

Long Beach 908 Unsung Heroes



ON THE COVER:
Rebecca Younger (right) makes an impact on women and their children through her shelter New Life Beginnings. Read more on page 36!

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30 Stories of Those Making a Positive
Difference in Long Beach Through Faith

Directing a Better World...Tim Clark

By Stephanie Perez

Meet Tim Clark, an active member of St. Joseph Catholic Church, where over the years he has served on various committees and ministries. Including his latest venture as Director of Movement for a Better World.

Established in 1986, this social service and social justice organization actively led by 75 parishioners continues to serve families in Long Beach and Signal Hill. From putting together 150 sack lunches every Wednesday for Catholic Charities of Long Beach, and 100 sack lunches for Project Achieve - a transitional housing facility, this organization's main priority is outreach.

"The support we provide is personal and interactive," Tim said. "The relationships we build impart home, guidance, dignity and sometimes, a second chance to our marginalized neighbors."

There are various holiday support initiatives, where St. Joseph parishioners help over 100 Long Beach families with food and gifts for Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. Volunteers then distribute the food and gifts directly to the supported families' homes. By interacting with the family and becoming acquainted, the volunteers are able to collect family information to make gifts personalized for the holidays.

For Tim, his motivation was sparked by his faith, and his service to the St. Joseph Parish Pastoral Council.

"I witnessed the breadth of service opportunities that exist, the personal fulfillment and the positive impact service has on both those that are helped, as well as those that are blessed with the means and ability to help," said Tim.

He has the privilege of integrating



within the full scope for Movement for a Better World and considers his work to the ministry a full-time commitment. Even when he was busy at his job before retiring a couple years ago, he had the love and support from his wife before she past away in December 2017. She would assist with the tasks such as collecting food items and picking up keys.

"His wife past away, but she supported him in all his ministries in the parish," said St. Joseph Church Senior Administrator, Olga Cuda. "She was his other half when it came to helping him out."

"My favorite memories are from the testimonies of our volunteers as they return from encounters with the families we serve," Tim said. "They tell of the eye-opening circumstance and struggles with which these families live, their courage, fortitude, and overwhelming sense of gratitude for our help." 908

Quick Facts:

•Name of your place of faith:

St. Joseph Catholic Church

•How he gives back:

Through Movement for a better World and other Catholic outreach programs.

•Inspirational quote:

"The relationships we build impart home, guidance, dignity and sometimes, a second chance to our marginalized neighbors."