**HUMAN CONCERNS COMMITTEE MEETING May 9, 2018**

**INTENTIONS/ PRAYER**

**Present:** JoAnn Presta, Judy Dougherty, Mary Kay Lammers, Theresa Miresse, Deb Schneider, Marlene Vlosak, Bonnie Sewell, Vickie Schroeder.

**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.**

Free Clothing Exchange: Gently used clothing and small household items were donated and available for community members in need through the free clothing exchange held at St. Paul’s.

Easter Meal baskets: 30 Easter meal baskets assembled for local families in need from donations of non-perishable food items and monetary donations to the Loaves and Fishes collection.

Peru: Monetary donations collected during lent for needs of the Peru ministry.

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.

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

Heavenly Babies: Layette bags assembled and 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:**

**Free Clothing Exchange:** Jeri Roder chair: The Free Clothing Exchange held in April at St. Paul’s was well attended. In addition to community members, Jerie also invited local non-profit organizations to come in and pick up clothing or items needed for their ministry. This included St. Ben’s, Casa Maria and Heavenly baby Layette ministries. Items left at the end of the clothing share were loaded directly into a St. Vincent DePaul truck and donated to their mission.

**Peru**: Deb Passino chair: The Saint Frances Sisters who serve the St. Clare school community in Peru will be in WI in September. They will be the guest speakers at the St. Paul’s KC breakfast during their visit. Parish families will host the Sister’s during their visit to WI. If interested in hosting, please contact Deb Passino.

To date, $1675.00 has been donated for the Peru ministry through the Lenten envelopes collection.

**Easter Meal Baskets:** Vickie and Gary Schroeder chairs**:** Vickie reported that the Easter meal baskets were well received and appreciated by the recipient families. Vickie had placed slip of paper in the gathering space and listed items in the bulletin for non-perishable food items needed for the Easter meal baskets. Non-perishable items donated by parishioners almost exactly matched what was needed (the blessing of the Holy Spirit at work). Perishable food items were purchased with funds donated to Loaves and Fishes. Vickie searched area food stores for price and found Aldi’s to offer the best prices for what was needed. Items purchased included hams, eggs, rolls and butter. Aldi’s upgraded the hams to a nice quality spiral ham at no additional cost. Vickie had help loading and delivering the palettes of food from Aldi’s to St. Paul’s from 7 young men from St. John’s military academy. She was very thankful for their help and thankful to Aldi’s for their generosity. For their first year as chairs, the Schroeder’s felt everything went well. They would like to reach out to identify new recipients in the community and update the existing list for next year.

**Home Communion:** Chris Yehle will replace Sara Drolet as Home Communion Ministry chair.

**FINANCIALS**:

Monthly purchases: Casa Maria groceries, St. Ben’s groceries.

**BUSINESS:**

**Ministry Fair:** The ministry fair was very well attended. The ministry displays were phenomenal. Many parishioners expressed interest and signed up to be volunteers to a new ministry. Contact information for new volunteers was forwarded to each ministry chairperson following the Ministry Fair. Chairpersons were asked to follow-up with new volunteers within 2 weeks of receiving their contact information.

Items for future ministry fair improvements were discussed. To ease set-up, it was suggested that tables be numbered to coordinated with the table layout graphic. Also, some Human Concerns ministries could use extra space for their displays (whole table vs. ½ a table if table space available). Noted were Heavenly Babies and Peru.

**Ministry Wish List:** Please let Mary Kral know if there is some money in your ministry that was allocated, but not used.

Please let Mary Kral know of any “wishes” that your ministry may have. Deb Schneider mentioned a need for laundry detergent and Pine Sol at the Reformation Lutheran neighborhood store. Deb will find out specifics about what is needed, and Human Concerns will help to cover the cost. Any other ministries should contact Mary Kral with any other special wishes/needs for your ministries by June 30, 2018(end of St. Paul 2017/2018 fiscal year).

**2018/2019 Human Concerns Theme:** “Be a Blessing and Receive Blessings”. The committee discussed project ideas committee members and parishioners can do next year to support current St. Paul Human Concerns ministries. Examples discussed included making cards for the imprisoned and Christmas cards from St. Paul’s to members of the Reformation Lutheran community.

**OTHER PARISH THINGS TO SHARE:**

Parish Clean will take place on Saturday May 12th.

**PASTORAL COUNCIL:** Vickie Schroeder: The last Pastoral Council meeting focused on Ministry Fair follow-up.

 22 parishioners were nominated for pastoral council and are in the process of discernment.

**NEXT MEETING:** August 8, 6:30 PM in the Galleria. A Pot luck will be held to welcome in the new 2018/2019 year.

**There will be no Human Concerns Committee meeting scheduled for June or July 2018.**

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

March Bereavement sends Easter cards March

April 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 Hope Center September

Nov 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

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