**HUMAN CONCERNS COMMITTEE MEETING December 13, 2017**

**INTENTIONS/ PRAYER**

Present: JoAnn Presta, Mary Kral, Judy Dougherty, Mary Kay Lammers, Diane Miller, Sharon Rehnberg, Nancy Reinbold, Kris Kelm.

**LIVING THE PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:**

**Human Concerns Ministries living the Parish Mission Statement this past month through inspirational worship, faithful discipleship and service to others.**

Giving Tree: Over 800 Gifts purchased, sorted and delivered to 12 agencies serving individuals and families in need.

Reformation Lutheran: Adult and student volunteers baked cookies and participated in Adventure Day at Reformation Lutheran.

Funeral Luncheons: Food and hospitality provided to families for funerals held this past month at St. Paul’s.

Loaves and Fishes: Monthly meal provided for St. Ben’s meal program. Groceries purchased for Casa Maria. Non-perishable food items donated, and laundry soap purchased for Kettle Moraine Food Pantry.

Kettle Moraine Food Pantry: Volunteers helped staff food pantry during hours open to customers.

Mount Meru Coffee: Coffee purchased to help support fair trade farmers in Tanzania.

Heavenly Babies: Layette bags donated to new Moms in need.

Health Ministry: Home communion visits to the homebound, those in hospitals, nursing homes, rehab facilities. Rosary prayed each Wed. with residents at Linden Grove Waukesha.

Work and Pray: Volunteers knit/crocheted prayer stoles, baby blankets and made cards for the bereaved/ sick.

Prayer: Committee members pray for each other and those who volunteer in the human concerns ministries.

**MINISTRY UPDATES:**

**Giving Tree**: Sharon Rehnberg: Giving Tree summary: 150 Angel gifts (specific child gifts), 700 Stars gifts (general gifts, gift cards, stamps) were donated by parishioners and distributed to 12 agencies for specific individuals or to support the agency. Families from St. Paul school families purchase gifts for families in need through Catholic Charites. Several parish families in need were recipients of gift cards from Giving Tree donations. Almost all the Giving Tree gifts were returned on time and delivered to agencies by volunteers from the parish. Recipients are all very appreciative.

**Reformation Lutheran: Deb Schneider chair:**  Adventure Day at Reformation December 2. Student volunteers from St. Paul assisted with making crafts and decorating Christmas trees. Cookies donated by parishioners provide a special treat for Adventure day.

**Casa Maria:** **Nancy Reinbold Chair:** CASA Maria is a homeless shelter for women and children located at 1131 N. 21st St. in Milwaukee. Nancy has been volunteering at CASA for 16 years. The 3rd Monday of each month Nancy picks up day old bakery from Panera and shops for groceries for CASA. The budget for groceries is provided through donations to Loaves and Fishes. The HC committee discussed and approved increasing this monthly budget from $125.00 to $175.00. Casa Maria also has additional needs. Anyone can volunteer to make a meal for the families in residence there. CASA is also in critical need of children’s clothing newborn to size 12. Volunteers are also welcome to go along grocery shopping with Nancy. Anyone interested in volunteering and finding out more about CASA can contact Nancy Reinbold nreinbold@wi.rr.com 262-968-4564 or 262-844-1771.

**Respect Life: Mary Kay Lammers chair:** Baby Bottles will be distributed after masses the weekend of Jan 6/7 and Jan 13/14. Donations collected will go to support prolife agencies. Volunteers to help Mary Kay Lammers with distribution of baby bottles are Sharon Rehnberg 5:30 mass 1/6/18 JoAnn Presta, Diane Miller 9 am mass 1/7/18 and 1/14/18.

The Right to Life ad signed by parishioners this past October will appear in the Waukesha Freeman in January.

**Peru: Deb Passino chair:** Donation of canes are needed for the Peru ministry. Contact Deb Passino deb\_passino@yahoo.com. 262-506-9678. Lent starts Feb 14th HC Lenten collection details to be discussed at January HC meeting.

**Easter Food Baskets:** New Ministry Chair needed for Easter Food Baskets. Contact Mary Kral if you know someone who might be interested. mkral@stpaulgenesee.net

**Bereavement: Ruth Palzkill chair:** Christmas cards sent to St. Paul families who had lost a loved one in the past year.

**Knitting Group:** Come to knit prayer shawls and share fellowship. The group meets in the family room the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, 9 am.

**FINANCIALS**:

Purchased Casa Maria groceries, St. Ben’s groceries.

$800 in scrip cards for parish families purchased through Giving Tree.

Fundraiser approval forms for 2018/2019 are due. Submit to Mary Kral.

**BUSINESS:**

**Parish Auction Basket:** The HC Committee will collect monetary donations for the Dinner Auction Basket. The committee is considering putting together one cooking theme basket and one baby theme basket. Donation will be collected at the January meeting or can be mailed to JoAnn Presta, W1160 Fieldcress Ct., Ixonia, WI 53036

**Loaves and Fishes:** Monies donated to the Loaves and Fishes collection each month go to help support the Kettle Moraine Food Pantry, St. Ben’s meal program, Casa Maria Women’s shelter and the St. Paul Easter meal baskets.

At the end of each fiscal year, monies exceeding the amount needed to assist these missions has been donated to area food pantries and other area programs that feed the hungry. It has been suggested that members involved with Human Concerns bring forth to the HC Committee worthy causes that provide food to those in need. At the December meeting, the HC committee approved a $250 purchase of grocery store gift cards to be donated to Reformation Lutheran and Hope Center. The grocery budget for CASA Maria was increased from $125 to $175/mo.

Additional proposals for the loaves and fishes fund should be submitted for review to Deb Schneider at schnid11@yahoo.com (cc Mary Kral at mkral@stpaugenesee.net).

**Ministry fair April:** Ministry fair proposed to be held in April 2018. Ask members of other parishes how they have carried out ministry fairs in their parishes. Looking for ideas to interest and connect with parishioners. Volunteers needed to contact other parishes. To help enlist volunteers for parish ministries, Ministry Chairs will be asked to provide volunteer job descriptions to include clear expectations of tasks and time commitment for new volunteers.

**OTHER PARISH THINGS TO SHARE**:

March for Life January 14 in Chicago. Bill Snyder is organizing a bus to transport students and adults to the march.

Alpha is coming: Tuesday mornings at St. Paul, Thursday evenings at St. Bruno.

Parish Auction 2/10/18

**PASTORAL COUNCIL UPDATE:** The Pastoral Council is focusing on living the parish mission statement and getting people to talk about volunteer opportunities within the parish.

**NEXT MEETING January 10, 7 PM PARISH OFFICE**

**CLOSING PRAYER**

Notes taken by: Judy Dougherty, Human Concerns Committee Secretary

**\*\*PARISH HUMAN CONCERNS MINISTRY SCHEDULE BY MONTH**

**Event month MINISTRY FOCUS AGENDA TOPIC**

ongoing Peru collection canes, glasses, toothbrushes \*reminders?

ongoing Reformation Lutheran Neighborhood Store collection \*reminders?

January - December Loaves and Fishes December\*

January Respect Life/ Baby Bottles for Life December\*

February-March Lenten Collection St. Clare Community, Paita, Peru January – March\*

February-March Lenten Collection Easter Meal Baskets/ Food Drive February/March\*

February Parish Dinner Auction Basket December/January

March Hope Center March/ October

April 19-21 Free Clothing Share/coats St Ben’s March/ October\*

March Bereavement sends Easter cards March

May Ministry Fair March, April

May Heavenly Babies Layette April

May Elizabeth Ministry April

June Casa Maria June

June Hospital/ Home June

July Kettle Moraine Food Pantry Reverse Giving June\*

August Reformation Lutheran School Supplies Drive July\*

August Peru/ St. Clare School Community June

August St. Michael’s Catholic Church Feast Day Mass September June

September Sew for the Needy August

October Free Clothing Share/coats St. Ben’s August\*

October Respect Life/ Prolife ad signatures October\*

October Respect Life Chicago MARCH FOR LIFE? October

October 11 Hope Center September

Nov 2 Bereavement All Souls Liturgy/Reception September

November Giving Tree October-November\*

November/December Bereavement Support Group October

December Bereavement sends Christmas cards November

Ongoing Mt. Meru Coffee November\*

January - December St. Ben’s November

January 2018 Respect Life March for Life bus to Chicago? October

January 2018 Respect Life Baby Bottles December 2017\*

Lent 2018 Peru Mission Trip January 2018\*

Lent 2018 Easter Food Drive January 2018\*

April 5-7 2018 Free Clothing Share February 2018\*

**\***Fundraiser Approvals Submitted in February 2017