

J&H Meeting 9-17-19

Present- Jeane Smits, Kay Schumacher, Mary Connors, Julie Jacobson, Heidi Schroeder, Kim McKeefry, Richard Erdman, Mike Westenberg, Jackie Thiry

Welcome to new member, Richard.

Meeting started with scripture readings from "At Home with the Word" for September 22. Discussion question was: "Why should we pray for our leaders?" Thoughts included:

- Prayer changes us and gives us hope.
- Prayer puts you in a mind set to be more open and understand the other side.
- Leaders need our prayers. Hopefully they will find the right answers for the common good. They set the tone for much of our quality of life.
- Prayer is a reminder that we answer to God. Do not follow leaders blindly.

Book Discussion: A New Way to Be Church – Chapter 1: Vatican 1 – ½ Parishes insights, Chapter 2: A Fresh Blueprint, Thoughts moving forward. Personal insights included:

- Often do not take church home. The hour on Sunday meets our faith responsibility.
- Catechesis stops with Confirmation. Not clear of responsibility as an adult.
- 1/2 of our leadership gifts are not used because women are left out. They are not listened to and often silenced.
- Building relationships is key.
- Mission in Haiti learned importance of building relationships.
- Church now cares for those within its walls. Must be more inclusive of whole community.
- Youth want to be engaged. Many collages are "dong justice".

Parish Council report- Minutes are posted on the web-site at [stmattsgb.org](http://stmattsgb.org). Highlights included:

- Two guests: Fr. Mark Mleziva and Fr. Adam Bradley were welcomed. As new neighbors, they will provide leadership for a new endeavor in our diocese: a "vocations central house" or "house of discernment" for young men considering a priestly vocation. They are living in what had been called the Nazareth House.
- Discussed ideas for noon prayer as a parish and ways to welcome new members/families to our parish.
- Ministry fair will be held on 10-12-13.

Haiti- Kay shared that they are working with Partners with Haiti to offer scholarships for teachers and those who want to become teachers to become certified. They have found people who will sponsor scholarships this year. The \$1079 Hand & Hearts with Haiti received from the picnic will go toward scholarships. The plan is to dedicate the picnic money to scholarships every year.

Joshua-

- Electronic recycle event will be held on 10/5, 8 to noon, at West Side Moravian Church.
- Joshua banquet will be held on Friday, 10/11, at the Swan Club. Tickets are \$50. Please consider going. Tickets can be purchased on-line or at St. Matthews.

St. Vincent de Paul- SVDP has several programs with the mission of encouraging systemic change. They continue to offer day long sessions of Bridges out of Poverty. Two are scheduled from 8 to 3 on 9/24 and 10/22. InterAct, a peer 18 week long program will graduate its seventh class. There will be two more starting in January. One will be just for veterans. BACK2WORK is a new program for those coming out of prison. It is open to all skill levels 18 years or older. Its first 2 weeks of classroom starts 10/7. Program focuses on:

- \* Learn basic employability skills with paid internships for hands-on training.
- \* Participate with community/employer partnerships in a two-week classroom training program with job preparation and wrap-around services.
- \* Network with employers.
- \* Transition from learning mode to working mode.
- \* Career paths include, but are not limited to: Automotive, Trades, Service Industry, Hospitality, Retail, Customer Service.

Season of Creation- Pope Francis has declared the Season of Creation should be celebrated between 9/1, World Day of Prayer, and 10/4, feast of St. Francis. This year's theme is Web of Life. An Interfaith prayer service will be held on Monday, 9/23, at West Side Moravian Church, 1707 S. Oneida., Green Bay, from 7 pm-8 pm. Jason Pue, choir director from West Side Moravian, will lead a combined choir from several of the churches. A collection will be taken for Community Gardens. Communication of event includes posting on face book & web-sites, parish bulletin blurbs, Joshua congregation contacts, Compass event page, and Brown County United Way Connect. Anissa is including a petition on creation each weekend. Deacon Bob will include reference to Season of Creation at Holy Hour on 9/23.

Heidi, Mary, Kay, Kim, Mike and Jackie will bring bars for social that will follow prayer service.

Feed My Starving Children- St. Matthew parish is a partner parish with the non-profit Christian organization Feed My Starving Children. Volunteers hand-pack meals specially formulated for malnourished children, which are sent to partners around the world where they are used to operate orphanages, schools, clinics and feeding programs to break the cycle of poverty. Mobile Pack dates are 10/7 through 10/10. Mike said slots are filled.

Justice Herald: The Justice Herald theme will be "Seeing Christ in everyone". Targeted publishing date is weekend of 11/16-17. Articles should be sent to Rachael by 11/8. Group decided to focus on personal stories from immigrants. Mike will write lead in paragraph. Articles will be:

- South American (Jeane will contact Sister Melody and ask if she will do a piece on Casa Alba and see if she knows of someone who will share their story.)
- Somali (Mike will ask parish Somali contacts to share their story)
- Hmong (Kay & Mary will do some searching for a Hmong contact)

St. John Homeless Shelter- The shelter opens up November 1. We will hold our promotion weekend 10/19-20. Plan for weekend:

- Julie will ask Brooke, St. John's volunteer coordinator, to write a short description of the volunteer opportunities at St. John's, Micah Center and Wellspring. This will be a bulletin insert. Father Bob will reference the insert at mass.
- Mike will follow up on the use of "Do you see me" signs and pick up mat and bin along with banner for Gathering area display.
- Jackie will provide copies of Sunday volunteer guideline.
- Sign-up table coverage will be determined at next meeting.
- Sign-up sheets will be designed to show "buddy" system.

Stamp It Up- Committee agreed to fund the meal from our budget for the group. It should cost \$300-\$400. The Stamp It Up group will donate it proceeds to St. John's Homeless Shelter. Last year they donated \$10,000.

#### Calendar Review

- Hour Adoration 9/23, 10/27
- Season of Creation Prayer service 9/23
- Feast of SVDP Mass celebrated at St. Matthew at 8:30. Social to follow. 9/27
- Recycle Event at West Side Moravian Church 10/5
- Feed My Starving Children 10/7-10
- Joshua Banquet 10/11
- Next meeting 10/15, 6:30**
- Homeless shelter weekend 10/19-20
- Fair Trade Coffee served 10/19-20
- Justice Herald publication 11-16-17