

Human Concerns Meeting

October 21, 2021

Present: Mary Gruber, Judy Straus, Laura Graney, Karen Karste, Mary Karls, Mary Born, Carla Dirks, Sharon Pentek, Donna Karr, Lulu Lubbers, Mary Jo Bugembe, Anne Skowland, and Pat Schmidt

Mary opened the meeting with a prayer

I Introductions

II Notes Approval

The Notes from June 22, 2021 were approved with a motion by Laura Graney and second by Sharon Pentek.

III Committee Reports

A. Elizabeth Ministry – Pat Schmidt

The ministry is leading the rosary before the 10:30 mass and holding a baby shower for Anchor of Hope during the month of October. The ministry continues to send a card and a gift card to newly baptized baby's family during the pandemic.

B. Emmaus Meal – Judy Straus

St Dominic is still disbursing bag lunches at the library.

C. Rainbow Kids – Mary Gruber

The Fall session started on September 6 and runs through November 18th and is serving 18 children and 7 adults at Bethany Reformed Church. The Winter/Spring Program will be held at Redeemer Lutheran in Plymouth starting January 20 and ending around Spring Break. There was a successful brat fry fundraiser held at the Moose Lodge.

D. Homebound – Carla Dirks

Popcorn was delivered to the homebound to celebrate St Dominic feast day, serving 35-40 parishioners. A Poinsettia, ornament, and card in an ice cream pail decorated will go to our homebound at Christmas.

E. St Vincent De Paul – Mary Born

The volunteers are meeting with more clients. There is about a 14% increase in need over September, 2020.

F. Senior Ministry – Laura Graney

The Senior Ministry will be gathering for a Christmas party on December 7th. More details to follow in bulletin. There are scheduled speakers on scams and suicide prevention in the upcoming year.

G. Food Pantry – Karen Karste

The Food Pantry has been serving about 40 families a week. The numbers should be increasing with less government subsidies and rising food prices. There will be a list of the most needed pantry items available at the churches for the Tree of Hope in December.

H. Pastoral Council – MaryJo Bugembe

- The Council has placed on the agenda the reformation of Refugee & Immigrants

I. Laundry of Love – Laura Graney

In July we celebrated our 1-year anniversary of hosting Laundry of Love. The agencies that are giving out vouchers include Salvation Army, Health & Human Services, Sheboygan Area School District, Lakeshore Technical College, Job Service, Catholic Charities, St Vincent dePaul, Anchor of Hope, Northside Food Pantry, Food Bank and Open Door. Open Door is a new location for feeding the Homeless Monday-Friday and located in the downtown area.

J. Pay it Forward – Feeding the Homeless – Mary Karls

This Facebook group started feeding the homeless Monday-Friday at the library. The group has now moved to the Open Door. Mary helps with feeding the homeless.

K. Communications – Judy Straus

The committee has completed their work and a Director of Communications has been hired.

IV Old Business

A. Refugee and Immigrant Outreach – Laura Graney

No report

B. Thanksgiving Boxes -Donna Karr

An anonymous donor has agreed to pay for all the Thanksgiving boxes through the Food Bank. The Thanksgiving Food Box Committee is discussing increasing the gift card from \$10 to \$25. The gift cards would be purchased through Seton script. The boxes will be distributed November 20, 2021.

C. Undie Sunday – Judy Straus

There will be an insert in the bulletin on October 30/31. The collection this year will go to the Afghans. The veteran's hospital has enough to carry them through the year. Because the collection will be for the Muslims, conservative colors, no logos, sport bras, onesies for babies and socks will be collected. The collection will be the 1st and 2nd weekends in November.

D. Warming Center – Mary Gruber

Volunteers are still needed. The Center will be operating 7 days a week at St Cyril & Methodius. It will be open mid-December through March 6:30 pm until 8:00 am.

V New Business

- A. Prayer and Worship – Our theme will be “We Embrace our Holy Family with our... Wk. 1 Faithfulness, Wk. 2 Hope, Wk. 3 Joy, and Wk. 4 Service. The Tree of Hope will be Wk. 1 Elderly, Wk. 2 Mary’s Room, Wk. 3 Northside Food Pantry and Wk. 4 Immigrants.
- B. 1st Sunday Coffee – Human Concerns will host November 6th after 5pm mass and November 7th after the 10:30 mass. Members covering the social will be after Saturday, 5pm – Carla, Sharon, Karen and Mary Gruber, after 10:30 – Mary Karls, Carla, Kathy Cram
- C. Bell Ringing – St Dominic will ring bells for Salvation Army 11/29-12/4 9:00 am to 9:00 pm at Festival Foods.
- D. Making Spirits Bright – Will be December 27th 4:30 pm-7:00pm 8-10 people are needed.
- E. Sheboygan Northside Outreach Projects for 2022 – Pat will check with Steve Scharrer from our Finance Committee if approval is needed. A meeting will then follow with members from the Northside Parishes Human Concerns Committees.

The meeting closed with prayer

The next meeting will be March 14, 2022 at 6:30 pm. – **Sharon will lead the prayer**

Notes prepared by Pat Schmidt