

Social Concerns Minutes

July 25, 2023

Members in Attendance: Reta Althaus, Sharon Anderson, Doris Larkins, Patty McClain, Jean McPherson

Send all minutes to Father Ken Halbur(frken@slte.org), Father Ryan Andrew(frryan@slte.org), Jeremy Swim(Jeremy.swim@slte.org), Mike Gatzke(webmaster@saintluketheevangelist.org), Meg Schon(meg@schonfamily.com)

USCCB's Seven Principles of Catholic Social Teaching

Reta led the committee in discussing the principle of the Option for the Poor and Vulnerable using the guide from the USCCB. We discussed its applicability to the poor in our local as well as in our global community. We agreed that our donations to local funds that minister to the poor as well as our recent decision to establish a sister parish fit in well with this principle.

Habitat for Humanity

The next build date is August 2. Karen Bishop, chair of the Prime Timer's, solicited volunteers who provided lunch for the workers. This group will again arrange for lunch for the workers on August 2.

Sister Parish Relationship

Doris stated that the reception by parish members concerning our sister parish of St. Martin de Porres in Ghana has been favorable. The bulletin, the Wednesday emails, and announcements during Mass have been used to relay important information. The announcements have stressed St. Luke's efforts to apply the corporal and spiritual works of Mercy in a tangible way.

Our committee made the decision to continue to allocate \$2000 every 2 months to St. Martin de Porres for a total of \$12,000 yearly. The new pastor is now Father Moses who has replaced Fr. Raphail who is now in Rome. Bishop Agyenta who presides over the diocese of our sister parish, will be visiting and preaching at all the masses at St. Luke's this weekend, July 29, 30th. There will be a second collection.

Tithe of the Tithe Long Range Plan

This plan was created in April to give more structure to our committee's bi-monthly task of making Tithe of the Tithe financial decisions. The original schedule was drafted by a sub committee of Reta, Doris, Patty, and Jean.

Jean explained that since October is Right to Life month, this committee will want to consider payments to several organizations that assist mothers and babies from the July and August tithes. Our planning document lists several organizations which received some funding from us last fall and in January of this year. Additional organizations could be considered at our September meeting.

We will also need to provide payment for Meals from the Heartland in the fall. Doris will find out if we will again sponsor that program and the date.

Tithe of the Tithe from May and June Tithes (5% of total tithes)

\$2000	Ghana Parish
\$ 750	NAMI National Alliance on Mental Illness
\$ 750	MOSAIC
\$ 750	Center for Social Ministry
\$ 500	EWTN Catholic Radio (Carathon)
<u>\$ 250</u>	Catholic Worker House
\$5000	Total

St. Luke's School Mission Plan

Earlier this year, Anna Schaffer and Emily Haack contacted our committee about correlating our Tithe of the Tithe contributions with charities to which St. Luke's School contributes through their monthly mission project. Recently they shared with us the saints that they would highlight each month and to which charity they would contribute based on the virtues exemplified in the life of the monthly saint. In earlier meetings, our committee decided that our correlation with their donations depends on their chosen charities and if they align with those that we support. We will continue to communicate with them throughout the school year and in some instances, a portion of the Tithe of the Tithe, determined by the Social Concerns Committee, will be donated to their chosen missions.

Future Events

Catholic Worker House meals are scheduled for August 26 and September 22.

St. Luke's has been asked to handle Family Promise on July 31.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 26 at 7pm