



of Tucson

A welcoming place

Summer 2023



Serving in the Franciscan Tradition, Poverello House of Tucson is a homelike place of welcome and a safe environment providing daytime rest, food, laundry facilities, showers, and companionship for homeless men.

POVERELLO HOUSE IS TEMPORARILY CLOSED.

Poverello House is in the midst of transitioning from the "Pumpkin" house we've rented since 2008 to a house that we were able to purchase. Plans for renovation of the new place have been submitted to the city, and we are waiting for permits to be issued. Our architect and contractor have informed us that the renovation work which normally would take 3-4 months, will take 5-6 months because of labor and supply shortages.

During this time that we are closed, we will be focusing our energy on creating a new Poverello House where we will be able to offer our guests an even better welcome into a homelike place where they can eat a hearty breakfast, shower, do their laundry, have lunch, hangout among friends and rest in a safe environment.

Meanwhile, we are happy to report that several cooling centers have opened in our neighborhood.

We plan to open the new house as soon as it is ready. Thank you for your ongoing support and prayers especially as we meet the challenge of making the transition to our new house.

*You are love,
You are wisdom,
You are humility,
You are endurance,
You are rest,
You are peace,
You are joy and gladness,
You are justice and moderation,
You are all our riches,
And you suffice for us.*

--from St. Francis' PRAISES OF GOD

Yours in Christ and Francis,
Br. David Buer, ofm

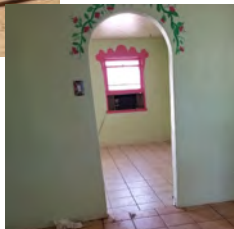
WELCOME TO THE BOARD



Welcome to the newest member of the Board of Directors of Poverello House, Kyle McDermott. Kyle was born and raised in the Keeling neighborhood (where the future Poverello house is located), attended Keeling Elementary, Amphitheatre Middle School, and Salpointe High School. Kyle is currently pursuing an interdisciplinary PhD focused on sustainability in the College of Built Environments at the University of Washington. He has become involved in the Keeling Neighborhood Association where he has taken a leadership role.

Informed greatly by his upbringing in a poverty-stricken neighborhood in Tucson, Kyle is deeply passionate about social justice issues and works toward material change.

He is a systems-thinker, drawing on his diverse background working in fields ranging from soil and plant sciences and research. Kyle is also interested in information technology, journalism, youth education, higher-ed curriculum development/teaching, nonprofit administration and grantmaking, and social justice centered sustainability. Welcome Kyle!



The Blackledge House now! Stay tuned for the major renovations pictured in our next newsletter.

OUR GENERAL CONTRACTOR

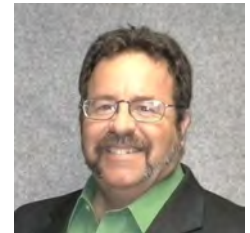


Dave Mellgren

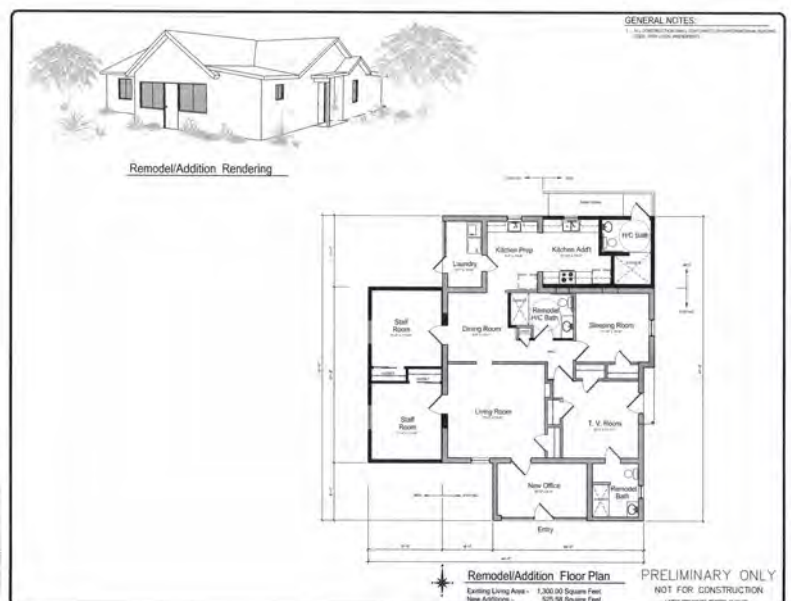
Dave explains:

“Our project management team has worked together in Tucson for over twenty-five years. We do everything we can to make the renovation experience as pleasant as it can be. We clean up daily, multiple times a day in many cases. At the end of each day, we make sure that your home is as functional and comfortable as it can be.”

OUR ARCHITECT



Hank Krzysik was born and raised in Tucson. He brings a wealth of knowledge to every project – residential or commercial, large or small. Exceptional projects are borne with a sense of function, style, historical relevance and great attention to detail.



CONNECTIONS

“...to emerge from this crisis better than before, we have to do so together; together, not alone. Together. Not alone, because it cannot be done. Either it is done together, or it is not done. We must do it together, all of us, in solidarity. I would like to underline this word today: solidarity.” - Pope Francis, Sept. 2, 2020

“We are all responsible for all.” – Pope John Paul II, Sollicitudo Rei Socialis, 1987

The world crises we have experienced with COVID-19 and now the war in Ukraine have clearly shown us how interdependent our global community has become. Supply chain shortages of everything from toilet paper to gasoline cause disruption in everyday life. We are all economically interdependent on moving stuff around the world. Look at the labels in your clothing. Think about your morning coffee or tea. And don't forget about chocolate. We are all dependent on complex networks of global supply and demand.

Recently we celebrated the Feast of Pentecost, let's go back to the idea of solidarity. It seems to me that understanding our interdependence is a first step on the long journey toward the virtue of solidarity. “We are all responsible for all.”

We are connected to the miners in Africa's Congo who dig by hand in treacherous conditions for very little pay to extract the cobalt we need for lithium ion batteries. We are connected to the four million garment workers in Bangladesh, who work 10 hours per day in unsafe factories for less than a living wage. We are connected to the people living on the streets of Tucson.

These, of course, are only a few examples of the complexity of structural sin. Structural sin is not the fault of any single decision or action. It is not the result of any single particular personal sin. It is the result of centuries of selfishness and greed. These are the same structures that created chattel slavery. These same structures continue to put the economic gain of a few above human life and dignity.

But “we are all responsible for all.” Pentecost can be considered the feast of Unity in Diversity. At the first celebration of Pentecost, people from every nation were gathered in Jerusalem and the Spirit dissolved their differences. They experienced the liberating love of God. They realized that they were all in this together.

We are all in this together too. What is happening in each part of the planet has an effect on the rest. Let us open our hearts to the pain and injustice that others experience. Let us realize that they are just as precious to God as we are. Let us stand in solidarity with those who are suffering by working for international policies that support justice and peace and human dignity. Solidarity is love in action.

By Jeanette Arnquist

Special thanks to Joyce Evans who is using her time and talent to serve as the board secretary. We are so very grateful. *¡Muchas Gracias. Joyce!*

MANY THANKS

- ◆ Once again the Order of Malta has generously funded the mission of Poverello House.
- ◆ The Catholic Foundation's generosity will help us provide men with clothing and shoes once we reopen.
- ◆ We are grateful to the generosity of Knights of Columbus Councils 12696, 13272 and 15704 who have collectively donated \$5000 in 2023.

Please use the enclosed envelope to make a tax-deductible donation (residents of Arizona can also receive a tax credit). You can donate on our secure web site tucsonpoverello.com or mail checks to:

**Poverello House
P.O. Box 50782
Tucson, 85703**



SAVE THE DATE



We hope you can join us!

Poverello House's Annual Dinner and Celebration of the Feast of St. Francis.

When: Saturday, October 7, 6:00 pm

Where: Most Holy Trinity Parish

Our Community Service Award will be presented to

Anne Reissner, who has served on the board from the very beginning.

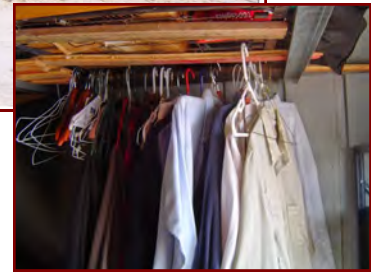
If you are interested in donating raffle prizes or sponsoring the dinner at one of these levels, please call Jeanette at 909.446.5469

\$500 - includes 2 seats

\$1000 – includes 4 seats

\$2000 – includes a table of 6 seats

***FAREWELL TO THE
PUMPKIN HOUSE***



For the past fifteen years, many good things have happened at the pumpkin colored house on E Lee Street. We are grateful for all of the service, gatherings, and wonderful people tht have been part of that story. We now move forward bringing with us all the beautiful memories to the new home for Poverello House and the continuation of a special place of welcome on E Blacklidge.