



*And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of my brothers, you did it to me.'* Matthew 25:40

### November Events in the Habitat Faith Community

- 11.2-6 -- out of office: Amy at the Habitat-AmeriCorps Leadership Conference in Talladega, AL
- 11.7 -- Kenwood build volunteers: La Canada Presbyterian Church
- 11.10 -- Volunteer Orientation
- 11.14 -- Sherman build volunteers: Monrovia United Methodist Church; Sherman build lunch providers: Covina Community Church; [St. Mark's Episcopal Church Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser](#)
- 11.15 -- Alternative Gift Fairs: San Marino Community Church
- 11.20 -- Monrovia Mayor's Prayer Breakfast
- 11.21 -- Kenwood build volunteers: Faith Relations Committee + Friends; Kenwood build lunch providers: Hill Avenue Grace Church; Sherman build volunteers: Evergreen Baptist Church
- 11.22 -- Alternative Gift Fairs: San Marino Community Church, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Pasadena First Congregational Church, Church of the Transfiguration
- 11.29 -- Alternative Gift Fairs: San Marino Community Church, Westminster Presbyterian Church

### Sites to Bookmark

- [Faith Builds web page](#) (newly re-designed!!)
- [President Carter on Today Show discussing his work with Habitat](#)
- [Brush with Kindness program on HFHI's website](#)

### Questions? Comments? Ideas?

Contact our Ecumenical Outreach Coordinator, Amy Borton: 626.387.6899 x16 or [faithrelations@sgvhabitat.org](mailto:faithrelations@sgvhabitat.org)

### Message from Amy

Looking back on my calendar, I cannot believe how many events I attended and people I met in just the past month. I have never been so busy or as encouraged as I am this fall. The passion and excitement radiating from this community is incredible, and I am so thankful to have worked with many of you during this year and for the opportunity to meet some of you very recently. Throughout October, no matter where I went -- city-wide events or church services -- there was one concern consistently voiced: We see the work of Habitat abroad and around us, but when will you do more in our community?

The majority of houses San Gabriel Valley Habitat for Humanity has completed are in Glendale. This is primarily because of the immense support and advocacy from residents and the strong relationship we have with the city council. Our ties there have contributed immensely to our growth as an affiliate, and we hope to continue to increase in awareness and productivity in the years and decades to come. This in no way limits our efforts to Glendale or to the west part of the valley. **I hope and pray that other residents and city leaders will see what we are doing there and use it as an inspiration and model for how to bring future builds to [your town](#).**

Our 4-home build on Sherman Avenue in Monrovia is almost finished, and I have heard fears that its completion will also bring the end of Habitat's involvement with the east part of our region. Additionally, I have had conversations with people living near our Glendale builds who assume that because we are working so much there, we do not need the same amount of support and action as in the past or in other towns. To those of you who have felt similarly, I will share with you what I told them: Now, more than ever, we need YOU!

We need those of you in the east, specifically in Azusa, to learn more about our [Brush with Kindness program](#) -- a way to serve current homeowners whose houses need exterior maintenance -- and how to help us launch this in early 2010.

We need those of you living in Glendale and Monrovia to help us complete our current builds by coming out to our sites and by donating funds (\$33,000 left for Sherman Avenue, \$45,000 for the elevator lifts at Kenwood Street)! The progress at both places has been dramatically slowed down by a lack of volunteers, especially on weekdays.

Finally, we need those of you who want to see more hard-working families find their way to homeownership to be our advocate! With a limited amount of staff, we rely on our supporters to spread the word about affordable housing to their communities and local politicians. **Attend a city council meeting; inform our office of upcoming opportunities to partner with community leaders and organizations; learn more about our work and the need in your town; write letters and make phone calls!** You can find out more ways to advocate for us [here](#) or by contacting me.

The strength and scope of Habitat for Humanity depends on the strength and scope of its supporters. We have been blessed beyond measure with our recent growth, the tremendous vision of our Board of Directors, the dedication of our volunteers & committee members and the prayers from our spiritual supporters. We are ready and willing to expand our work into all 31 communities in the San Gabriel Valley and truly believe it can be done -- what are you willing to do to help?

### Faith Relations Committee Update

In October, we held the very first meeting of our brand new [Faith Relations Committee](#). I want to express my deep gratitude to those of you who trekked out to our new office in Azusa to attend and to those of you who were there with us in spirit (including you, Barbara!).

On November 21, members of our Faith Relations Committee are invited to come out to 711 N. Kenwood Street in Glendale to volunteer on-site as an ecumenical group -- however, the spots are not limited to the committee, so this is the perfect way to start (or re-start) your congregation's involvement with Habitat or with the Faith Relations Committee. Anyone who would like to join us can [contact me](#) to reserve a spot.

### Holidays with Habitat

Every year, SGV Habitat joins in **Alternative Gift Fairs** held by various houses of worship in the area. Though these events vary in name and operation, they all have one thing in common: supporting local non-profits by purchasing "alternative gifts," [Christmas cards](#), and [honorary gift cards](#). For more information, visit our [Holidays with Habitat page](#), [download the Registration form](#) and [check to see if your organization has signed up](#).

### Prayer Requests and Thanks

- Major thanks for the recent grants we received from local foundations -- more info to come!
- Request for job stability/recovery for many of our supporters who are affected by the economic crisis
- Request for blessing on our next big endeavor: starting up the Brush with Kindness program in Azusa
- Request for financial donations toward our Geneva Street build -- we need to raise at least \$400,000 by October 1, 2010 to be able to break ground
- Request for blessing on the group of 15 staff and volunteers our affiliate is sending to Thailand to participate in the [2009 Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Work Project](#)
- Thanks to the children and Missions Committee at Glendale First United Methodist Church for their donation! The children alone raised over \$700 for our Geneva Campaign, and the Missions Committee matched their contribution
- Request for success & fellowship at the Pancake Breakfast fundraiser on 11/14 -- and a special thanks to Monique Poon and the staff at St. Mark's Episcopal Church for their amazing efforts in putting the event together!!

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