

March 6, 2016

EXPRESSIONS By Frank Jones

## Spreading Good News

You probably know that St. Timothy's has a pantry for those in need of food. Our parish also cooks and serves for the Monday Night Community dinner at the Vets Hall which is now serving between 80-100 people each Monday night. Fabulous Finds and the Sweeney Fund provide help for those in the community who are in need. BUT, did you know that St. Tim's is a partner with the Community Resource Office in a "free car program"?

Bill Todd, owner of Todd's Garage wanted to do something for the community, so in 2015, he bought a used, older car and made the necessary repairs. He then came to the Resource Center and St. Tim's for our help in implementing a "car give-



away". We already had a long list of people with no transportation, but after prioritizing this list, the first car was given away in September. The first car went to Bruce, a 76-year old resident who had no transportation. He came to the Food Bank Distributions twice a week and hauled his bags of food to his room in North Morro Bay. He was "over the moon" upon receiving a car and immediately offered rides to others that lacked transportation. About a month later, a problem developed with the car that Bill was not able to diagnose. I asked Pete's Automotive if they had the equipment to diagnose the problem, and not only did they have the equipment, but they stayed after hours, and fixed the problem with no charge.

After Ruth Ann Angus published an article in the Morro Bay Life, Bill received monetary donations, donations of services and a donation of a fairly new vehicle. He sold the vehicle and used the proceeds to buy 2 used vehicles which he fixed up.

We gave the second vehicle out on January 1st to Jerry and Karen, a couple who also had no transportation. Karen was in a wheel chair and recovering from cancer treatments. This car has been such a blessing to them, as they no longer have to depend on bus service for all their medical appointments. The third vehicle is being repaired at this time but we already have a very worthy lady lined up.

Bill is going to try and give out a car every quarter if he can continue to get donations. If you know of anyone with a used car, no matter how old, please let me know. If you would like to help with a monetary donation, Bill would appreciate that too, or for tax purposes, you can donate to the Sweeney Fund, and this money would be used for the car program.