

.: WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO @ NAZARETH FARM

At Nazareth Farm we live as a community of equals. We believe that God loves each of us in the same way and we strive to give all people the dignity and respect they deserve. Our mission statement declares that we are rooting in the Gospel and Social Teachings of the Church. In other words, we try to live the message that Jesus taught and we try to follow Catholic Social Teaching. Part of Nazareth Farm is about doing home repair, but more importantly we are about people. We continually work for social justice and recognize that everyone has different gifts. When our gifts come together, we are able to form something much more than we can do or be on our own. The following is a list of some of the things we do at Nazareth Farm and why we do them:

What we do:

- *We help people who are in need of home repair
- *We work *with* people not *for* people
- *We do things together as a community: dishes, chores, prayer, meals.

Why we do this:

- *We are called to be responsible members of the community and to use our gifts for others

What we do:

- *We have people from the community over on Community Night for prayer, fellowship and dinner
- *We don't have distractions such as TV and radios

Why we do this:

- *We think people should be active members in forming and living in community

What we do:

- *We choose to do home repair for people who can't afford the labor and/or can't make the repairs themselves
- *We do repairs for no salary or compensation

Why we do this:

*We try to recognize when our needs have been filled so that our excess can be used to fill someone else's needs. The next step is to give of ourselves by truly giving out of our need, not just our want

What we do:

- *We take care of what has been entrusted to us: animals, tools, the Farm, site materials
- *We do our best not to waste: napkins, electricity, water, materials, food

Why we do this:

*We need to take care of and be grateful for what we have so that we can be better prepared to give to others

What we do:

- *We continually work to give our business to small and locally owned businesses
- *We get our funding not from the government but from private donations from volunteers and other friends of the Farm.

Why we do this:

*It is important that we are in personal relationships with those who we give our money to and receive our money from

What we do:

- *We put volunteers in work groups with people they don't know
- *We ask volunteers to sign up for chores with people they don't know
- *We invite and encourage volunteers to talk with the people we are working with

Why we do this:

- *We are called to community with everyone, especially those who are different from us.