

St. Mary's Christian Service Commission Minutes
April 10, 2018

Members present: Lorie Bronson, John Castiglione, Fred Federowicz, Barb Griffith, Connie Janus, and Maria Liparoto.

OPENINGS:

I. Opening Prayer:

- The meeting was opened with the Opening Prayer

II. Approval of Minutes:

- The minutes were accepted as written

III. Spiritual Enrichment –

- Lorie read a section from the book – ‘Reach for the Mercy’

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Parish Goals

- We continued our discussion on our goals & objectives. Following is our work in progress:

Goal 1. Call all people to an active life in the parish.

Obj. #1) Invite and secure a commitment to be greeters at mass from 5 families by October 31.

- (We have a commitment from 7 or 8 people thus far)
- Contact the Worship Commission to see about organizing a Greeters ministry formation with help from the AOD.
- Fred said the Hispanic Ministry have greeters
- It was suggested that the families of the ushers might be greeters
- Put the Greeters Ministry information on the front page of the Chronicle with pictures of the current greeters

Action Item

Person Responsible

Take pictures of greeters Barb

Contact the Worship Commission Lorie

Obj. #2) Write and publish monthly in the Chronicle and on Facebook, a summary of various Christian Service Ministries to educate, invite and encourage participation.

- *(We developed a yearly calendar assigning each ministry to a specific month. See list at the end of report.)*

Goal 2. Create engaging faith formation opportunities for parishioners of all ages.

Obj. #1) Offer spiritual renewal/enrichment at every gathering. (prayer, scripture, music, guided reflection/meditation.)

- We need to be conscious of this for other meetings we attend

Goal 3. Reach out as a visible and welcoming presence in the community

Obj. #1) ~~To assemble, offer and encourage participation of at least 10 people to participate in the fair – parade each year.~~

Amended to read: We will distribute a sign-up sheet to the various parish ministries, asking them to participate in the fair parade, by the end of April 2018

Obj. #2) ~~To form a team of at least 4 people to participate in the annual Bed Race for the –Children’s Bed Ministry at the Presbyterian Church in 2018~~

Amended to read: We will distribute a sign-up sheet to the various parish ministries, asking them to participate in the annual Bed Race for the Children's Bed Ministry at the Presbyterian Church in the fall of 2018, by the end of April. In addition, we need to come up with a name for our team.

Action Items	Person Responsible
---------------------	---------------------------

Check with Dale regarding rules and regulation for the Bed Race	Maria
---	-------

Goal 4. Serve Christ by serving others.

Obj. # 1) A New Testament Children's Bible will be given to all infants baptized at St. Mary in 2018, provided by the Christian Women.

Obj. # 2) Recruit and train at least five Stephen Ministers by the end of May 2018.

Obj. # 3) Recruit at least two youth/young adult groups to serve as God Works teams in 2018.

B. Unleash the Gospel - Change of study method

- Nothing reported

C. Bereavement Ministry – John Castiglione

- The team have 80 families they are working with
- 50 Easter cards were sent to families
- They have a total of 14 team members
- 2 people from St. John's are interested in starting a group
- Lorie reported there will be a widow's support group meeting on April 11 at 11am in the social hall
- Lorie will have some resources available for the group

D. Stephens Ministry – John Castiglione

- The group have completed the 14th week which is more than half way through the training.
- There are 12 members that have been committed from the beginning

E. God Works – Fred Federowicz

- Fred reported they have between 50 & 70 people attend the dinner
- Fred inquired about prayers to be said before the meal and Lorie said the catholic blessing should be recited

F. Habitat for Humanity

- The build date is June 23, 2018
- We received a letter asking that we allow a Habitat representative to speak at all our masses encouraging people to apply for housing, but Lorie felt most of our parishioners wouldn't qualify
- Fred will write an article for the Chronicle letting parishioners know they can apply if they qualify

G. Hospitality - Barb Griffith

- The ministry is doing well, but more members are needed.
- Barb will try to recruit new members over the summer months

H. Mrs. Claus – Stephanie Sconochia

- Nothing to report

I. Organic Garden – Maria Liparoto

- 3 people have signed up thus far
- Lorie will sign up for a plot
- Fred asked that when they harvest food this summer for God's Works! the team could be notified on Monday as to what food would be available for Friday's meal. Maria will let Lorie know of food harvested on a weekly basis

J. Peace and Justice – Lorie Bronson

1. Trafficking Event:

- Fashions for Freedom' event; May 12 at 7:30 pm as a benefit for the S.O.A.P. Human Trafficking cause. The bars of soap will have a label with the national human trafficking hotline number on it. These bars of soap will be placed in hotels and motels.

2. International Day of Peace – September 21; St. Mary Park

- Lorie is on the planning team who are coordinating with all schools to take an active part in this event

3. Sensory packets:

- Lorie reported that she contacted the K of C in Monroe to help fund the cost of the packets, but they refused. She has contacted the K of C at St. Joseph's in Erie to help

4. NAACP – reformation of a local group

- Lorie reported that there is much interest and an effort in reorganizing the NAACP in the city of Monroe

K. Engagement Center – Catholic Charities (C.C.)

- Monies from the sale of St. Joseph's in Monroe was designated to St. John parish to be used to help the poor and needy of Monroe
- There is a proposed partnership with C.C. and the Community Foundation of Monroe to set up an Engagement Center that would be a 24-hr. care center to offer drug abuse and alcohol abusers counseling and an alternative to jail time
- C.C. has partnered with the Community Foundation of Monroe. In addition, ProMedica of Monroe will be involved

L. St. Vincent DePaul – Jennifer St. Bernard

- No report given

M. Christian Women – Barb Griffith

- The Christian Women raised \$4492.00 from their soup luncheons. Monies will be donated to St. Vincent DePaul and two \$1000.00 scholarships

N. Prayer Shawl – Lorie

- The ministry meets once a month
- Two girls from SMCC are interested in joining this ministry

O. Rosary Makers – Lorie Bronson

- Lorie said this ministry will end in June and resume in September

P. Giving Tree –Linda Black

- Linda submitted a report stating they had 45 families with a total of 170 people served
- They had several new people to help bag and deliver gifts this year
- They received several responses from several recipients who were very grateful for the gifts
- She is considering enclosing a self-addressed, stamped envelope for feedback from the families next year

Q. Respect Life – Lorie

- No Report

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

A. Review of Parish Goal Objectives

- See Old Business #1
- A representative from the Hispanic group will join our commission beginning this fall

B. Review of Calendar of ministries for Chronicle and Facebook

- Discussion on whether we should continue/change our approach to highlighting the ministries
- It is felt that personal contact is the best way to recruit new participants
- Barb will prepare an article for the Chronicle about the Christian Women ministry

<u>Action Items</u>	<u>Person Responsible</u>
Write an article for the May chronicle	Barb

C. Depression as a reality that decreases a person's ability to realize their full potential. Can we visualize way to promote wellness in this area?

- Discussion was held regarding this concern

D. Health Ministry -Lorie

- Connect with this ministry to hold an informal meeting to help people with depression

E. Prayer Leader – June Meeting

- Fred will prepare the opening and closing prayer for the June meeting

<u>Action Items</u>	<u>Person Responsible</u>
Prepare opening and closing prayers for the June Meeting	Fred

Next Meeting Date: June 26, 2018 at 4:30 in Lorie's office

I. Closing Prayer

- The members recited the closing prayer together.

*** Calendar of ministries to be highlighted in the Chronicle & on Facebook**

Oct.	Rosary Makers	Apr.	Habitat for Humanity
Nov.	Prayer Shawl & God Works	May	Christian Women
Dec.	Giving Tree	June	Bereavement
Jan.	Peace & Justice -Respect Life	July	Visiting Eucharistic Ministers
Feb.	Hospitality	Aug.	Health Ministry
Mar.	Organic Garden	Sept.	St. Vincent de Paul

Dates to Remember:

- **End of April** – Distribute Sign-up sheet for Fair Parade
- **End of April** – Distribute Sign-up sheet for Bed Race
- **April 24th** - "Theology of the Body" with Deacon Bob Erwin, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
- **May 3** – National Day of Prayer - Pray for America UNITY - 7:00pm at the La-Z-Boy center
- **May 9** – Widows Gathering at 11am in the Social Hall.
- **June 23, 2018** – Habitat for Humanity build date
- **June 26** – Christian Service meeting: 4:30
- **May 12** – 'Fashions for Freedom' event
- **Sept. 21** - International Day of Peace

Minutes submitted by: Connie Janus