

St. Bruno Human Concerns Committee Meeting

January 7, 2020

7:20 PM

Attending: Tom Parulski–chair, Sharon Burt, Lynn Haugner, Betty Igl, Sue James, Michelle Michel- PC Liaison, also Rachel Turner & Tatum Hain (guests)

Absent/Excused: -

Opening Prayer: Bless the Lord, Oh My Soul

Guests: Rachel Turner & Tatum Hain from School Committee asked how we can work together. They are looking for service opportunities for students. Possibilities discussed include 1) Thanksgiving food drive – sorting donations at the food pantry. 2) Sort items donated to the Giving Tree. 3) Help at Masses on weekends as greeters and handing out bulletins. 4) St. Ben’s (4th Sunday of each month) families can volunteer to serve food and/or bake cookies. 5) Meals on Wheels – Kids could make little gifts/cards to go with meals one week each month. A total of 20-25 gifts would be plenty.

Old Business:

- A. **“Belong – Believe – Become” discipleship pathway** –We discussed the section “Just Have Faith” from Everyday Stewardship – Reflections for the Journey. As part of the discussion, it was mentioned that we (or Prayer and Worship Committee) should encourage more people to join the Prayer Network.
- B. **SVDP Thanksgiving Food Drive** – 141 bags were donated. This is more than in 2018. Michelle noted that the biggest part of the job is sorting all of the food when it is delivered to the food pantry.
- C. **Giving Tree** – Totals: St. Ben’s – 474 items, Life’s Connection – 316 items, St. Vincent DePaul - \$1020 in gift cards, Family Promise - \$495 in gift cards, Hebron House - \$490[in gift cards + 1 item. Lynn will forward this information to Steve.
- D. **Family Promise Meals** –Sharon is organizing a dinner for January 9th. It will include ham, salad, vegetable, and dessert.
- E. **Local Food Pantry Status** – Abundant Life has closed its food pantry.
- F. **Video for Parish Committees and Ministries** – Michelle showed us the 20+ pictures she has collected so far. She has pictures of Baby Bottle Collection, Thanksgiving Food Drive, Giving Tree, HCC meeting. She would like pictures of feeding families at Family Promise and other future activities.
- G. **Money designated for HC: Flower Sale & former Guatemalan Ministry** – We have \$1436 from the Flower Sale and \$1885 from the former Guatemalan ministry, \$3321 in

total. We brainstormed some ways to use this money: Pro-Life speaker, Small memorial for “lost” children, Donation to food pantries, Carnations for Mothers’ Day, Cookies for Fathers’ Day. At our March meeting we will continue to brainstorm and make some decisions.

New Business

A. HC ministries email reports: Sandy Mayernick reported on the **Circle of Life** ministry as follows: *We continue to send out cards on the anniversary of the passing of loved ones.

*Our 2019 Good Grief Group members have continued to plan monthly get togethers, enjoying dinners with each other, laughing, remembering, crying, and supporting one another!

*We continue to be present during visitations before funerals held at St. Bruno’s, offering coffee, water, answering questions, etc.

*Our 2020 8 week Summer Bereavement Support Group is scheduled for June 2nd – July 28th. We will not meet on June 30th, due to the 4th of July holiday.

Dianne Bretl reported from the **Hospital** ministry: We need volunteers for the hospital ministry. Our team is getting older and we have lost a team member. If this ministry is to continue we need some folks to step up. Right now we go to the 2 Oconomowoc hospitals every Thursday. It is a beautiful ministry. Such a great privilege to take the Body of Christ to those in the hospital. Are there any people on the human concerns committee willing to be involved in this ministry about every 5 weeks? Also could an announcement be put in the bulletin asking for volunteers. I would be happy to meet with anyone willing to join us. It is really important that we get more volunteers or a very important ministry could be endangered.

B. Rice Bowl (Lenten donation boxes) – Betty Igl will distribute the Rice Bowl boxes to our School and Faith Formation, for each family. She will put the rest of the boxes out in the Gathering Place. Discussion on how to increase donations by making it more visible – perhaps a basket brought to the altar during Holy Week/Thursday.

Next Meeting – Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 7:15pm.

Closing Prayer 8:20 PM

Submitted by Lynn Haugner