

Social Concerns Meeting Minutes March 22, 2022

Committee Members: Reta Althaus, Patsy Carlson, Paul Carlson, Doris Larkins, Jean McPherson, Eva Moritz and Christine Yoder

Members in Attendance: Reta Althaus, Patsy Carlson, Paul Carlson, Doris Larkins, Jean McPherson, Eva Moritz and Christine Yoder

Send all minutes to Father Ken Halbur (frken@slte.org), Annette Bailey (Annette.bailey@slte.org), Mike Gatzke (webmaster@saintluketheevangelist.org), and Jennifer Joensen (jjoensen@me.com)

Opening Prayer

Eva led us in an opening prayer for the People of Ukraine. We discussed ways to keep the people of Ukraine in our prayers as a parish. Christine offered to contact Father Ken about the Pope's and our Bishop's intentions to offer Masses this Friday for the Consecration of Ukraine and Russia. She will also provide the information from the Diocese to Anna Shafer to share with the Family Faith Facebook page. Eva will post it on the Ankeny Catholic Moms Group. Doris will ask Father Ken if prayers for the people of Ukraine could be included in the prayers of the faithful at all the Masses.

Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl – A Lenten Project

Patsy has been providing weekly communications and reminders via the bulletin and weekly Happenings Newsletter. David Reising responded to her email and agreed to distribute Rice Bowls to the parish RE families. She also met with Annette Bailey and Nick Rahe about the best way to collect the funds. It was determined that a link would be set up for online donations. Rice Bowl boxes were handed out following the masses the weekend of March 5-6, and are still available on a table in the narthex. Fr. Ken offered to provide a secure box that would be visible in the narthex to collect the remainder of the Rice Bowls at Easter. This will be announced in the Rice Bowl updates in the email notifications.

Love Lunches

Doris had provided members with a detailed write-up of Ankeny's Love Lunches programs. Several area churches work together to provide lunches at two parks each weekday throughout the summer. Plans for this year are still tentative, as the school district has done this the last two years, rather than the churches. If it is turned back over to the churches to provide this service, Doris is willing to take responsibility for two weeks that could be assigned to St. Luke's. We would encourage volunteers from our parish by explaining the program and using a Sign-Up Genius.

Habitat for Humanity

Paul told us there would be a build in August/September this year. He will be lining up volunteers through the Knights and other parishioners. He asked if this committee would organize and provide a lunch (or lunches) for some of the work crews. We all agreed to this. An initial donation to Catholic Circle of Faith, Habitat for Humanity, will be provided from St. Luke's Tithe of the Tithe funds.

Catholic Worker House – 4th Saturdays of each month

Meal will be prepped and served 3/26/2022. We discussed future dates.

Family Promise

Volunteers from St. Luke's are providing a meal and overnight hosts for families on 3/29/22. The next two dates for us will be on or about 5/31/22 and 8/9/22

Tithe of the Tithe

Committee members discussed and agreed that the amount allocated for Tithe of the Tithe (from January and February) should be distributed as follows. The payment to CRS-Rice Bowl will be held until after Easter, when the parish's collections/contributions are received.

Habitat for Humanity – Catholic Circle of Faith	\$1,000.00
Catholic Relief Services – Rice Bowl	<u>\$5,611.76</u>
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Mary's Helping Hands

Father Ken has been contacted by a person at Sacred Heart Church in West Des Moines about a community service they provide called Mary's Helping Hands (MHH). MHH receives and distributes donations of new or gently used maternity clothes, baby clothes and other items. Father asked Jean to bring this to the committee. We discussed and agreed that our young parish may be a very good partner with MHH after learning their process and under their direction. Jean will follow-up with the staff person at Sacred Heart.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 24, 2022 (7:00 PM)