

St. Therese Parish

Social Outreach Fellowship Committee

Meeting Minutes from August 12, 2010

Members present: Father D. Stevens, Beverly Christopherson, Chuck Edwards, Louise Johnson, Jean Rasmussen, Haley Samuelson, Sue William and Guest, Deacon Mike Conrads

Members absent: Rick Collins, Shirley Donnelly

Opening Prayer: Louise Johnson

Mission and Vision Statement: Sue Williams

1. The parish office is asking all committees to **submit all dates of activities** they plan for the 2010-2011 year to the church calendar, to avoid conflicts.
2. Louise Oven has stepped down from her position on the Social Outreach Fellowship Committee. She will continue to serve on the Social Ministry Committee. The SOFC was asked to consider inviting a replacement member to take Louise' position.
3. Louise J. will invite Lynette Thorstenson, a "caller" for PALS, to act as liaison between the Parish Activity Leaders and the SOFC.
4. **Deacon Mike Conrads** presented the mission of the **Respect Life** Office of the Church and how it is carried out at St. Therese. We discussed with him how we might help him as leader of Respect Life and his committee. The Respect Life committee at St. Therese consists of: Cathy Anderson, Tim Boggs, and Lew and Karen Mavity.

During October, Respect Life Month, the committee usually has a display, a speaker at Masses, literature, announcements in the church bulletin, etc. It was suggested that a Sign-up be conducted to encourage participation in the Life Chain, as well as other pro life activities. The Sign-up would take place 1-2 weeks in advance of the event. Father Stevens pledged his support and presence at the Life Chain. Parishioners will be asked to make posters that can be displayed in October.

Bev Christopherson suggested that the End of Life Seminar might be a good piece to include with the Respect Life activities. Deacon Mike agreed. They will coordinate.

5. Beverly Christopherson, Parish Nurse, will move the **End of Life Seminar** from spring of 2011 to fall (Oct.) of 2011. The seminar will include: Father Stevens, Travis Benson, a Hospice worker, and a funeral director.

Bev has set up dates starting in Sept. to **begin blood pressure screenings** after 10:45 Masses. Bev will place a request in the parish bulletin asking for additional nurses to take blood pressures as she would like to offer blood pressure screenings to more weekend Masses. The dates for 2010-2011 are:

Sept 26 Oct 24 Nov. 28 Dec 19 Jan. 23 Feb. 27 Mar 27 April 17 May 22

Beverly had hoped to present a **cultural diversity** event at St. Lambert's School. Barbara Lockwood, Principal of St. Lambert's, has discussed this with the teachers. The teachers will present the information in class time.

Beverly will set up a meeting with Margie Smotherman, potential **Elizabeth Ministry representative, to combine efforts with the Grief Ministry**. Emily Starr and Paige Rock will be asked to sit in on the meeting, with the hope that they too would offer assistance/involvement.

6. Louise assigned a **contact person for each of the ministries**. The contact person is expected to **e-mail Louise a report each month** before the Parish Council meeting.

Welcome Committee- Haley Samuelson

Respect Life- Chuck Edwards

Adult Youth Group- Rick Collins

Teachers Appreciation-Rick Collins

Parish Nurse-Bev Christopherson

Eucharistic Outreach- Jean Rasmussen

Prayer Shawl Ministry- Jean Rasmussen

Social Ministry-Sue Williams

Parish Activity Leaders-Louise Johnson

Elizabeth Ministry-Shirley Donnelly

7. A short discussion was heard concerning **connecting the greeters** at weekend Masses to the **showcasing of ministries** that are active at St. Therese. The purpose of featuring ministries is to inform the parish of the services available as well as opportunities for their service and involvement.
8. Haley Samuelson reported that Julie Derner, **Welcome Committee** leader, has completed training of six couples/individuals to be mentors to newcomers to St. Therese. Six newcomers have been greeted and made welcome to St. Therese. The first visit to the newcomer includes presenting a gift bag with information about St. Therese Parish. The question came up about whether the mentors should report the contacts they make to the newcomers to Julie Derner. Haley will inquire.
9. Jean Rasmussen reported that there are three home bound parishioners from St. Therese that are receiving communion through the **Eucharistic Outreach**. There is currently no one at Green Leaf in need of services, and the Eucharistic Ministers are bringing communion to the Ward facility each Sunday.
10. Jean Rasmussen reported that there are typically 4-14 women who meet each Tuesday at church to pray and knit **prayer shawls** for those who are ill or experiencing a need for prayer. Father blesses each shawl before it is gifted. Shirley Donnelly is the person to contact when one wishes to gift a prayer shawl. Jean was asked to contact the knitters about whether they would be willing to offer their shawls to other needy groups like the Veterans Hospital or the Good Samaritan Society in addition to St. Therese parishioners. People outside of the St. Therese Parish have been gifted by St. Therese parishioners in the past. It was agreed that it is a very good outreach.
11. Louise Johnson reported on **Social Ministry**. The summer shower for the kitchen and office was very successful. The total amounted to \$2,227.30.
St. Francis House was served some meals from St. Therese parishioners. There is a basket with school items available for parish members to take and buy for the religious ed. Program.
Habitat for Humanity met on July 9 with a morning and afternoon shift of workers.
St. Therese will work again at Habitat for Humanity on Sept. 8 and Sept. 11. There is a possibility of offering a second Wednesday night meal at St. Therese. It is in the discussion-phase of development presently.

St. Therese will fill Back Packs on November 2. St. Therese will need to provide 30-35 workers.

November 10 is set as the date for Pauline's Traditional Thanksgiving Meal at St. Therese. Corrine Barnes and Betty Baun will head up the preparation of the meal.

The Alternative Market was mentioned in passing.

12. Louise Johnson also reported on the **Parish Activity Leaders**. They are in need of new membership. The Committee consists of: Eric, the leader, Fichters, Christensons, and Gomez', and Lunds. It was suggested that people be invited to work just one of the events rather than commit to the entire schedule for the year.

13. There was a picnic held for the **Young Adult Group** at Cherry Rock on Aug. 11.

14. **Teachers Appreciation** Louise will invite Rick and Donna Collins, religious educators, to be the contact people for that committee.

15. Louise and Craig Johnson will host a brunch at their home on Sunday, August 15 for the SOFC.

Father David Stevens closed with a prayer.

Next Meeting: September 9, 2010 at 6:30 pm