

Ripples of Hope/Social Concerns  
Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, January 28, 2020  
6:00 p.m. Parish Center Library

**Attendees:** Patty Vande Voort, Kathy Cross, Kara Vassar, Bud Klister, Lisa Thiry, and Pete Appleton

- Deacon Bud led the group in prayer.
- Mary Parsons from LEAVEN visited our meeting and spoke about the history of LEAVEN in our community. LEAVEN provides emergency financial assistance to address immediate needs and connects clients with resources in order for them to gain long-term stability. LEAVEN has evolved from a "situational crisis" center to a center with 14 other community partners so that they can connect people in need with the resources they need. Informational materials were handed out. Over 90% of every dollar donated goes directly to clients.
- Crystal Thor from B.A.B.E.S. visited our meeting to speak about the services that they provide to mothers and families. They provide services such as respite care for program participants, a diaper bank, monthly care packages, a tutoring program, and other emotional and wellness support program for mothers and families. Crystal presented information for the Family Radio Network sponsored "Help for the Homeless" hygiene drive so that we could determine if that was something we wanted to do as a parish.
- Deacon Bud made a motion to approve the October 22<sup>nd</sup> minutes as written. Seconding the motion was Patty Vande Voort. Motion passed.
- Kathy made a motion for donate \$200 to the mission quilting ladies for supplies and fabric. Seconding the motion was Lisa. Motion passed.
- Kara and Kathy gave a brief update on Neopit. They said that the parishioners there are so grateful for the support from Holy Spirit Parish. Kara and Kathy attended Fr. Joel's 25<sup>th</sup> jubilee. The priest exchange went very well, and from the Stewardship campaign an extra 35 boxes of food was collected. Lisa suggested that Patty ask the Stewardship committee to see if they would coordinate a similar "box drive" for food during Lent.
- Kathy made a motion to send an unrestricted donation of \$1000 to LEAVEN and a \$500 donation restricted to the diaper bank to BABES. Seconding the motion was Kara. Motion passed.
- The Adopt-A-Family program was discussed. Patty stated that 22 families were helped by the amazing generosity of our parish members. People were calling in and donating money and all sorts of things. Kathy stated that there could be better organization of the shopping and we agreed that we could re-visit this in September.
- Kathy presented some information on two local organizations that help people coming to the area from other countries. She made a motion to donate \$500 to World Relief and \$500 to Healing the Children. Seconding the motion was Bud. Motion passed.