



The Oasis House



OASIS HOUSE

The Social Actions Committee of Mary, Help of Christians contributes money to local, national and international organizations who are working to promote the principles of Catholic Social Justice teaching. One such organization in Dayton is the Oasis House.

The Oasis House is a place for women survivors of sexual exploitation and trauma. It provides a safe living space, counseling, medical care, education, and prayer. It was formed partially as a way to help women who worked in exotic dance clubs along South Dixie. In 2003 a local minister, Sharon Amos, met a young woman in the parking lot of her church. Learning the woman's story as a person who needed help to escape the sex trafficking trade led to the beginnings of Oasis House.

Its mission is to promote healing, restoration, and empowerment through Christ's unconditional love, teaching practical life skills, and advocating through a transformational process. Their insignia shows a heart and a pair of hands surrounded by the words Heal, Empower, Restore.

Services include housing, advocacy, mentoring, case management, and referrals. Classes and activities provide information about finance and budgeting, nature, creative arts, and mentoring.

Jeanne Duell

Bridges of Hope



During week four of our Lenten Almsgiving project, our Family of Parishes supported Bridges of Hope. This important group has also been supported by our Social Actions Committee in the past. Located in Xenia, Bridges of Hope is working to support adults experiencing homelessness from all over Greene County.

Bridges of Hope's primary mission is operating a shelter for those in need of a place to stay. During daytime hours, it also serves meals to those in need and provides a safe and clean place for people to wash up or to just sit down and rest. Bridges of Hope has numerous daytime programs for those needing additional support. This includes addiction counseling, GED classes, job assistance, and daily chapel services.

Our Lenten Almsgiving collection stuffed a pick-up truck full of goods to deliver to this wonderful organization. They and other organizations supported by the Lenten Almsgiving collections are grateful for your support. Bridges of Hope is working to meet critical needs for those experiencing homelessness in our area. If you are interested in learning more about this organization, or if you would like to donate or volunteer to support their mission, visit <https://skbridgesofhope.org>

Adam Horvath-Smith

Electronic and Hybrid Vehicles...Benefits, Detriments, and Trends.

PART ONE – Why all the fuss about Electric Vehicles (EVs)?



We have all heard the hubbub surrounding the rise of Electric Vehicles (“EVs”) and their Hybrid vehicle cousins – from the proponents of the “reduced or eliminated” demand for fossil fuels on the one hand, and from the opponents of these fuel technologies on the other.

The primary objections to expanding the production of automobiles which run on alternative fuels seem to be centered on the notion that the expense and labor involved in mining the materials for and manufacturing the alternative fuels would be better spent on more exploration and extraction of the fossil fuels that have powered the American and World economies for more than a century. Also, there are those who decry the environmental impact of the mining and recycling of rare earth materials used in EV and Hybrid batteries.

But what do consumer buying trends indicate? Do U.S. and world markets for EVs and Hybrids show the public has voted with their wallets, after an examination of the facts?

U.S. consumers have accepted and embraced alternatively fueled vehicles at an ever-growing rate. This trend seems to be fueled by the attractive benefits of EVs and Hybrids. In an article from Consumer Reports (April, 2022), the owners of hybrid cars were more likely to be satisfied with their vehicles than were the owners of cars with traditional, fossil fuel power systems. Hybrid vehicles “... emit fewer greenhouse (gases) than gas-only autos. They also recharge as they drive so there’s no need to plug in, and there’s none of the range anxiety that can come with EVs”.

In an article on the website www.greencars.com, the author notes that, “Perhaps the greatest benefit of a hybrid car is how easy it is. If you’re coming out of a gasoline vehicle, you won’t need to change any of your driving habits to enjoy the benefits of hybrid driving.” At the same time, the article continues, “Unlike fully electric cars and plug-in hybrids, you won’t need to worry about installing a [home](#) charging station, which is a plus if you have an older home or live in a rental property with a shared parking garage. Hybrids recharge their batteries using “regenerative braking.” When slowing down, the electric motor turns into a generator and charges the battery, re-capturing energy that would have otherwise been wasted. And while they can’t travel any significant distance on battery power alone, the electric motor assists the gasoline engine, reducing its emissions and fuel consumption.”

The manufacturers of EVs tout a range of benefits for the motoring public. From lower fuel costs and tax credits for the owners of EVs, to driving on “renewable” energy, while creating none of the environmentally damaging tailpipe emissions of petroleum-fueled or even Hybrid vehicles.

Next month, we will further explore the impact of the “EV Dilemma” on America, its environment, and U.S. consumers.

Bruce Call

