

C.A.R.E. Project Possibilities

Christian Action Reaching Everywhere

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Church of Saint John Neumann

Alterra-ClareBridge Assisted Living

Contact: Life Enrichment Coordinator ~ 651-686-5557.

Augustana Health Care (nursing home)

Contact: Jean Lawless ~ 952-236-2595.

Organize a game night for residents, make greeting cards for all the residents or some other fun activity.
Try to schedule a time other than near Christmas.

Bread for the World

Contact: Todd Kalina ~ 651-686-4500.

Learn about world hunger and write letters to congressional representatives about ways the United States can help alleviate hunger.

Bridge for Runaway Youth

Contact: Shirley Carter (Volunteer Intern Coordinator) ~ 612-377-8800.

Raise funds, supplies. Light cleaning at the center..

Campaign against Child and Sweatshop Labor

Contact: Danielle Baas Molliver or Darrin Chance ~ 651-454-2079 (SJN office).

Explore ways to fight against child and sweatshop labor. Help organize special event open to the parish and community.

Video available to help you and the students understand the issue. (Issues other than sweatshops are also available – contact Danielle or Darrin for more information.)

CANA Dinner

Contact: Rich Klish ~ 952-432-1540.

Help set up, serve food, then clean up for the CANA Dinner (February 13, 2009). Setup begins at 6:00; end at 10:00.
Please contact Rick Klish at least two weeks in advance.

Catholic Charities

Contact: Family Service Center, Neil Dahlheimer ~ 651-779-5479.

Help cook and serve a meal for clients at the Family Service Center.

Cheerful Givers

Contact: Karen Kitchel ~ 651-226-8738.

Provide and assemble birthday bags for disadvantaged children in our community. Or, raise funds.

Common Bond

Contact: Lynea Geinerg ~ 651-290-6226.

Help senior citizens in affordable housing with cleaning, home maintenance.... Give parties at homework centers & family sites.

Eagan Resource Center

Contact: Darrin Chance ~ 651-686-0787.

Clean and organize food pantry

Armful of Love - program that helps families who need help at holiday time – sort, match, wrap and distribute gifts.

Do a drive for cleaning supplies for the transitional housing program, hygiene and diapers for food shelf.

Do a specific drive (e.g., food drive or diaper drive for shelf; includes stocking.)

Help with community events.

Community Caring for Life

Contact: Sandie Williams ~ 651-454-2079 (SJN office).

Help with their baby shower on October 25 - November 2 and April 25 - May 3. Ask to have someone talk about this ministry.

Coordinate a Diaper Drive.

Also, "Blankets for Babes" ministry.

Cook for Kids

Contact: Pam Olsen ~ 612-460-2138; www.crisisnursery.org.

Provide a meal for the children at the Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery. This will include doing the shopping, cooking, and clean up for lunch or dinner. Groups can cook just once, monthly, or quarterly. Kitchen is fully equipped.

Dakota Woodlands

Contact: Ginni Lambert.

Spring cleaning: rake, wash windows; organize a games for the kids.

Organize drives for baby food, bedding and linens. Help with food drive for their Christmas dinner.

Adopt and decorate a room. Holiday gift baskets. Prepare mailings. Sort donations.

Dorothy Day

Contact: Carol Frenette ~ 651-293-1919, x706. PBO Required.

Call and reserve month of preference as soon as possible. Carol needs at least one month advance notice and can only book one group at a time. Or call the SJN coordinator ~ 952-895-7306.

Help serve dinner with SJN group on the 4th Friday of the month. Must be in 9th grade or older to volunteer. Max of one group can volunteer at a time, and they prefer no more than 6 students per evening. Groups must be there by 4:30 p.m. Can also arrange for someone to orient you and do a debriefing afterward.

Do a #10 can drive (peas, corn or peaches preferred) or make cookies for our dinner. Call to find out what is needed.

DD also needs groups on weekends to serve meals and to do other projects. Call Saturday or Sunday ~ 651-293-1919.

Ebenezer Ridges Care Center

Contact: Peggy Ludwigson ~ 952-898-8419.

Sunday worship & bingo – 2:00-5:00. Saturday activity – 2:30-4:00. Wednesday games & bingo 6:30-8:00.

Earth Day

Contact: Deb Hugunin ~ 651-452-6911.

Plan an environment friendly activity to celebrate Earth Day in the community or at SJN.

Fair Trade Sale @ Saint John Neumann, October 25-26

Contact: Michele Marshall ~ 651-686-7278.

Set up on Sat morning (minimum 10 people; from 8-noon)

Greeters (2-4 hr shifts; 1 or 2 per shift) | Pre-checkout (2 hr shifts; 3-6 per shift) | Cashiers (2 hr shifts; 3-6 per shift)

Table staffers (2-4 hr shifts; approximately 25 people) - assigned to a table representing products from a specific country/co-op; educational materials will be sent out prior to the event so you can familiarize yourself with the co-op and items for sale.

Floater (2-4 hr shifts ; 1-2 per shift)

Clean up

Families Moving Forward

Contact: Darrin Chance ~ 651-454-2079 (SJN office). PBO Required.

Dates: weeks of January 18-25 and March 22-29.

Split up the group and take 3 nights of nursery.

Plan evening activities for the kids from 7-9 p.m.

(Working in the nursery requires Prohibited Behaviors Orientation.)

Purchase, prepare, and clean up after a meal for about 25 people.

Feed My Starving Children

Contact: www.feedmystarvingchildren.org (scheduling is done online). Phone: 651-379-2775.

Or contact SJN coordinator Kathy Crothers ~ kcrothers@integraonline.com.

Package dehydrated food to be sent to children in the world who are starving. Project takes 2-3 hrs. (6-9 p.m. Mon. thru Fri. or Sat. 9-12) and is in Eagan, Brooklyn Park, & Chanhassen. They have people available to show a video and talk about the agency.

Food Shelf (at Saint John Neumann)

Contact: Darrin Chance ~ 651.454-2079 (SJN office).

Help collect and stock food.

Giving Tree

Contact: Paula Erato Daggett ~ 952-997-7050.

Youth involved in Giving Tree should be involved in every step of the process.

- Help make tree decorations on November 5, 6:30-9 p.m. Following that date, be available to
 - Set up and decorate trees.
 - Staff tables during sign up - 20 minutes before and after Sunday Masses.
 - Sort gifts, help with delivery of some of the gifts.
- Groups could donate to the Giving Tree; these should be practical gifts, not toys.

Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery

Contact: Pam Olsen (Volunteer Services Manager) ~ 612-460-2138.

- Child care (training, plus 6 month commitment).
- Cook for Kids (see separate listing).
- Enrichment activities (bring in an activity to share with 2-6 year old children).
- Service Day (help keep building clean and comfortable).
- Collect donations (inquire for wish list).

Heifer Project International

Contact: Paula Erato Daggett ~ 952-997-7050 or Danielle Baas Molliver ~ 651-454-2079 (SJN office).

Groups can raise money to purchase an animal for a family in another country to help that family become self-sufficient.

Can be done in connection to the Giving Tree.

Joseph's Coat

Contact: Liz Lutton ~ 651-291-2472.

Sort clothing and household articles to be distributed to people in need.

Lewis House

Call 651-452-7288.

May include parties for the kids, etc.

Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly

Contact: Lois Mineau ~ 612-721-6215.

Collect gifts for Little Brothers to distribute to the elderly at Christmas or adopt an elder to meet their Christmas gift wish.

Marie Sandvick Center

Contact: Mary Beth ~ 612-870-9617.

Sort and stock clothing, assist with kid's club at various evening and weekend times. Also, may help with holiday special events.

Loaves & Fishes

Contact: Steve Hawkins ~ 952-895-7306.

There are limited slots available; call early to have your group be put on the schedule.

Midwest Avian Adoption & Rescue Services, Inc. (MAARS)

Contact: Katherine Crothers ~ 651-275-0568, or see www.maars.org.

Bird rescue & protection.

Northside Child Development Center

Contact: Kim Aguilar ~ 612-529-9107.

Help w/ events such as Halloween or Christmas parties. Middle School: diaper or food drive. High School: assist in classrooms.

Orphan Advocates International, Inc.

Contact: Jeanette Dubanoski ~ 612-667-0365.

Provides services to orphans. Fundraising. Shoebox gifts. Shoe or clothing drives. Awareness-building.

Pilot Knob Clean Up

Contact: Duane Hansen ~ 651-687-9566.

Project for Pride in Living (PPL)

Contact: Jim Fornier ~ 612-455-5111.

Spring planting. Help at Kids Club.

Project Offstreets (shelter for teens)

Contact: 612-252-1225.

Teams for 3-4 (with an adult) to organize the clothing room. Do a hat, mitten, and scarf drive.

River Valley Project Explore

Contact: Deb ~ 952-431-8735.

Work with adults with disabilities. Cooking classes, craft classes, activities, field trips.

Saint Paul Area Council of Churches (library and tutoring center)

Contact: Julie Quello ~ 651-646-8805, x19.

Collect coats, hats, mittens for people. Help with Christmas party. Call for other options.

Seton Outreach for Women and Families

Contact: Gayle Alexander at Catholic Charities ~ 612-278-1120.

Adopt a family at Christmas. Sponsor a collection for birthday party bags (cake mix, frosting, candles, balloons, etc.) or personal care bags (toothbrush and paste, comb, brush, shampoo, soap and deodorant). Prepare a meal for a support of mothers.

Storm Drain Stenciling (for Eagan)

Contact: Eric McBeth at Parks & Forestry ~ 651-675-5300.

Environmental project designed to reduce pollution to the MN and Mississippi rivers involving painting a message on storm drains. Work with city staff.

Study Buddies (through Common Bond)

Contact: Lynea Geinerg ~ 651-290-6226.

A weekly commitment to get to know and tutor an elementary school student throughout the school year.

Locations: Westminster Place in Saint Paul, Yorkdale in Edina or the Homework Center at Torre de San Miguel in Saint Paul.

Trinity Catholic School

Contact: Maureen Novak ~ 651-776-2763, x249.

Help during after school program with arts & crafts, tutoring, and homework. Theater production help for Fall and Spring shows (costumes, scenery). One-time painting and cleaning projects.

Union Gospel Mission

Contact: Linda Ferrara ~ 651-228-1800.

Wit & Wisdom

Contact: Suzie Mrkvicka ~ 651-454-2079 (SjN office).

Wit & Wisdom is a group for SjN Seniors. Provide hospitality at a Wit & Wisdom event (September 26, December 19, March 19, or June 26). Help with decorating/setup, serving beverages and dessert, and/or light cleanup. Approximately 1 hour commitment.

Youth and Seniors Serving

Contact: Barb Koenig ~ 651-455-1560.

These are opportunities to serve seniors outside of a nursing home setting or to do service with seniors. Projects include: Senior escort on the DARTS bus, grocery shopper, or friendly visitor

The suggestions listed here are only suggestions as provided to the youth faith formation staff over the past several years. They are not officially endorsed by the Church of Saint John Neumann staff or leadership, and no guarantee is made as to the accuracy of the information.

Choose a service opportunity, whether from these pages or any other source, that will provide the most meaningful experience for your youth.

Please Note:

Permission slips are required for ALL service done away from SJN grounds “in the name of SJN” with an adult other than the youth’s own parent. Permission slips are available at the office or at www.sjn.org/youth. Permission slips need to be turned in to a youth ministry staff person *after* the service if completed. All parish policies and procedures must be followed.

For activities with outside agencies, please call them directly. If the contact person listed is no longer there, ask for the current volunteer coordinator. For parish activities not listed, call the parish office. The receptionist will be able to let you know who the contact person is.

To schedule a room at SJN for an activity, call Jessica Faber at 651-454-2079, x2243.

Other Project Ideas

The following are SJN parish staff members. The telephone number is 651-454-2079; individual staff extensions are as listed.

Parish Staff Contact: Danielle Baas Molliver (2229).

Help with special justice events (help set up, serve food). Staff a table, hand out flyers, prepare mailings.

Help with collecting and distributing school supplies (August). Clean/weed native plant garden with Blessed Kateri parish.

Help with Catholic Relief Services Fair Trade sale on October 25-26.

Attend a city council meeting to advocate for just and inclusive policies. Attend Day On The Hill in the Spring at state capitol.

Participate in a Sowers of Justice or MICAH (affordable housing) campaign.

Research a topic related to a justice issue and create a bulletin flyer to help educate the parish.

Ask the parish to stop purchasing styrofoam.

Parish Staff Contact: Stephanie Berkebile (2221).

Serve as a co-catechist or substitute catechist for Good News sessions (Tuesdays or Wednesdays).

Help in the Resource Room getting supplies ready for Good News (call to set up a time).

Help serve and clean up at Good News catechist gatherings (fall and spring).

Parish Staff Contact: Ron Bisek (2232).

RCIA: Help serve and clean up at reception following Rite of Sending – 11:00 a.m., first Sunday of Lent.

Parish Staff Contact: Theresa Burdick (2309).

Advent Toy Drive ~ drop off new (NO used) toys (NO clothes) at Theresa’s house on December 7. Contact for address!

Parish Staff Contact: Suzie Mrkvicka (2241).

Help with Wit & Wisdom event by providing hospitality (setup, serve, cleanup – approximately 1 hour).

Sponsor a yarn collection for prayer shawl ministry. Blankets for Babes ministry.

Parish Staff Contacts: Heather Smith and Lisa Okoneski (2235).

Help with Sunday nursery (5pm Sat., 8, 10, 12 Sun.); supervise and interact with children.

Make sure to get a teen helper job description from Heather.

Help clean the nursery (Thursday or Friday evenings, Saturday mornings).

Help with Parents Night Out (Friday evenings) ~ contact Lisa Okoneski.

Parish Staff Contact: Virginia Stillwell (2236).

Help decorate church for Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, and special events, including Celebrating Our Cultures (10/18-19).

Help with a liturgical ministry – greeter, usher, lector, music, liturgy of the word with children.

Parish Staff Contact: Ana Theisen (2211).

Help with Children’s Parties: Tailgate trick-or-treating, Advent Afternoon, Easter Egg Hunt).

Help with other Parish Activities: serve & clean up at 1st Eucharist Agape meals in April.