

St. Mary's Christian Service Commission Minutes
January 23, 2018

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

OPENINGS:

I. Opening Prayer:

- The meeting was opened with the Opening Prayer, led by Connie Janus

II. Approval of Minutes:

- The minutes were accepted as written

III. Spiritual Enrichment – Respect for Life – Lorie Bronson

- Lorie began by lighting a candle (luminary) and read a section from The House so Divided in honor of the anniversary of Roe vs Wade
- We discussed the many facets of respect life

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Parish Goals

- We continued our discussion on our goals & objectives. Following is our work in progress:
- We checked to make sure goals were SMART goals

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)*

Action Items

Person Responsible

Inquire if greeters are wanted for the Hispanic Ministry Fred Federowicz

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

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

- Lorie encouraged each of us to attend the presentation on Unleash the Gospel on Saturday, January 27, 2018, led by Mr. Tom Clark, Catechesis Coordinator for the South Region of the Archdiocese who will facilitate our shared time

C. Bereavement Ministry – John Castiglione

- John distributed the minutes from their last meeting
- Larry Walsh made 125 crosses to be used for the All Souls display in the rear of the church
- His crosses are too small to imprint names and dates, therefore they will be included in the welcome packets distributed by the Stewardship Ministry
- Tom Bruck made other crosses that are larger

D. Stephens Ministry – John Castiglione

- 12 people have committed to participate in the Stephen's Ministry training. Six people are from St. Mary

E. God Works – Fred Federowicz

- We have two new point people from St. John Parish and all teams are filled at this time.

F. Habitat for Humanity

- Fred has attempted to obtain a build date from the Habitat organization
- 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

Action Item**Person Responsible**

Write an article for the chronicle Fred

G. Hospitality - Barb Griffith

- The ministry is doing well, but more members are needed.
- There is a need for volunteers to help set up for the Appreciation Dinner
- Currently there are 7-10 members on each team but usually only 3-4 people are needed, therefore, she can rotate the team members more often

H. Mrs. Claus – Stephanie Sconochia

- They served 52 families totaling 218 people for Christmas 2017
- They have different community people (CASA, school counselors, etc.) come and talk to their group about how they serve the community
- They look to reach out with more than material items
- Each new family receives a bible and returning families receive a cross

I. Organic Garden – Maria Liparoto

- Our garden plot has moved closer to the road
- Maria would like a sign designed to identify our lot
- Maria will develop a plan to get more consistent workers for this coming summer

J. Peace and Justice – Lorie Bronson

1. World day of the Poor
 - This was the first year the Pope marked the World Day of the Poor
 - Barb suggested they have people at each door to hand out Fair-Trade coffee samples
 - Barb suggested we hand out a small dry sample of the coffee because there was a lot of coffee left over
2. St. Francis of Assisi in Ann Arbor field trip
 - A group from the Peace & Justice ministry attended a mass at St. Francis for the Martin Luther King celebration
 - The P&J ministry is working with the Knights of Columbus to make Sensory Packets for use during the masses.

K. St. Vincent DePaul – Jennifer St. Bernard

- No report given

L. Christian Women – Barb Griffith

- The Christian Women will begin their Lenten soup lunches each Wednesday through Lent with all proceeds go to St. Vincent de Paul
- The Christian Women continue to serve at all the funeral luncheons, help clean the church, etc.

M. Prayer Shawl – Glenda Gentner

- The ministry is getting smaller of those that meet at church. There are several people that make the prayer shawls at home
- Glenda would like more to join and come to the ministry group to share in fellowship
- Lorie asked Glenda if she would be interested in teaching the MCES students to crochet and Glenda agreed
- Lorie would like to have each student crochet one square and then put all the squares together to make one large project

N. Rosary Makers – Lorie Bronson

- Lorie reported a decrease in members and the ministry is open to new members.

O. 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

P. Respect Life – Lorie

- Lorie reported they handed out several luminary bags that were used at church and at homes

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Parish Appreciation Dinner

- Lorie asked that we invite people, with a personal phone call, from the other ministries we represent

B. April Prayer Leader: Stephanie

Action Items

Person Responsible

Prepare opening and closing prayers for the January MeetingStephanie

Next Meeting Date: April 10, 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
Nov. Prayer Shawl & God Works
Dec. Giving Tree
Jan. Peace & Justice -Respect Life
Feb. Hospitality
Mar. Organic Garden

Apr. Habitat for Humanity
May Christian Women
June Bereavement
July Visiting Eucharistic Ministers
Aug. Health Ministry
Sept. St. Vincent de Paul

Dates to Remember:

- **January 27** – Unleash the Gospel Presentation
- **January 28 – February 4** – Catholic Schools Week
- **February 7, 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28** – Soup Luncheon's
- **February 8** – EME refresher training
- **February 10** – Appreciation Dinner
- **February 11** – World Day of the Sick
- **February 25** – Movie night
- **March 2-4** – Women's Retreat
- **End of April** – Distribute Sign-up sheet for Fair Parade
- **End of April** – Distribute Sign-up sheet for Bed Race

Minutes submitted by: Connie Janus