

Community Outreach Commission Report for Pastoral Council Meeting, December 2020

PREPARES Ministry

The Christmas Diaper Drive will continue through December 20. Diapers and pullups sizes 4, 5, and 6 and other baby care items such as wipes and formula are being collected at the church entrance and at parking lot Masses and taken to Community Action Center. Monetary donations for the purchase of baby care items by CAC are being sent to the parish office or placed in the collection basket at Mass.

At their December 5 meeting, the Ministry identified an urgent upcoming need for support of families with small children early in 2021 due to the COVID-19 crisis.

Caritas Ministry

The ministry sent \$1,000 last month to Lutheran Community Outreach in support of their mental health services. This month they are giving \$1000 to Pullman Regional Hospital to offset the cost of responding to COVID-19.

Marketing Committee

The committee continues to share information about their fundraiser on their social media pages.

From Social Justice Ministry November 30th Meeting Minutes

- Family Promise of the Palouse: The parish's next date of service is December 18-19. Two parishioners have volunteered to provide the two meals for the weekend. The annual fundraiser, "Avenues of Hope," is scheduled between December 3 and 24. See the website: <https://www.familypromisepalouse.org/>
- Recent Action Alerts sent via Flocknotes included actions requesting a stay of execution for Brandon Bernard and Alfred Bourgeois. Those interested in receiving Action Alerts are encouraged to contact the parish office.
- TREX Plastic Collection: The parish is currently 1/3 of the way toward collecting another 500 pounds of plastic within 6 months for its 4th "TREX Bench".
- Helping Hands: Since the last SJM meeting, Helping Hands has provided 11 meals.

- Glass Collection for recycling continues on the final weekend of each month.
- The Thanksgiving Collection for Community Action Food Bank was very successful. A total of 960 pounds of food was collected from Sacred Heart for approximately 65 families requesting a Thanksgiving dinner ‘basket.’ SJM also provided 24 turkeys, 28 roasting chickens, 3 hams, and 15 small boneless hams to complete the Thanksgiving food baskets. Ashley Vaughn, Food and Nutrition Specialist at CAC, reported that 121 households were served in the Thanksgiving distribution at CAC.
- The Climate Action gathering on Zoom November 18 was a success. Participants viewed and discussed and decided on at least one action from various websites on the Climate Action Pledges sheet at https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/files/2020_Climate_Action_Pledges.pdf. The formation of a Laudato Si’ Disciples group for addressing climate change individually and as a parish was announced. SJM and Laudato Si’ Disciples plan to host a Zoom presentation by Mark Wensnahan, a former climate change scientist, early in 2021.
- The third Racial Justice and the Catholic Church Zoom event, a continuation of the discussion on Fr. Bryan Massingale’s book, was scheduled for February of 2021.
- Alternative Giving for Christmas 2020: Plans were made for posting a list of alternative or purposeful gift giving options on the parish website.
- A Christmas Card Collection for residents of local assisted living facilities and a project for adopting a family were proposed.

Update: SJM is inviting parish households to provide Christmas cards and homemade paper ornaments by December 20 for distribution by staff at 5 local assisted living facilities.