



PEOPLES TEMPLE

OF THE
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Jim V. Jones,
Pastor

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"For I was an hungered
and ye gave me meat;
I was thirsty
and ye gave me drink;

"I was a stranger
and ye took me in;
Naked,
and ye clothed me;

"I was sick
and ye visited me;
I was in prison,
and ye came unto me.

"Verily I say unto you,
Inasmuch as ye
have done it
unto one of the least
of these . . .
Ye have done it unto me."

Matt. 25:35-40

September 29, 1974

Dear Doctor:

This is written to offer our assistance and to introduce you to the human service work of Peoples Temple Christian Church.

We are a large group of several thousands of members in California alone, in addition to the thousands of members and friends across the country. We belong to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) denomination, which has two million members nationwide, including F.B.I. Director Clarence Kelley, Governor Ronald Reagan, and the late President Lyndon B. Johnson and Mrs. Johnson.

Because of our large membership and the many professional and business people on the church staff, including attorneys, (one is an Assistant District Attorney), social workers, those in the medical profession, professors and teachers, ranchers, engineers, etc., we have been able to establish a large outreach program for rehabilitation, emergency care, counseling, and community service. We have done extensive work with troubled youth, and have been responsible for bringing almost 200 off hard-line drugs, including heroin, with practically no recidivism. They have all become responsible citizens, with a large number attending college and graduate schools, several in medical school and law school. Our church offers free legal counsel to non-members as well as members, and our teachers offer free tutoring to needy children, non-members as well as members.

Because of our work with youth and the fact that none of our young people has been in trouble with the law since coming to us, we have received high praise from police departments up and down the state, including the San Francisco and Los Angeles Police Departments. Too, they have appreciated our support for law enforcement in such ways as our donations to the families of slain police officers, and our donations to the families of each victim killed in the recent San Francisco "Zebra" murders.

Chief Don Saulsbury, Police Chief in the area of our church headquarters (Ukiah Police Department), wrote in a letter dated May 17, 1974, "To Whom It May Concern:"

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"Jim and his church members strongly support law enforcement and they also respect the property rights of others. They have never trespassed, destroyed or littered. In fact, any area they visit will benefit because the grounds are 'policed' and all litter is removed prior to their departure. Any assistance you may give to the church members will be greatly appreciated. If, for any reason, you desire additional information, feel free to contact me or any members of my department."

Scores of public officials, Senators and Congressmen on Federal and State levels, as well as a whole host of organizations devoted to community service, have given enthusiastic and generous praise to the human service programs of Peoples Temple Christian Church. Leaders in the business, scientific, educational and religious communities have publicly commended the concerned moral leadership and social responsibility exemplified by Reverend Jim Jones.

As a further extension of our human service work, Peoples Temple provides housing and health care for its senior citizens, maintains a beautiful home for retarded children, and maintains an enormous animal shelter for sick and abandoned animals. Many people in our church have taken adopted children, or have had them placed in their homes by the courts, because of the example of our Pastor and his wife (she is a RN and a Medical Research Investigator for this state,) who have adopted several children of different ethnic backgrounds, several of whom were fathered by American servicemen overseas.

Pastor Jones and all of us at Peoples Temple have a deep respect for your profession, and we want you to know that we stand willing to be of assistance if ever the need should arise.

Most Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Karen L. Layton
Secretary

Enclosures

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PEOPLES TEMPLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
A MINISTRY OF HUMAN SERVICES WITH PROGRAMS
AND FACILITIES INSPIRED BY THE EXAMPLE OF
REVEREND JIM V. JONES

Peoples Temple is an extensive and highly regarded ministry based on the practical teachings of Jesus Christ and summarized by its pastor, Rev. Jim Jones, in the words - "The highest worship of God is service to our fellow man." The church thus reaches out to aid needy people all over the world through many programs designed to relieve human suffering and bring health and well-being to the disadvantaged.

One of the biggest concerns of the ministry is health care. Funds are sent to support medical research into a wide range of areas, including cancer, sickle-cell anemia, and multiple sclerosis. The church's own staff of professional medical people, including many registered nurses, give care to members and to the community.

Peoples Temple provides assistance in almost every kind of human crisis situation where immediate aid is required. Food, clothing, and other supplies have been sent to help those who face disease and starvation, both at home and abroad. Thirty different crops are presently being grown on several thousand acres assigned to Peoples Temple by a government in South America to serve that and other countries' food needs, including the United States in time of emergency. A large ocean-going boat named the "Marceline," after Pastor Jones' wife, who is a state official, is operated by a crew of Temple members transporting food around the world. A unique and effective drug rehabilitation program has successfully rescued more than 200 young people from dangerous drug habits. Those in need of legal advice are given counsel by Temple attorneys. Many who came to the church with backgrounds in crime and militancy have been reformed by the ministry's program and Pastor Jones' non-violent teachings. They have become productive and respected citizens, and there has been practically no return to crime, militancy, or drugs. The Temple has also contributed funds and assistance to many social service programs sponsored by Catholics, Protestants, and Jews alike.

The members of Peoples Temple operate many different facilities. Innovative care homes have been established for senior citizens, orphans, and exceptional children. One of them is a beautiful children's ranch on 40 acres of land along a river. Modern convalescent sanatoriums have been awarded commendations by the state for their high level of care. College dormitories house young people of all faiths, who are being fully sponsored financially by Temple scholarships. The students are studying in various fields of human service and plan to apply their educations to help those who are less fortunate. A community center with an indoor heated swimming pool that was built by the church is open to the public. Nearby is one of the church's large animal refuge centers, known throughout the region for taking in sick, abandoned, and stray animals which are all treated by veterinarians and given the best of care. An apartment building acquired by the Temple will house senior citizens with limited incomes. The ministry also operates a building complex with apartments, business offices, and a large garage where the Temple fleet of Greyhound-type buses and other vehicles are maintained by the church's own mechanics.

The pastor of Peoples Temple, Rev. Jim Jones, is a fully-ordained minister in the nationwide 1.4 million member Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) denomination, which is noted for having congressmen and governors of different political persuasions in its membership. Pastor Jones has served as a school teacher, metropolitan human rights commissioner, and Grand Jury foreman. He and his wife, Marceline, have adopted many children of different racial and ethnic backgrounds. Pastor Jones has united people of all races and creeds to work together for the good of humanity. It is his belief that if every church would attempt to meet the needs of at least its own, this would provide a buffer against totalitarian communism and fascism, as well as an effective answer to the problems of the welfare state by taking the burden of providing for people off of the government. It is the fervent desire of Jim Jones and his congregation to help establish a society where hate and violence do not exist, and where, instead, a cooperative spirit of harmony and brotherhood prevails.

For further information, write: Peoples Temple, P.O. Box 214, Redwood Valley, Ca. 95470

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