B YEAR TO DATE 2025

*"For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me."*

- Matthew 25 vs. 35,36

### Year To Date in 2025...

- Over 100 men, women and children have been invited into our **Life Enrichment Program (LEP)**. While providing transitional housing, our Life Enrichment Program (LEP) focuses on an individual's physical, mental, financial, and spiritual health. Many souls come to us experiencing homelessness, unemployment, substance abuse, exposure and hunger. Our LEP offers each person a plan to return their life to the one God imagined for them.
- Our **Saint Martin De Porres Food Pantry** has provided groceries to over 10,000 people. Father Carr's has served over 30,000 meals in the community and to our residents.
- The **Saint Francis Free Clinic** has seen 1238 patients to date. We are constantly looking to expand our services to the community, including dental care. The Clinic's Wellness Program has helped many in the community to lead a balanced and structured life.
- Our **Saint Mother Teresa Community Center** continues to host free family and community events. CARRnival for KIDS was attended by over 3500 people this past May.

### YOUR SUPPORT IS WHAT SUSTAINS US

Father Carr's Place 2B operates entirely on donations from foundations, individuals, churches, businesses and other organizations. We are not subsidized with any government funding. We operate our facilities, including our clinic and food pantry, primarily with volunteer labor.

Please support Father Carr's Place 2B and the community services we provide by scanning the QR code to the right or giving online at [fathercarrs.org/donate](http://fathercarrs.org/donate).



PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING

## MEAT FOR OUR FOOD PANTRY

Our meat locker is at a crucial low level.

Can you help?

All meat is accepted.  
Fresh, frozen, wild game.



WE TAKE  
VENISON

OPEN  
MONDAY-FRIDAY  
8-5  
SATURDAY  
8-NOON



## ATTENTION HUNTERS

WE ACCEPT  
VENISON AND ALL  
WILD GAME MEAT  
DONATIONS.

# Father Carr's Place 2B Annual Appeal

We are excited to announce a new initiative, Father Carr's Annual Appeal. This annual appeal will focus on upgrading our infrastructure and facilities over forthcoming years.

- Facilities renovations
- Grounds improvements
- HVAC replacements
- Technology infrastructure upgrades
- Other special projects as needed

Please consider a one-time gift, a monthly or annual pledge to support our facilities and infrastructure needs to maintain Father Carr's for generations to come. For your convenience, below is a QR code that you can use to donate.



For more information on our Life Enrichment Center and how to support the ministry through this Annual Appeal, please contact Jim Boehm, Father Carr's Executive Director at (920) 231- 2378 or at jimboehm@fathercarrs.org.

**Father Carr's Place 2B Life Enrichment Center receives no public/government funding.**

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



**VOLUNTEER AT OUR NEW DENTAL CLINIC & MAKE A DIFFERENCE LOCALLY!  
HERE IS WHAT WE NEED:**

- 🦷 Dentists
- 🦷 Dental Hygienists
- 🦷 Dental Assistants
- 🦷 Dental Clinic Manager



**EVEN JUST ONCE A MONTH IS HELPFUL!**



[APPLY NOW](#)



920-231-2378 (Mother Teresa Center)  
920-230-2273 (Clinic)  
emilyhill@fathercarrs.org (Clinic Director)

## ESTO VIR OSHKOSH

### EVO Men's Spirituality Morning

7:00 am – Arrival / Welcome  
7:05 to 7:40 – Confessions  
7:20 am – Holy Rosary  
7:45 am – Holy Sacrifice of the Mass  
8:15 am – Breakfast / Fellowship  
8:45 am – Presentation  
9:30 am – Wrap Up  
9:45 am – Departure



**BECOME THE  
COURAGEOUS MAN  
GOD IS  
CALLING YOU  
TO BE.**

## BE A MAN!

**Guest Speaker - Saturday, September 20th  
Reverend Monsignor James L. Gunn  
Pastor, Churches of Mater Dei Parish**



FATHER CARR'S PLACE 2B  
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Matthew 25:31-46

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[www.fathercarrs.org](http://www.fathercarrs.org)

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## CURRENT LIST OF NEEDS FOR FATHER CARR'S PLACE 2B

### Food Pantry Staples

Fresh or Frozen Meat  
– Wild Game accepted

Coffee

Cumin

Onion Powder

Garlic Powder

Cinnamon

Chili Powder

Breakfast Cereal

Peanut Butter

Canned Fruit

Canned Chili

Jam/Jelly

Chef Boyardee

Canned Meat/Fish

Flavored Oatmeal

Black Pepper

Granola/Snack Bars

Spaghetti/Spaghetti sauce

Chunky/Progresso soups

Applesauce

Hamburger Helper

### Shelter Needs

Bathroom cleaner

Cleaning Supplies

Feminine Hygiene Products

Baby/Toddler Diapers - all sizes

### Ministry Needs

City Daily Bus Passes

8.5 x 11 Printer Paper