

Social Concerns Meeting Minutes
July 27, 2021

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

Members in Attendance: 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), Shani Wahl (shaniwahlpc@gmail.com)

We opened in prayer.

Catholic Worker House – 4th Saturday of every month

Meals continue to be provided once a month with donated food and other needed items. Volunteers are now allowed to work inside to prep meals and serve; however, the meals are still being served through the window to the guests.

Family Promise, August 17 at OLIH

Christine is handling the meal for the night of August 17th and a Sign-Up Genius has been set up for people to contribute food, host and serve the meal, and the overnight stay. Future dates will be 11/9/21, 3/29/22, 5/31/22 and 8/9/22.

Tithe of the Tithe

Committee members agreed that the amount allocated for Tithe of the Tithe (for the months of May and June) should be distributed as follows:

Meals From the Heartland	\$1,800 (set aside for event)
Biking for Babies	\$ 500
Project Fresh Start (school supplies)	<u>\$ 155</u>
	\$2,455

Meals From the Heartland

Three dates were suggested for a meal-packing event (October 5, 12 or 19). The committee suggested the 12th or the 19th. Jean will get back to Nick Rahe, Father Ken and Principal Hade concerning the date, the funds, and our role in this event.

Project Fresh Start –(School Supplies for those in need in all Ankeny Area Schools)

St.Luke's parish has been very generous in past years in donating school supplies for area schools in late summer. The drive was not held in 2020 due to the coronavirus. Doris is our point of contact with the Ankeny organizers, and we have learned they have

already obtained all the backpacks needed from Wal-Mart at a greatly reduced price. The backpacks are plain, in different colors for each grade level. All the supplies needed for the start of this school year have been purchased or donated, and their give-away will be August 7 and 8.

Recently, the St. Luke's School Family School Association (FSA) asked to be able to partner with the Social Concerns Team and to collect school supplies for this program at their upcoming Ice Cream Social, August 21. Jean will get back to Anna Schaffer and let her know all of this and their timeline. We recommend the FSA collect the supplies (and donations) as they had planned, and we could collect at the Masses that same weekend (supplies and/or cash). A list of the school supply items would be provided.

Jean will ask Father Ken if an announcement can be made at the Masses the weekend before and if a second collection could be held August 21 and 22. Depending on his response, we will get the appropriate information in the bulletin and the weekly e-mail.

Biking For Babies

St. Luke's was contacted by a volunteer with the Biking For Babies organization, asking for a possible donation of food and food prep at their upcoming local ride in the Ankeny area on August 7. Jean explained our "Tithe of the Tithe" process at St. Luke's, and told her she would bring the request for a possible donation to the Social Concerns Team at this meeting, but could not commit to a food and food prep donation. The purpose of Biking for Babies is to raise funds to partner with 65 pregnancy resource centers nationwide, including in Iowa. Those resource centers provide direct care for women and families in need. St. Luke's has provided funds to at least two of those local organizations (InnerVisions and Agape). It is also noted that there has been an article in St. Luke's Happenings newsletter the past 2 or 3 weeks promoting the local bike, with a link to information about their bike rides, their mission and partnerships. After a brief discussion, we agreed the donation of \$500 was appropriate.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 28, at 7:00 PM