St. Dominic Human Concerns Meeting
June 20, 2022

Present:  Mary Gruber, Laura Graney, Karen Karste, Judy Straus, Mary Karls, Mary Born, Sharon Pentek, Lulu Lubbers, Kathy Cram, Haley Cyganek, Donna Karr, Jeanne Bitkers, and Pat Schmidt

Sharon opened the meeting with a prayer

I  Introductions

II  Notes Approval

The Notes from March 14, 2022 were approved.

III  Committee Reports

A.   Elizabeth Ministry – Pat Schmidt
     The Ministry had a monetary and a collection of needed items for Anchor of Hope during the month of May by the Northside Catholic Parishes. There were 250 carnations distributed by the ministry after the mass on Mother’s Day.

B.   Emmaus Meal – Judy Straus
     Numbers for the Emmaus meal are increasing each week. Leftovers from the Emmaus meal are left at St Luke’s Methodist for the daily Café. The Straus’ will be handing over the leadership to Tom & Barb Henning and Tim and Carol Stielow.

C.   Rainbow Kids – Mary Gruber
     A six-week session was just completed at Sheboygan Falls Elementary School with five children. A new session just started at Rogers Behavioral Health with 8 children, and 5 adults for six weeks. The Rainbow Kids Picnic will be held June 21st from 4:00-7:00 pm at Lost Woods Park, on Lower Falls Road in Kohler.

D.   Homebound – Pat Schmidt for Carla Dirks
     There were 40 Easter lilies with cards delivered to our homebound. Birthday cards continue to be sent to parishioners 75 and up.

E.   St Vincent De Paul – Mary Born
     The March sales were up 1% from 2021 and May sales were up 4% from 2021. There were 24 checks disbursed for $9000.00 for rent and utilities.

F.   Senior Ministry – Laura Graney
     There were 32 people who attended the end of year party on June 14th. Maureen Stoelb is working on upcoming speakers (Sharon Richardson, Silver Sneakers, etc.)
G. Food Pantry – Karen Karste
The Food Pantry has been serving about 40 families a week. Fresh fruit and veggies are being offered each week. The clients are allowed four choices. There has been a decline in the 2nd Sunday Food Pantry collections. The Board is looking for new members. They would like to see a parishioner from St Clement’s join the board.

H. Pastoral Council – Jeanne Bitkers
- Lori Biebel is taking care of the Form Program
- There will be T-shirts, caps, jackets and water bottles for the Northside Catholic Parishioners available in the fall.
- Financials for all parishes are sound with a projected increase of contributions of 6% for each parish.
- Fr Norberto is working with the Hispanic Ministry. There is a new associate pastor in Fond du Lac and our Juanta is looking forward to the two groups working together. The annual Bilingual Mass and Picnic is to be held at End Park on June 26th.
- JMKAC will be holding their annual Art Fair 7/16-17. Our Hispanic community will sell beverages in front of the church.
- Upcoming Pilgrimages - Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Des Plaines, IL on August 13 and Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in LaCrosse on October 15.
- New Welcome Team was created for the Northside parishes.

I. Laundry of Love – Laura Graney
We just finished our second year. We are servicing 7-9 families which is about 30 individuals. We are spending about $150.00 a month as the cost of the use of washers and dryers has increased. Money contributions as well as large laundry bags are always welcome. Small toiletries items, kleenex, paper towels, bottled water, snacks and apple juice are also needed. It was suggested that Laura check with Catholic Charities as they shared that they had an overabundance of small toiletries. Ebeneezer UCC has offered to write a grant for us.

J. Pay it Forward – Feeding the Homeless – Mary Karls
This Facebook group is almost a non-profit. The group is looking for travel size hygiene items (shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, body wash, etc.) to be disbursed to clients. Some items are taken to the Open Door on Tuesdays which include sandwiches and hygiene items.

Old Business

A. Thanksgiving Boxes -Donna Karr
Donna would like to hold a meeting in July with a representative from each church to be in attendance.

C. Undie Sunday – Judy Straus
Collection is planned for the second weekend of November. Delivery and participation in the project Home of the Brave will be determined later this summer.
D. Warming Center – Mary Gruber

No report but volunteers are always needed. Judy suggested that a member from Warming Center talk from the pulpit.

E. Making Spirits Bright – Judy Straus

The Northside Catholic Parishes will cover one shift of 2 hours on December 27, 2022.

F. Outreach Contributions

Mary explained how the Outreach Projects were selected. After some discussion about how much is being collected and an acknowledgment needed in the bulletin, Pat volunteered to talk to Lori Woelfel and ask that at the 6 week mark something should go in the bulletin regarding the amount that was collected by the Northside Catholic Parishes.

New Business

A. Little Lourdes Day – Donna Karr

The mass will be on August 10th at 10 am at Holy Name of Jesus. Donna asked for volunteers to prep sliders, etc. the day prior and volunteers to help with the mass and the reception following the mass.

The meeting closed with prayer

The next meeting will be October 17, 2022 at 6:30 pm. - __________ will lead the prayer

Notes prepared by Pat Schmidt