



# Capuchin Community Services

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

## Construction Job Gone, Guest Finds Help from Capuchin Community Services St. Anthony Project to Support Expanded Services to Those In Need

“I came down from Minneapolis for a construction job,” Tyson said. A young man in his 20’s, Tyson’s construction skills are basic with experience in demolition and pouring concrete. “However,” he continued, “the job evaporated after I got here and I’ve been homeless for three weeks.”

“I came to Capuchin Community Services’ St. Ben’s Meal for dinner and learned about the Front Door Ministry,” Tyson said. “And I’ve used it for everything they offer! They let me take showers, gave me some bus tickets, made a housing referral and even gave me a sleeping bag.” Tyson has a ready smile but became serious as he said, “I think it’s really important to have someone to listen to you and advise you as to your next steps when you are homeless.”

Br. Rob Roemer said, “The Front Door Ministry is our name for the services we offer each afternoon at our residence. Providing a compassionate and listening ear to someone who is trying to find his or her way out of homelessness is just as important as any “stuff” we give away. Our staff and volunteers offer hope to people who are often feeling quite hopeless. That’s why the St. Anthony’s Project is so needed. It will allow us to move these services to St. Anthony’s and expand what we offer.”

When Tyson heard that the services he counted upon would eventually expand he said, “You got a lot of people in Milwaukee who need help and who don’t know about Capuchin Community



▲ Tyson enjoys dinner at Capuchin Community Services’ St. Ben’s Community Meal site as he works on finding a job..



▲ Br. Rob Roemer, Ministry Director leads a tour of the St. Anthony Project for Janet Cudahy, President & Director at Patrick and Anna M. Cudahy Fund and Lauren Krieg, Executive Director (not pictured).

Services. So more access to help is better when you are dealing with people so positively.” Br. Rob added, “That is the message I share each time I give people a tour of St. Anthony’s.”

He smiled and continued, “I had a great visit with Janet Cudahy and Lauren Krieg of the Cudahy Foundation. They asked for a tour of St. Anthony’s and I had an opportunity to explain how the project not only provides new apartments for the homeless but also expands our capacity to serve.” Br. Rob continued, “We’ll be able to go from one shower to three secure shower facilities and house the Ascension – St. Ben’s Clinic adjacent to our expanded Front Door Ministry.”

“We will also be able to provide offices for Milwaukee County’s Day Reporting Center. Because our building is in use 12 hours per day, the Day Reporting Center will be able to offer limited evening hours. So people who are on work release and work during the daytime will be able to check in after work – something they can’t do right now,” Br. Rob said.

In response to a question from Janet, Br. Rob explained, “The floors above the first two will be housing. Each floor will be gender specific with keyed access by elevator for the residents. When we opened the Capuchin Apartments, the split was 50/50 male to female. However, it gradually shifted until it’s now 75% male and 25% female. That is roughly the same proportion of those who come to eat the meal.”



NEW Walker’s Course

USATF Certified  
5K Run

USE FORM ON PAGE 4 OR REGISTER ONLINE NOW!

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

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## House of Peace

Holiday Food Box & Toy Drives

- Help sort clothing, assemble hygiene bags & stock pantry shelves. To sign up call: **Volunteer Coordinator at 414.933.1300, ext. 1123.**

## St. Ben's Community Meal

Assemble & Distribute Posters & Yard Signs for the Capuchins' Run Walk for the Hungry

- People are needed to assemble 1000 yard signs and put up posters in neighborhood coffee shops, gyms & houses of worship, to help call: **Volunteer Coordinator at 414.271.0135, ext. 1123.**

Help Serve the Meal as Floor Servers

- People are needed to pour coffee, milk, water and serve condiments. Also help is needed bringing trays of food to the table for those who are disabled and families with small children, to help call: **Volunteer Coordinator at 414.271.0135, ext. 1123.**

## HOW TO DONATE

To make a gift to our Capuchin ministry to the hungry & needy go to:

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

Or mail your gift to:

Capuchin Community Services  
P.O. Box 5830  
Milwaukee, WI 53205-5830

*Capuchin Community Services is a ministry of the Capuchin Franciscan Province of St. Joseph. Unless otherwise directed, donations support the local ministry and the Province.*

*The Capuchin Franciscan Province of St. Joseph is a 501(c)(3) organization. Gifts made to our ministries, Capuchin Community Services, St. Ben's Community Meal and/or the House of Peace, are tax deductible as allowable by law.*



## Roaming Ministry

by Br. Rob Roemer, OFM, Capuchin Director

### Thank God Ahead of Time

“Thank God ahead of Time.” That was the motto of my Capuchin Brother, Fr. Solanus Casey. He often told people this when they came to him asking for prayers. He had such a deep and simple trust in God, that rather than telling people he would pray for them and their requests for healing, he would tell them to go home and thank God for hearing their need. Many people were healed through the prayers of Fr. Solanus. He was a very simple man who was told by his superiors he was not smart enough to be ordained or to preach publicly. So Fr. Solanus started feeding the poor from the doors of the Monastery in Detroit.

He quickly won the esteem of many and soon had huge pots of soup going each day. In 1933, with the help of many, he began the Capuchin Soup Kitchen in Detroit. Recently, Pope Francis and Rome investigated a number of miracles of healing that happened after individuals prayed to Fr. Solanus. There was no other explanation for people's healings. Pope Francis announced that Fr. Solanus Casey would be beatified a saint of the church.

I want to use Fr. Solanus' same quote as we move ahead with our capital campaign to remodel the former St. Anthony Hospital into a service center



▲ Br. Rob Roemer (L) and Archbishop Jerome Listecki (R) pose before the annual Holy Thursday meal box distribution at Capuchin Community Services' House of Peace site.

for the homeless and affordable housing for those otherwise living on the streets of Milwaukee. We kicked off our capital campaign over a month ago, and people have been responding very generously and with great compassion. I am very pleased to tell you that when writing this, we have secured 2/3 of our \$2.5 million dollar goal. We have received over 860 gifts, but I trust, as Fr. Solanus did, and Thank God, and you, ahead of time, because I am confident we will receive more gifts and reach our goal.

I am aware that we could never do this project without such trust from our friends and donors. We could never do any of our works without the goodness of others. And so I too, Thank God Ahead of Time, for touching your hearts with the compassion that drives you to share with us. Please join my brothers and me in Thanksgiving for our brother, Fr. Solanus, who was recognized for his simple faith, has touched, and continues to touch so many lives. Let us pray for the many simple people who come to our doors each day and remember they too are important and special people.

## Staff Arrivals & Departures



▲ Brigid Anne Rush (R) posed with Fr. Perry McDonald (L) at last year's Capuchins' Run Walk for the Hungry. Brigid had started with Capuchin Community Services as a Cap Corps volunteer and then was hired to serve as the Volunteer Coordinator. Brigid has left to accept a job in the hospitality industry in her home state of Minnesota.



▲ Dean Lex (L) is retiring as Kitchen Manager and is training Don Rytman (R) to step into this key position at Capuchin Community Services' St. Ben's Community Meal site. Dean is looking forward to enjoying his role as grandfather for his first grandchild but promises to return as a volunteer himself. Don has over 30 years experience in healthcare food service. He said, "I've already learned that my main job is supporting the sponsor groups and their ministry to the hungry."

# Wellness Group Transitions

## After Decades, New Groups to be Formed

“In the 1990’s Br. Booker Ashe and Dr. Sandra Underwood decided that there should be empowerment classes that focused on health,” Linda Barnes explained. Linda is the social worker for Capuchin Community Services’ House of Peace site. “The plan was to create a partnership between the UW-Milwaukee School of Nursing Community Nursing Center and the House of Peace,” Linda said. “These efforts evolved so that today we have holistic classes and groups that cover financial, spiritual, emotional and physical health issues.”

Jean Bell Calvin is a Clinical Assistant Professor at UW-Milwaukee and is the current Nursing Center Director for two sites including the House of Peace. “Attendance has been 70 people or so for many years. Many people have learned how to improve their health over that time. It is now time to review what’s worked and where we should focus our resources as we continue our partnership.”

## Blessings of Service

by Gerri Sheets-Howard, M.Div.  
Administrative Director

### A Changing Vision

Change for many of us can be quite challenging. With change comes uncertainties, trepidation, and a certain aura of mystery. As we excitedly await the changing of the season from spring to summer, we are looking forward to new growth, sunny days, and the shedding of our cool weather outfits. Change has come to Capuchin Community Services, in our staff and in some of our programming. At St. Ben’s we say good bye to Kitchen Manager Dean Lex, and welcome Don Rytman. We will also welcome a new Volunteer Coordinator in the near future.

In addition to these changes, we are restructuring the Adult Wellness Group, which has been meeting at the House

Linda expanded on Jean’s comments, “We are going to bring this Wellness Class to an end because many of the participants could teach the classes themselves. We’ll work with them to design new programs to better serve the community’s needs.” Vanessa Baldwin, Nurse Clinician from UW-M often leads the groups. She said, “We want to help our participants maintain their health while introducing younger people to these concepts.”



▲ Linda Barnes, Social Worker explains to the members of the Wellness Group how the group will transition this fall to a series of classes.

Linda said, “This summer we’ll hold our H2B (Healthy Blood Pressure) Program which focuses on steps people can take to maintain a healthy blood pressure. Then in September, we’ll hold focus groups to help us as we create new opportunities for learning.”

Linda continued, “The community has really embraced Br. David Hirt’s poetry writing classes.” Vanessa added, “There will be life after the Wellness Group wraps up and it will help us reach new generations to improve their health.”



▲ Gerri Sheets-Howard, Administrative Director (L) joined Br. Rob Roemer, Ministry Director (R) in thanking Bill Michaels, the "Big Unit," (C) for agreeing to emcee the Capuchins' Run Walk for the Hungry this year.

of Peace site since 1993. This weekly group which has grown to approximately 70 faithful participants will undergo a change. There was great concern among the participants that they would no longer be able to meet with their friends at the House of Peace. At the final session of the Adult Wellness group, the new vision for “Empowerment Classes” was shared with all of the participants.

Classes will be offered in semesters, and participants can register for the courses of choice. We believe that this change will bring in more facilitators, and attract more guests of Capuchin Community Services to take advantage of the classes. Change can also be exciting. With change comes new opportunities, new vision, and a certain aura of empowerment.

## Who We Are

Capuchin Community Services is a ministry of **The Capuchin Franciscan Province of St. Joseph**, a religious community of friars inspired by St Francis of Assisi. Our friars live and work with those who are in need of help... the poor, the disenfranchised, and the needy.



## Our Ministry Council

Capuchin Community Services is advised by a volunteer Ministry Council consisting of leaders in our community. Current Ministry Council members include:

- Diane Knight
- Julie Darneider
- Anthony Myers
- Chuck Cmeyla
- Felice Green
- Sara Zirbel
- Wendy Hermann
- Pam Meyer
- Duncan Shrout
- Gerri Sheets-Howard (Administrative Director)
- Br Rob Roemer (Provincial Council Liaison & Ministry Director)
- Jeff Parrish (Director of Provincial Ministries)

# The Capuchins'



Emcee  
**Bill Michaels**  
"The Big Unit"

# FOR THE RUN-WALK HUNGRY POLISH FEST

**JUNE 16, 2017 • 7PM**

5:00 pm Check-In at Main Gate of Polish Fest

Sponsors:



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

Friday, June 16 - Sunday, June 18



For each participant, Usinger's will generously donate up to 1 pound of product.

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

### 5K RUN:

A certified and chip timed/scored race.  
**\$30 Adult, \$20 Child [ \$35 and \$25 after June 4 ]**  
Child must be 12 or younger on race day.

### AWARDS:

Immediately following the Run/Walk, awards for 13 age divisions and 3 overall finishing times for Men and Women.

**DRAWINGS:** All Capuchins' Run/Walk participants are eligible for wonderful prizes. Must be present to win.

### 2 MILE WALK:

Non-competitive walk.  
Not eligible for scoring or awards.  
**\$25 Adult, \$15 Child [ \$30 and \$20 after June 4 ]**  
Child must be 12 or younger on race day.

### TEAM INFO:

Teams of 10 or more runners/walkers/or both are eligible to have your team name printed on your shirts AND you will receive the Early Bird Discount. Registration deadline is June 4.

Please register online at:

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

**PARTICIPANT REWARDS: Commemorative T-Shirt • FREE Polish Fest Admission all Weekend**

**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION:** Payment must be postmarked or completed online by **June 4, 2017**.  
After June 4, shirt sizes cannot be guaranteed.

**Individual registration is available below or through [www.CapuchinsRunWalkForTheHungry.org](http://www.CapuchinsRunWalkForTheHungry.org)**  
**Have a team of 10 or more? Please register your team at [www.CapuchinsRunWalkForTheHungry.org](http://www.CapuchinsRunWalkForTheHungry.org)**

Photocopies are accepted. Detach along dashed line

### REGISTRATION FORM: PLEASE PRINT

Name	Run/Walk	Gender	Age Runners Only	T-Shirt			Amount
				Size	Adult	Youth	
1					<input type="checkbox"/> Adult	<input type="checkbox"/> Youth	
2					<input type="checkbox"/> Adult	<input type="checkbox"/> Youth	
3					<input type="checkbox"/> Adult	<input type="checkbox"/> Youth	

#### Individual who is completing form:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

My extra gift to the Capuchins to feed the homeless and hungry: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check (Payable to: Capuchins' Run Walk for the Hungry) Credit Card:  VISA  MasterCard  Discover  Am Ex

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print name as it appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby waive all claims against The Capuchin Province of St. Joseph, Polish Fest, Inc., Polish Heritage Alliance, Inc., Milwaukee World Festival, Inc., City of Milwaukee and the Board of Harbor Commissioners, race personnel and all sponsors for any injuries from which I may suffer while taking part in this event or as a result thereof. I grant permission to all of the aforementioned to use any photographs, motion pictures, videotapes or any other record of this event for any legitimate purpose. Participant Signature (or guardian if under 18).

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return Form & Payment to: Capuchins' Run/Walk for the Hungry**  
**P.O. Box 5830, Milwaukee, WI 53205 • Phone: 414-374-8841, ext. 41**



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### Capuchin Community Services

St. Ben's Community Meal  
1015 N 9th St  
Milwaukee, WI 53233  
414.271.0135



House of Peace  
1702 W Walnut St  
Milwaukee, WI 53205  
414.933.1300

Support our ministry: [www.CapuchinCommunityServices.org/Donate](http://www.CapuchinCommunityServices.org/Donate) or by mail to P.O. Box 5830, Milwaukee, WI 53205-0830