



# the BASIS Newsletter

**Brothers and Sisters in Service** 











Please visit our website for the latest updates!

## WHEN WE'RE TOGETHER AGAIN

## House of Peace & St. Ben's Community Meal Plan Reopening

House of Peace staff practiced how we'll serve guests at our Emergency Food Pantry once contactless distribution ends. Site Manager Linda Barnes played the part of a guest. Here's the new plan:

1



◆ Guests will be checked in at the front door. Anyone without a mask will be offered one

> ► Guests will then meet with Br. Brenton to register for the Emergency Food Pantry



3

House of Peace



◀Guests will receive food, helped by volunteers & staff

> ► After receiving food, guests will be escorted out the side door. All travel is one way



St. Ben's Community Meal is remodeling some areas to better serve our guests with volunteer support when we reopen.



■ Kenny Howard, Site Manager, shows the fully stocked First Aid Station in the remodeled volunteer bathroom



▲ The courtyard between Saint Anthony Place and the church and Meal Hall has been landscaped

#### **WORKS OF MERCY**

VOLUNTEERING PAUSED & PLANS TO RETURN

House of Peace &

### St. Ben's Community Meal

In the hope of expanding our services, and counting on continued progress against the COVID 19 pandemic, CCS will soon welcome back volunteers. Saint Ben's is planning to re-open the Meal Hall for dinner on September 7th, and the House of Peace will resume service inside the building in October.

Please see the article on page 3 for details on how to sign up to volunteer. For updates please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Nicole Fair. She can be reached at: 414-933-1300, x1123 or email:

ccsvol@thecapuchins.org.

**IN-KIND DONATIONS** 

## House of Peace &

#### St. Ben's Community Meal

CCS is now accepting in-kind donations of clothing and hygiene items at its two locations. We regret that we cannot accept other items at this time.

The House of Peace: Donations are accepted from 1:00 pm and 3:30 pm, Monday through Friday. To deliver, please ring the doorbell then return to your vehicle. Staff will assist with unloading and provide a receipt.

Saint Ben's Meal: Donations are accepted from 9:00 am and 11:00 am, Monday through Friday. To deliver, please ring the large doorbell next to the Meal Hall doors, and then return to your vehicle. Staff will assist with unloading and provide a receipt.

## **Call and Response**

by Br. Robert Wotypka, OFM Capuchin Ministry Director Armondo Diaz, staff member & Br. Robert pose with Jay Reinke of the Milwaukee Area Labor Council. with food donations



#### "Your Support Helps Us Plan"

"The eternal now" – this is a term I heard a long time ago, and it's stayed with me. I heard it in a psychology course, and the teacher said it's what it's like to be materially poor. When a person doesn't have enough resources, life becomes a moment by moment struggle for everything: for a meal; for a place to live; for clothes to wear; for health care. In the eternal now, planning is sacrificed – and it's not the kind of sacrifice that gives

life, as many
do (and indeed
as the holiest
of sacrifices
has done).
It's a sacrifice
that closes
doors, forces
decisions, leaves
little room for
wisdom, and
hardly any room
for planning.

In the middle of June, teams of the House of Peace received a phone call from a local TV

reporter. There were two people shot to death in the neighborhood immediately around the HOP, and the reporter wanted reactions. She didn't know then what we also learned later: just how close to home these deaths came to us. The families immediately impacted by these sudden deaths were well known to us. Through our Direct Help ministry, which our donors sustain, we helped family members pay for the funerals of their loved ones, and thereby have

at least some closure with their tragedies. Can you think of a worse unplanned emergency? Direct Help usually goes toward people facing eviction, but I hope you'll agree this was a wise expansion of this ministry.

I never take for granted the resources CCS has. I consider it a prime responsibility that I shepherd them as best I can. CCS is audited every year, as are all

> the ministries of St. Joseph Province. You'll find that we're prudent, frugal even. When the catalytic converter was stolen from one of our vans, our Maintenance guy, Mark, made a carapace (yes, fancy word but it fits!) out of parts he had in the shop. It's quite ingenious,



▲ Br. Robert (in green shirt) poses with the Knights of Columbus Council 3702 at the Capuchin Virtual Walk for the Hungry. Some teams did walk in local parks and friars attended several of the walks

and the van is now parked over it every night. It should deter another costly theft. Thank you, Mark!

Your generous support doesn't mean we can coast. It means we can plan. In this we imitate our Creator, who has a plan for all of us. I pray God's plan for you and for me and for CCS continue to intersect in lifegiving ways. May God give you peace.

## **Volunteering to Resume Soon**

#### Sign Up to Serve at the House of Peace & St. Ben's Community Meal.

This past year and a half has been tough for many of us. We have faced situations that have forced us to be resilient and learn to embrace change. This ministry values the importance of the relationships we have with our volunteers and would like say

Thank You and Welcome Back!

I personally have missed seeing the faces of our volunteers. I have had the chance to know a lot of you on a personal level and because of that, have built great relationships. I realized how valuable you are to this ministry and how many of you have left a long-lasting impression on myself, my colleagues and the community. I have learned how much dedication, time and effort is put into serving from all of you. bags up turkeys for guests to receive I am grateful to you. I know you are ready to come back and I welcome you with open arms.

During our time away, we have implemented a new volunteer software, Volunteer Hub. This new software is efficient and works well for registering volunteer opportunities. It gives you access to see what is going on within the different ministry sites

and to sign-up for available shifts. To access Volunteer Hub, go to https:// bit.ly/CCS-Volunteers. Volunteer Hub is where volunteers can create their profile, see what our needs are and signup for the different opportunities that best fit them.

I post opportunities to volunteer as they become available. The House of Peace has current volunteer projects. St. Ben's Community Meal should be able to have volunteers serve indoors starting in September. If you have any questions about Volunteer Hub, please contact me. I can't wait to hear from you! by Nicole Fair, Volunteer

Coordinator

▲ Nicole Fair, Volunteer Coordinator, in addition to their other groceries from the Emergency Food Pantry

## **Capuchin Community Services Launches Volunteer Registration Website**

All Capuchin ministries now use Volunteer Hub as a way to register volunteers and match volunteers to assignments. Here's how to set up a Volunteer Hub account for the first time. In order to maintain safe environments, Volunteer Hub will also initiate a background check on all who apply.

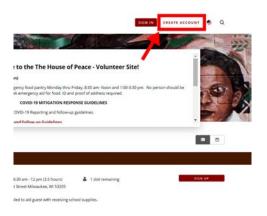
#### Step 1:

Go to bit.ly/ CCS-Volunteers, select the House of Peace or St. Ben's Community Meal volunteer opportunities and click on link



#### Step 2:

On the next page click on "Create Account." You can see what volunteer opportunities are active right now



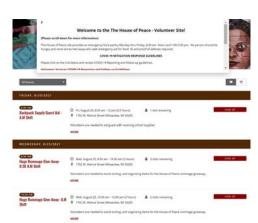
#### Step 3:

Create a free account in Volunteer Hub. There are several screens asking a few questions and collecting your preferences



#### Step 4:

Select the volunteer assignments that you'd like to assist with and sign up online. You will receive further updates



## Partner Agencies Help CCS Serve Guests

#### Ongoing Partnerships Flourish - New Partnerships Formed



▲ League Champion UW-M Panthers partnered with McDonald's to donate to CCS. One of the players did her nursing internship at the HOP



▲ The Milwaukee Area Labor Council hosted a cookout at a Wednesday outdoor meal night

Thank you to all of our partners, those on this page and the many others who share their time, talents and treasure each year. Peace & all good!

## **Pastoral Ministry Interns Join CCS Staff**

#### Postulants practice ministry - Seminarian served as child, now serves again



#### Postulants:

Alvaro Martinez (L) and Andy McAnelly (Center) receive an orientation from Kenny Howard, (R) Site Manager, St. Ben's Community Meal. Both men are postulants seeking to discern a call to Capuchin Franciscan life. If they are accepted into the order they will have further opportunities to discern their callings. Andy grew up in Saginaw, Michigan and has degrees in accounting. Alvaro was born in Miami, grew up in Nicaragau and has a degree in communications. They will serve at both sites during their formation year



#### Seminarian:

Faye Grice, Food Pantry Assistant (L) shows Seminarian Kevin Durand (R) how to pack a food bag for guests at the House of Peace. Kevin served at St. Ben's Community Meal with his grandparents as a child. He's now attending St. Francis Seminary for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. When offered a selection of sites to serve for his pastoral internship he said he knew he wanted to minister here

#### **Our Ministry Council**

Diane Knight • Julie Darnieder • Anthony Myers • Chuck Cmeyla • Felice Green • Sara Zirbel • Duncan Shrout • Claire Shanahan Br Robert Wotypka, Ministry Director • Jeff Parrish, Director of Provincial Ministries



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