



SUMMER 2015

BE PART OF THE BEST EVENTS IN CALIFORNIA!

The Leaven's annual events have become highlights for both sponsors and participants, and always sell out. While it's too late for our annual Solano Great Race (held in March), there's still time to be part of:

The Leaven Golf Classic SOLD OUT

Brought to you by Ford Lincoln Fairfield
June 8, Green Valley Country Club
8:00 am registration / 10:00 am shotgun
\$160 per player/ \$640 foursome

The Leaven's Annual Gala 95% SOLD OUT

Where hope is the guest of honor
September 19, Hilton Fairfield
5:30 pm - 9:00 pm
\$90.00 per person

WE'VE MOVED!

Our new address is:
2320 Courage Drive, Suite 111,
Fairfield, CA 94533

To learn about possible open sponsorships or reserve a place at either event, contact us at 855-622-5439 or send an email to hello@myleaven.com.

THE LEAVEN AT WORK!

The Leaven now has 10 sites operating in 6 cities in California. To contact any of our centers, please send an email to Campuses@myleaven.com.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DIVISION

The Groves
855 East Tabor
Fairfield, CA 94533
Site Director - Kara Lugo

Phoenix Drive
1350 Phoenix Dr.
Fairfield, CA 94533
Site Director - Jonathan Williams

Grande Circle
1970 Grande Circle
Fairfield, CA 94533
Site Director - Carlos Ramos

The Village
506 Civic Center Blvd.
Suisun City, CA 94585
Site Director - Mason Tadlock

Bennett Court
267 Bennett Hill Drive
Vacaville, CA 95688
Site Director - Vanessa Williams

Marina Vista
201 Maine Street
Vallejo, CA 94590
Site Director - Anita LaCorte

Marina Heights
135 Carolina St
Vallejo, CA 94590
Site Director - Linda Louton

Parkway Gardens
135 Del Paso Court
Fairfield, CA 94533
Site Director

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DIVISION

Quail Ridge
210 N. Beechwood
Rialto, CA 92376
Site Director - Katie Colunga

Summit Place
1130 W. 4th Street
Ontario, CA 91762
Site Director - Teesha Jones



CITY MINISTERS PARTNER WITH THE LEAVEN FOR PEACE

Dr. Raleigh Galgan knows Vacaville. After all, he has been pastoring at Valley Church for more than 35 years, and has been part of the Vacaville Christian Ministerial Association (VCMA) for much of that time.

He recalls how, in the 1990s, the Vacaville city council declared the town was to be "A Place of Peace." From early on, the VCMA shared that vision and began to pray for and promote peace in the streets, neighborhoods, churches, homes and hearts of Vacaville.

But in May of 2014, at a National Day of Prayer Breakfast, Pastor Galgan was listening to speakers talking about the rise of crime in Vacaville. This, coupled with a conviction that the VCMA had lost its focus, birthed in him a desire to be more actively engaged in efforts that increase peace.

A short time later, a conversation with The Leaven's executive director, Mark Lillis, convinced Pastor Galgan that The Leaven brought together all the things

he was looking for in a partner. This led to a decision by the VCMA to join city leaders and The Leaven to address the rise of crime in seven under-served, high crime neighborhoods in Vacaville.

The VCMA, under the direction of The Leaven, is partnering to open their first after-school tutoring site in Vacaville. Already more than 30 volunteers have been trained, and Valley Church stepped up to provide the funding for the start-up costs and the first year of operation. As the groundwork for the remaining centers is laid, many VCMA churches will include The Leaven in their budget, ensuring that these centers will be fully supported for years to come.

Pastor Raleigh Galgan believes that The Leaven's model "successfully bridges between businesses, government and faith-based communities." We're grateful for the partnership of Pastor Galgan and the Vacaville Christian Ministerial Association. Together, we are helping kids & communities rise!



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855.622.5439 (toll free) | www.MyLeaven.com | hello@MyLeaven.com

WELCOME TO OUR NEW SITE DIRECTORS!

As The Leaven expands to additional sites, bringing hands-on help and hope to children, new Site Directors are joining our team. In this issue, we welcome:



Teesha Jones, Site Director at The Leaven's center in Ontario, our second location in Southern California. As a mother of three boys ranging in age from teenagers to the early 20s, Teesha knows the importance of reaching children before they get to the critical years in junior high school and high school. "The kids are little sponges, ready to learn," she said about our students. "They're not hardened by life yet. I see lots of smiles on their faces!" Teesha is a lifelong resident of Southern California and is studying to be a nurse as well as serving at The Leaven's Ontario site. She and her family attend Fresh Anointing New Life Church in Rancho Cucamonga, California.



Mason Tadlock, Site Director at The Leaven's center at The Village in Suisun City. Mason is a long-time resident of Fairfield and graduated from Fairfield Christian School. He is currently enrolled at Solano Community College and is studying business. Mason appreciates that The Leaven provides "a unique opportunity to both improve the academics of the next generation and also to share Christ with them," he says. "Sharing Christ-like character is what will really make an impact." Mason attends Real Life Church in Fairfield.

We welcome our newest Site Directors. To see all the locations where The Leaven's after-school centers are located, look on page 4.

VIEWPOINT FROM THE CHAIR

The last few months at The Leaven have been exciting as we launched new sites and welcomed new board members. Like anyone or anything that is growing, we've occasionally had to stop and evaluate or even take a step back and "course correct." But each step of the journey has been directed by God because of the fervent prayers of our staff, board and partners like you.

One of the biggest challenges we face is expanding. Before opening any new center, we spend hours talking to the stakeholders — the managers of the apartment complexes, elected officials and public servants, local churches that are interested in partnering with us, school officials, and even families of children who would benefit from The Leaven's work. Each of these groups is essential to The Leaven's success — but most importantly, to the success of our students.

From my vantage point as a police chief, I often see the negative side of a community. When I see a program that is truly changing things for the better, I want to come alongside it in the best way I can. That's why I was a supporter of The Leaven long before I was invited to serve on their board.

In Matthew 25:35, Jesus said, "For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in" (NASB). That is exactly what The Leaven does because of your partnership. We identify the practical, everyday needs of children and their families and we respond to those needs as we reflect the love of Christ. Impacting a grade at school is important, but impacting a life is powerful.

Thank you for enabling The Leaven to be your hands and feet to families that desperately need to know they matter.

Joe Allio
Board President

WHAT'S UP WITH COLORADO?

You may have noticed that the envelope enclosed with this newsletter is addressed to our Mail Processing Center in Pueblo, Colorado. At the urging of our financial auditors, The Leaven has begun using a professional processing company for all contributions. This ensures the highest level of integrity and accountability as this firm provides the latest measures to ensure data security.

Your receipts will be mailed directly from Pueblo, Colorado, as well — but be assured that your gifts will continue to be used for our outreach to children in California. You can be even more confident giving to The Leaven because of this added security of your gifts and personal data.