

Fr. Carl's

Corner

Last week the **Park Ridge Ministerial Association** received word that **Journeys from PADS to HOPE** would no longer participate in our efforts to provide a one night shelter here in Park Ridge.

Although disappointed, I understand their decision. In no other suburb have they been subjected to a tangled path of legal terms and conditions. This organization has been providing positive, effective and needed services to the needy in the Northwest suburbs for twenty years. They have been a valuable service, working with church ministries in many other suburbs. I feel sad and disappointed that the **Park Ridge Ministerial Association's** efforts to work with **Journeys from PADS to Hope** in this community has been hijacked by fear. This could have been a very positive interfaith outreach to the needy among us. While the hope of a one night overnight shelter here in the community, (working in conjunction with the Journey's program in other communities), will not happen at this time, the Park Ridge Ministerial Association remains committed to exploring ways in which we can reach out to the less fortunate. In the meantime, our parish will continue to provide food with our Food Pantry, and offer some minimal assistance to those who come to our door, and support the work of the Center of Concern.

This has been a long road with many twist and turns along the way. I want to thank all who have worked so hard to support this noble effort. I stand firm in my belief that the decision to offer the Parish Life Center as a site for **PADS** was the right thing for me and for the parish to do. This has been a process that I believe would never have gone this far if it were not pushed by the Park Ridge Ministerial Association. Although the outcome is not what we had hoped for, history has been made here in Park Ridge. We talked about the real issue of homelessness! For that we can all be proud. It is time to move on.

The first step is to remember, no matter what side of this issue you were on, do not judge others. There is an old saying that I will leave you with, "*If you want your neighbor to know what Christ will do for him, let the neighbor see what Christ has done for us.*"

Finally, I would like to thank the following donors for their contribution to our Endowment Fund:

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Many thanks for your generous support!

In God's Service,

Fr. Carl

