

Social Concerns Meeting Minutes September 20, 2022

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

Members in Attendance: Patsy Carlson, Paul Carlson, Terri Hannan, Doris Larkins, Eva Moritz and Jean McPherson

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

Paul led us in prayer.

Catholic Worker House Meal

The next meal is scheduled for September 24. The meal is now being served in the yard, as weather permits, rather than using the pass-through window.

Habitat for Humanity

St. Luke's is participating in the Catholic Circle of Faith to sponsor another Humanity House build. Four houses are being built on the same block in Des Moines. St. Luke's was assigned two dates for volunteers, September 7 and October 26. Paul has submitted information for the bulletin and weekly newsletter and included the Sign-Up Genius and another link with information explaining steps the homebuyers go through to purchase a Habitat house. St. Luke's Prime Timers have volunteered to provide lunch for all the workers on October 26.

St. Luke's Ministry Fair – October 8 and 9

Social Concerns will have representatives at the Ministry Fair. A display board will be set up and handouts available with summary information of some of the team's activities in recent years.

Coat Drive – New and Gently Used Items

We want to collect coats and other winter outerwear (hats, gloves, scarves, boots, etc.) again this fall. We will check with St. Luke staff to determine the most appropriate time to do so. We discussed starting it the weekend of the Ministry Fair (Oct 8 and 9) and ending it the following weekend after all the Masses (Oct 15 and 16). We will then sort and distribute them to three or four different organizations in the Des Moines area, as we have done in years past.

Meals From the Heartland

Planning has started for this year's packaging event in the gym at St. Luke's. All the school students will be scheduled in the afternoon, with two time slots available for all parishioners to participate, children and adults. More details will be provided when finalized.

Ankeny Service Center's (ASC) Christmas Program

We have reached out to the ASC about their plans for their 2022 program, which we have participated in for several years. We were told their greatest need is for gift cards for families that can be used by them for gifts and their holiday meals. This team will communicate with those who run the SCRIP card program at St. Luke's to determine a way to encourage our families to consider gifting others in our community with gift card(s).

Tithe of the Tithe

Committee members discussed and agreed that Tithe of the Tithe should be distributed to several area service organizations that provide services to women and babies, in recognition of "Respect Life" month in October, as follows:

AGAPE , DSM	\$ 600.00
House of Mercy, DSM	\$ 600.00
Inner Visions, DSM	\$ 600.00
Ruth Harbor, DSM	\$ 600.00
Dorothy's House, DSM	\$ 600.00
Sisters of St. Francis Water Project	<u>\$2,883.43</u>
	\$5,883.43

Two other organizations who provide similar services to women and babies will receive the following amounts, which were set aside from May and June's tithing until such time the organizations were researched, visited and approved by committee members

Mary's Helping Hands, WDM	\$ 600.00
ALPHA Women's Resource Center, Ankeny	<u>\$ 577.80</u>
	\$1,177.80

Love Lunches

Doris shared a certificate of appreciation from the Love Lunch program to all who volunteered during St. Luke's two-week partnership this past summer. We'll find an opportunity to share/display this with the parish, as many volunteers participated.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 22, 2022 at 7:00 PM.