

ACTION MATTERS

Area Christians Taking Initiative on Needs

A PERIODICAL FROM THE ACTION FOUNDATION

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SERVE. TOGETHER.

This is Why I Serve

Why do I serve?

Okay, I'll admit when I was younger, I only served because my parents made me. They wanted to plant that seed, I guess.

I'm here to tell you, it worked.

There were years of rebellion that came in between, but God was patient with me.

More patient than my own parents at times.

I'll never understand why, but I don't think we're meant to. His

love is unfailing. That seed was planted, but it wasn't bearing fruit overnight that's for sure.

I serve because Christ calls us to do so.

1 Peter 4:10 "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of

God's grace in its various forms." I serve because my heart calls me to do so. I serve because helping others even in the simplest way can bring those who serve even more joy than the

people they are serving. I serve because I *can*. Whether it be with ACTION on designated serve days (or with ongoing needs), or buying a homeless man a meal, serving has become as much a part of me as my skin. The very fabric of my being, which by the way is pretty tough.

I'm guessing burlap.



- Kelly Mako
(Serving at Ashlee Manor)

Serve Day 2016



Be part of something bigger than yourself...

This May 7th, 14th and 21st come out and serve with your church as well as the over 50 other participating churches to serve those in need in your community by serving in one of the over 500 practical need projects that will be done on those 3 Saturdays in May!

Serve Day gives you the opportunity to live out James 2:14-17

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

Join us for the

Re-Think Mercy Training

Saturday, April 16th from 8:00am—

3:00pm (lunch provided)

at VCCF Nonprofit Center (Camarillo)

Please visit www.actionvc.org to register today! (\$10 fee per person)

Learn how mercy and ministry meet with our unique Rethink Mercy Equipping program. You and your church volunteers receive training on how to effectively execute gospel-centered mercy ministry and how the gospel can be shared in the context of meeting physical needs.

SERVE. TOGETHER.

Jill's Joys

By Jill Upson, Executive Director



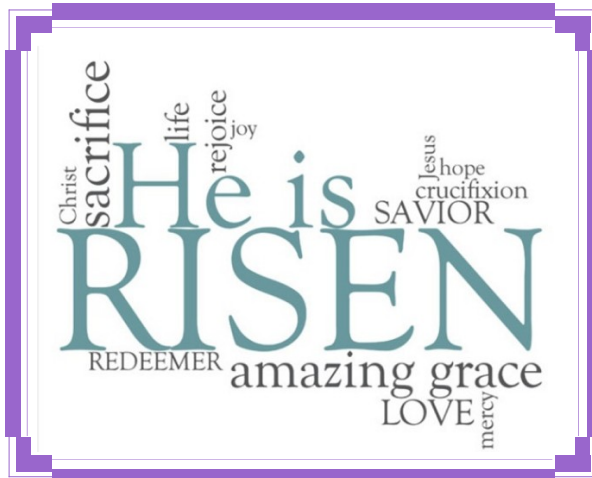
There is so much excitement buzzing around the ACTION office. Some you will read about in this newsletter. Others you can explore on our website or Facebook pages. Check out our ACTIONLink church ministry directory online. Find someone to help on our Serve Every Day web page. Come learn about gospel centered mercy ministry through Children's Hunger Fund's "Rethink Mercy" equipping that we are hosting. Join us for Serve Day. We are busy networking and connecting and sending people out serving and helping those in need throughout the county. It's an exciting time of growth in the life of the ACTION ministry.

In the center of this excitement, is remembering what Jesus did for us as he came into an undeserving world displaying the greatest mercy of all: God's mercy and salvation. Let us reflect that mercy, and bring God glory, in all we do as The Church serving together.

May your Easter be a time to reflect on God's amazing, abundant mercy. How will you show mercy this year?

Joyfully giving God the glory!

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. Ephesians 2:4-5



ACTIONLink



What is ACTIONLink you ask!?!? It is a searchable directory of churches ministries and programs that serve the community and can be found on our ACTION website. (www.actionvc.org)

The whole idea is to get people on church campus's that might otherwise never step foot on a church campus.

There are so many needs in our community and your church may be able to meet that need with a ministry or program you already have up and running, through ACTIONLink. Some of the wonderful ministries offered at our local churches are Buddy Break, Celebrate Recovery, Financial Peace, Food Pantries, GriefShare, Medical Closets, Dementia Care, Vets Support Group, MOPS programs and there are so many more.

The ACTIONLink Directory serves a number of purposes.

- It is a great way for the community to know where to go for a need they or a loved one may have.
- It helps churches to see if there is a need lacking in their community. We want to avoid duplication and not reinvent the wheel.
- It is also a way for churches to support each other if they have the same ministry or to talk to other church if they are considering starting up a new ministry. They can discuss what works for them and what doesn't and encourage a church that may be starting up a new program.
- It can help collaborate between churches, agencies and government, in order to find solutions to the gaps in service and ways to help alleviate poverty.



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