Saint Pascal Baylon Catholic Church Social Justice and Caring Committee Minutes of the Meeting Held on Thursday, November 1, 2018

Present: Martha Arko, Carol Berg, Anna DeCrans, Kendall Doom (and son Oskar), Bill Dorgan, Carmen Johnson, Christine Malec (minute writer), Margaret Malec, Fr. John Mitchell, Nathan Pacer and Julianne Wojcik

For the majority of the meeting time, the committee members hosted a potluck dinner to get to know pastor Fr. John Mitchell and the seminarian assigned to the parish, Nathan Pacer.

Possible New Member

The committee members welcomed Carol Berg who is considering joining the committee.

The Listening House

Bill distributed a draft of a letter that he wrote to the committee members and the Parish Council inviting them to learn more about the Listening House by touring this facility. (The Listening House is a day shelter located on the eastside of St. Paul that ministers to the homeless.) The letter mentioned two tour times: Tuesday, November 20, 2018, at 10:30 a.m. and Wednesday, November 28, 2018, at 1:30 p.m. Bill stated that he would send the letter to the Parish Council members.

Angel Tree Ministry

Chris reported that Fr. John had informed her that he had received a phone message from a volunteer from Angel Tree Ministry, a program that provides the children of incarcerated parents with Christmas gifts, asking if the parish would be interested in purchasing presents for children in Ramsey County.

The committee members acknowledged the great work of the Angel Tree Ministry but discussed that they would prefer to minister to families from the parish and/or school who may need financial assistance with purchasing Christmas gifts for their children. Fr. John volunteered to speak to the parish and school staff about this issue, asking if there are any current efforts in place to provide Christmas gift-related financial assistance to families in need.

Next Meeting

Thursday, December 6, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. in the Founders' Room at church