

St. Therese Parish

Social Outreach Fellowship Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Members present: Rick Collins, Shirley Donnelly, Chuck Edwards, Louise Johnson,
Jean Rasmussen, Sue Williams

Members absent: Haley Hunhoff, Jean Zutz

Opening prayer was offered by Jean Rasmussen.

Mission and Vision statements were read by Sue Williams.

1. **Sara Lipetzky** shared with the committee her desire to form a young adult group at St. Therese for the purpose of encouraging fellowship for social and spiritual advantage. The membership would be identified as individuals in the 21 to 35 year age group including singles, couples and college students who are home for the summer. There are approximately 200 persons registered at St. Therese in that age group. Sara L. will invite a core group of individuals to work with her to begin planning for the first event. Announcements will be made in the church bulletin, and in talks given after Sunday Masses and in contacts by e-mail. The SOFC committee wholeheartedly endorses the proposal and offers support.
2. Louise Johnson reported on the meeting of the **Parish Activity Leaders** of March 10. Parish Activity Leaders is the new title for the group formerly known as *Neighborhood Parish Leaders* or earlier as *Little Parish Leaders*. Three couples, Carroll and Corrine Barnes, Vern and Mary Fries and Steve and Karen Tramp, were commended for their faithful commitment to the committee for a combined 26 years of service. Thank You notes of appreciation will be sent to these couples from the SOFC. New membership is sought to fill the vacancies left by these three couples.
3. Shirley Donnelly gave a report from the **Welcome Committee**. A post card with an image of St. Therese will be sent from Father to the newcomers. Julie Derner, head of the committee, has assembled a gift bag to present to the newly registered parishioners.
The contents of the gift bag include:
 - a greeting card of welcome designed by elementary students
 - a The Catholic Devotional (book of prayers)

- a SFCSS Connection brochure
- a flyer from Avera McKennan Hospital
- a tea light with the image of St. Therese from PALS
- a welcome message from the Parish Finance Committee
- a “candy bar” message from the Faith Formation Group

Attached to the outside of the gift bag will be a prayer/message from Father Hal Barber designed by Noreen Feterl.

Mentor families are presently being sought to meet and greet the newly registered people at St. Therese Parish. Mentor families will also extend their support to the newcomers in the first months after their registration to the parish by inviting them to Mass and other parish events. It is a possible outcome that lasting friendships may be formed.

4. The **Respect Life Committee** was unable to be contacted. SOFC would like to learn of their goals and future plans. Chuck Edwards will continue to try to make contact.
5. Louise Johnson relayed the report from Karen Breuer on the **Habitat for Humanity** meeting of March 3. St. Therese will team up with Holy Spirit and St. Lambert Churches to work on the construction of a house. The work sessions go from 5:00 to 8:00 PM on week nights and 8:00 to 11:00 AM on weekends in May and in September. Ten couples from each church and for each time slot are needed. Volunteers to provide lunch for the workers will be needed also. Information and sign up opportunities will be posted in the church bulletin on Sunday and in posters displayed about the church.
6. Louise passed along an e-mail message from Bev Christopherson, our **parish nurse**.
Bev C. will continue to offer blood pressure screenings after the weekend Masses. A volunteer has come forward to assist Bev.
She has contacted Kelly and Travis Benson about offering another End of Life seminar at St. Therese in the spring of 2011.
She has also contacted Barbara Lockwood, principal of St. Lambert’s School, to plan a fair on cultural diversity for the St. Lambert/St. Therese families.
7. **Thank you cards** were composed to Parish Activity Leaders who have stepped down from committee work. Appreciation was expressed for the many years of service as Parish Activity Leaders and for their continued “good work.”

In His service,
Jean Rasmussen, scribe

