



Sanctuary of Hope
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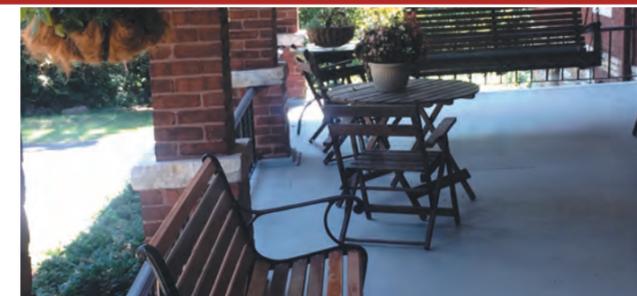


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Words of Hope
August 2017 Volume 21
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Dear Friends of Sanctuary of Hope,

It is my great honor and privilege to invite you to take part in our **12th Annual Hope Benefit Dinner, Dance and Auction**. This year we also celebrate **21 years** as a prayer and retreat center in the heart of Kansas City, Kansas. Our theme for this year comes from St Paul's 1st letter to the Church in Cornith - For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.

Here at Sanctuary of Hope we seek to live this reality. It is our baptism that unites us and makes us all part of one family. This year I felt that it was important to celebrate the fact that we are all part of one family. This year has been a year of transitions. Fr Dennis has retired as the director, I have been appointed as the new director, Fr Dennis and Jeff have moved into the House of Peace, my community (Society of St Augustine) and I have moved into Sanctuary of Hope and I could go on and on. In the midst of all of this transition the ministry of Sanctuary of Hope has continued and the family of Sanctuary of Hope has grown!

St Augustine in starting his community, called together a group of friends with the purpose of seeking God together. Here at Sanctuary of Hope we do the same thing – we come together as friends to seek God. Our friendship is so important because without our friends the ministry of Sanctuary of Hope will not survive. As we come together, old friends and new friends, may we see and live the reality that we are all part of the same family through our Baptism.

We are looking forward to **many more years** of friends coming together to support the ministry of this prayer and retreat house. We pray that many more will join us as friends as we seek to find God and desire to help others find God in the midst of the inner city! Please join us in prayer as we prepare to gather for the 12th Annual Hope Benefit! This year, as always, promises to be a great evening of friends coming together. As I extend the invitation to you to join us, I also invite you to invite your friends to join us so that we will continue to grow our circle of friends and the ministry will continue to grow. Thank you for your friendship and support and I look forward to being with you all!

Blessings,

Fr Joseph Arsenault, S.S.A. and our whole SOH Family

Please join us for the
12th Annual
Hope Benefit Dinner
Dance & Auction
Saturday
November 4, 2017
5:30-10 p.m.
Abdallah Shrine
5300 Metcalf Ave.

We need new items for our live auction for the Hope Benefit. We can use all sorts of things: transferable frequent flier miles, or maybe a set of tickets to sporting events for one game out of your season tickets, or use of your time share vacation home. How about donating a service from your company? Do you own a plane and would take someone for a ride? What would you like to share? Please contact Julie at

913-321-4673 or e-mail at
julie@sanctuaryofhope.org

Advancing Dawn

Dear Friend of Sanctuary of Hope,

Welcome to the rich green summer and colorful fall seasons! Deepest thanks to the volunteers, friends, and staff who helped Jeff Stock and me move into the **House of Peace**, located on the NW corner of the SOH property! We hope to have an Open House, once we get completely moved into our new home. Our mailing address and phone numbers remain the same. We have a great view of City Park across from us. Jeff has already started a new garden in our back yard that was initially put there by Paul and Ellen and their family. We are also excited by our **new chapel** in what use to be the formal dining room. Most of the religious furniture, like the altar, was crafted out of wood by our brother, **Mike Wills**. We also have a **guest** who lives in the back yard, and likes to visit the garden area, a large groundhog. He even sits up to get a full view of the area. His/her name is **Bert**.

Just recently we received an email from **Sarah Ganser**, our Cursillo Palanca (offering up prayers and sacrifices for one another, especially those making the fall weekends) Chair person and she shared this Scripture from Exodus 33: 12-17. I will quote just the last verse: "The Lord said to Moses, "This request which you have just made, I will carry out, because you have found favor with me and you are my intimate friend.'" This really touched my heart, knowing that the person, who chooses to go along with us in this perilous journey of life, is God Himself, Jesus Christ, and God calls us His **intimate friend**. Wow, and Praise the Lord!

We welcome our newest community of brothers in Christ to Sanctuary of Hope Prayer and Retreat Center, our **Society of St Augustine**, Fr. Joseph, Fr. John, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Peter and Brother Martin.

Please keep them all in your prayers,
Alleluia and Blessed be God!

Love, Prayers and Gratitude,



Fr Dennis Wait

Spiritual Director Emeritus



We planted, and some of the Sanctuary of Hope community took vegetable and flower plants home with them. We pray they are harvesting as we have the "growth caused by God" (1 Cor 3:6) God also has planted seed, caused the growth and has harvested.

George Miller passed away this year. George's wife, Trish, said "George always loved SOH and the community." We all knew this from the years of dedicated service he rendered here as Facilities Chairperson and monthly Volunteer Work Day Coordinator on second Saturdays. He seemed to know where things were stored and how to get them to where they could be used. Volunteer Workday found him rushing from group to group (or individuals) working on different projects somewhere on our 33 acres during the four hour work day. Then he would herd everyone inside for the lunch served to the volunteers.

Bill Sanders (Pink Cloud Willie) also died recently. Fr. Dennis knew Bill was in the tomato patch when he observed Bill's car at the edge of the field above the terraced garden. Bill would let others use the harvested rain water stored in the 800 gallon tank next to the garden, but he wanted the volume from the hose hooked to city water. He and I reconstructed the greenhouse at the south end of the garages several years ago in March.

He screw gun slipped and he lamented his eyes were failing in the bright sun, but "I can still hear okay that hawk." I looked up to see five huge birds circling and diving just above us at tree top level. "Bill, that was not a hawk, we have five Bald Eagles thirty feet over our heads watching what we are doing and showing us some of what they can do." As we interacted in this festival of joy, I commented that whether one was Buddhist (on retreat for a week at SOH at the time), Catholic, Jewish or 12-steppers "this is spiritual."



By Jeff Stock



Thank you to all the folks that remembered me in their prayers and also those that came and visited me in the hospital and at my home. Thank you for the lovely cards and gifts.

Always remember that God is good all the time—God is good!

Much love to all,
Shirlíne Moore

