

Community Outreach Commission Report for Pastoral Council Meeting, June 12, 2021

Pullman Knights Council 7360 & Catholic Daughters

A burrito breakfast fundraiser for St. Thomas More Center was held at the parish on May 23.

At the May 19 meeting, the Knights Council decided on the following donations:

Quo Vadis (for youths' discernment of vocations): \$300

School food pantry: \$297

Local food pantries: \$195

Pennies for Heaven (for vocations in the diocese): \$578

from PREPARES Ministry Meeting, May 15, 2021

Amy with Head Start Pullman expressed thanks for the donated items from the Mother's Day collection drive. They were exactly what was needed. Monetary donations from the drive were distributed to different agencies. PREPARES is looking into purchasing a playpen, an item requested by Head Start. Another collection drive for diapers and gently used baby items is planned for the fall.

The idea of including other religious organizations in this ministry was suggested by Father Steve. It could help unite the community in a shared volunteer effort. The idea can be proposed when the collective faith leadership in town resumes meeting, probably in the fall. It was also suggested that PREPARES inquire into financially supporting women at WSU with small children.

Caritas Committee

The Committee pledged a donation of \$1,000 for LEF for Life, an organization in Bangladesh building an emergency shelter for homeless children. LEF runs an orphanage and school for poor children in Dhaka.

St. Francis Guild

The following donations were made in May:

Head Start: \$300

Family Promise: \$1,000

Utilities (Avista): \$193

Food: \$50

from Social Justice Ministry Meeting, May 13, 2021

Family Promise:

- Sacred Heart will be providing meals on May 28 and 29. Contact Tim Paulitz to help. fungustim@gmail.com
- There is still need for a Baby Corral. Check the website for this and more needs: www.familypromisepalouse.org
- Comfort Cook-off this year will be a drive-through event. For more information about this yearly fundraiser, call 208-882-0165.

Action Alerts:

- Francy Bose suggested expanding advocacy efforts for issues of Catholic social teaching among parishioners.
- If you would like to receive Action Alerts through Flocknotes, please contact Sue McNamara at sue.m.mcnamara@gmail.com

Trex:

- Only 224 pounds of plastic bags and wrap are needed to reach our goal of 500 pounds by September 15. Tim Paulitz reported that a local church, CCUCC, wants to start a TREX program. Tim will provide them with the information on how to get started.
- To move forward with the reduction of plastic at Sacred Heart, it was decided to proceed with the purchase of reusable dishes and “glasses” agreed upon for outdoor events.

Helping Hands:

On May 6 regular meals were started for a parishioner who is expecting and for her family. Additional help with meals is needed. Contact Sue McNamara at sue.m.mcnamara@gmail.com

Food Bank Collection at Community Action Center:

- Current needs include: Diaper wipes, laundry detergent, and dish soap
- Clean boxes and bags for distribution continue to be needed. Please drop off boxes and bags at CAC rather than at Sacred Heart.

Micro-Pantry at Sacred Heart:

This project is still in the planning stages to determine location, arrange help from the Boy Scouts to build a box, and identify a person to maintain the pantry by collecting the non-perishable foods from CAC and from the foods donated at Sacred Heart. Suggestions are welcome.

Laudato Si Disciples:

- The next meeting on Climate Change will be at 6:30-8 pm on June 16 via Zoom.
- Grounds and Bike Rack:
 - It was decided to proceed with the purchase of a freestanding, black, four-bike rack to be placed on the right side of the door to the Religious Ed office.
- Religious Education
 - An orientation of teachers for including Care for Our Common Home into the yearly curriculum is planned for August.
 - Bike to Church Weekend will be held on June 5-6. Fr. Steve will bless riders and their bikes.
- Parish buildings energy audit
 - Dave Gunderson was contacted and suggested a selective audit on electrical and heating units rather than a comprehensive audit.
 - Bill Engels will inquire about an audit from Pullman Electric and the company servicing the parish’s heating system.

Racial Justice and the Catholic Church:

“Let’s Talk about Race, a conversation with Jeff Guillory,” the first in the “Dialogue with Our Neighbors” series at the parish, was scheduled for 7 pm, June 9, on the parish lawn. Jeff Guillory will share his story and invite us to dialogue with him.

Community Connections:

- 150 May Day paper flowers were made and delivered to Circles of Caring, Pioneer Square, Avalon, and Regency, as well as to 10 home bound parishioners. Wonderful reports of connecting with parishioners were shared.
- More ideas for connecting with people in the community are welcome. Contact Franci Bose at francy@pavlasbose.com.