

## St. Therese Parish

### Social Outreach Fellowship Committee

### Minutes of September 9, 2010 Meeting

Members present: Father David, Beverly Christopherson, Rick Collins, Shirley Donnelly, Chuck Edwards,  
Louise Johnson, Jean Rasmussen, Haley Samuelson.

Members absent: Sue Williams

Opening prayer: Louise Johnson

Goals of Social Outreach Fellowship Committee: Louise Johnson

1. Haley Samuelson reported on the **Welcome Committee**. Julie Derner, head of the Welcome Committee, would like feedback from the mentors, after each of the three contacts. E-mail is the preferred method of communication. It was suggested that J. Derner contact the mentors requesting follow up if/when she has not heard from them. The three contact times are within 7-20 days of registration in the parish. A second contact is made in 30-40 days. The third contact is made in 120-130 days.
2. Chuck Edwards reported on the **Respect Life** events coming up in October. On Sunday, October 3, 2010, the *Life Chain* will take place from 2:00-3:00 on 41<sup>st</sup> St. St. Therese's assigned position on 41<sup>st</sup> Street is between Cathy Ave. and Terry Ave. C. Edwards requested that a large sign be made to hang in the church. The sign would read: JOIN US AT LIFE CHAIN, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3 FROM 2:00-3:00. The sign will be displayed the week before on Sept. 25 and 26<sup>th</sup>. Flyers from the Diocesan Office will be used. Father David will speak at Masses prior to the event to encourage participation. A sign-up in the church will take place with SOFC people at the sign-up tables after weekend Masses.
3. Rick Collins reported on the newly formed **Adult Youth Group**. The picnic held recently was poorly attended. Sarah Lipetzky is planning a *Dinner and Corn Maze* event in October. Sarah will be invited to attend and speak at the *Welcome to St. Therese* event to be held on Sept. 18 for the newly registered parishioners to St. Therese Parish.
4. Louise Johnson reported on the **Teacher Appreciation** event that will be scheduled.  
L. Johnson will contact the people who have signed up during the Stewardship Sunday sign-up, asking their help with ideas. In the past, a tray of cookies has been given to the teachers at Christmas time.  
5. Bev Christopherson reported on the **Parish Nurse activities**. With Travis Benson, she has scheduled the *End of Life Seminar* for Sat. October 22, 2011. B. Christopherson will begin to secure the speakers for the day.  
B. Christopherson is in need of nurses and clerical personnel who can do *Blood Pressure Screenings* after weekend Masses. She is presently short handed. She has placed a request for help in the church bulletin. She will conduct a Blood Pressure Screening at St. Therese on Sunday, September 26 after the 10:45 Mass.

She has provided books on *Grief* for Father David to review.

She has placed the first installment order of *Care Notes*. A second installment of Care Notes will be placed in the near future.

B. Christopherson is planning a brainstorming meeting with the *Elizabeth Ministry* to coordinate some of the activities of the Parish Nurse with the activities of the Elizabeth Ministry, especially with Beginning of Life issues.

St. Lambert's teachers will conduct a *Cultural Diversity Fair* during the school year.

B. Christopherson will offer a Raggedy Ann doll and a football as prizes for that event.

6. Jean Rasmussen reported that Extraordinary Ministers from St. Therese continue to serve the shut ins at Ward Enterprise and Green Leaf as **Eucharistic Outreach**. There are no residents at Green Leaf presently who have requested communion.

7. Jean Rasmussen reported on the **Prayer Shawl** ministry. SOFC inquired about the possibility of offering prayer shawls to the Good Samaritan Center and the Vets Hospital. The ladies are not opposed to gifting any needy group. They have in the past given shawls to Avera Outreach, Assisted Living, St. Lambert's School, Green Leaf and Ward Enterprises through Fr. Barber and to the parish at Parker through Father Barber. They favor a person-to-person contact rather than a "give away" that could risk the intention of the corporal work of mercy to care for the sick/suffering.

8. Louise Johnson reported on the **Social Ministry** for Karen Breuer who is the contact person for *Habitat for Humanity*. Rainy weather has been a challenge and perhaps the reason for the difficulty in securing enough volunteers.

*The Alternative Gift Market* will be scheduled in November for the second year at St. Therese. It will again choose a St. Therese cause, a local charity and a global need as recipients of the proceeds.

9. Shirley Donnelly reported on the **Parish Activity Leaders**. PALS is planning a *social event* on October 16 to be called, Saturday Night Live, and *Turkey Bingo* on November 21.

10. Shirley Donnelly gave an update on a potential fund raiser of a cut crystal *St. Therese ornament that has been* designed and created by Steve Persing. Father David along with the SOFC is in support of this fundraiser. It was agreed the selling price would be \$20.00. The proceeds are intended to offset the costs of the Stewardship booklet and mailing costs of the booklets. The Parish Office Volunteers will be invited to assist in the selling of the ornaments after weekend Masses. The targeted selling date will be October 16/17.

11. Discussion was heard concerning the **standing committees of St. Therese** featuring their ministries as well as serving as greeters at designated weekend Masses. It is agreed that the standing committees would be available during the Lenten season and Stewardship Sign-up rather than during the entire church year. Other greeters would be enlisted and trained after a thorough job description is written. SOFC members will inquire from other Sioux Falls parishes about their greeter policies.

The meeting closed with the Our Father.

In His service,

Jean Rasmussen, scribe