

## St. Therese

### Social Outreach Fellowship Committee

### Minutes of November 11, 2010 Meeting

Members present: Father David Stevens, Shirley Donnelly, Louise Johnson, Jean Rasmussen, Haley Samuelson, Sue Williams.

Members absent: Beverly Christopherson, Rick Collins, Chuck Edwards.

Opening Prayer: Father David

Mission and Goals of Social Outreach Committee: Sue Williams

1. Haley Samuelson reported on the **Welcome Committee**. Julie Derner, Leader of the Welcome Committee, would like to hear more from the mentors who make the contact with the newcomer. The system suggests three contacts with the newly registered parishioner. Julie plans to phone mentors to get better feedback.
2. Pauline's Thanksgiving Dinner was served to a crowd of about 180 people on November 10.
3. Chuck Edwards was ill and unable to bring a report from the **Respect Life Committee**.
4. Rick Collins was absent and unable to bring a report from the **Young Adult Group**. Sara Lipetzky is considering the possibility of joining with other parishes in Sioux Falls before giving up the mission of having a Young Adult Group. There has been little or no interest in getting a group started at St. Therese, thus far. The SOFC brainstormed a few ideas, including an information sheet of "Talking Points" to be circulated with the hope of excited enthusiasm.
5. Louise Johnson reported that she has contacted and made plans with Shelly Goetz to gift the Religious Education teachers with a package of caramel or cinnamon rolls at Christmas time. Sue Williams suggested that some of the children at the Children's Home Society may be able to write a message of thanks and/or Merry Christmas to accompany each package of rolls. Sue will look into that possibility. New ideas for a spring time **Teacher Appreciation** gift are being sought.
6. Bev Christopherson, **parish nurse**, was absent, but sent a written report. She and Margie Smotherman met and discussed ways to combine **Grief Ministry and Elizabeth Ministry**. They see the need for volunteers before proceeding with a plan.  
B. Christopherson is seeking out the cost of a holder for the *Care Notes*. One quote came in at \$399.00.

Bev is also continuing her work with *End of Life Seminar* to be presented at St. Therese on October 22, 2011.

Further discussion included the vision of the two women, Bev and Margie, to coordinate the activities, but that each head up one part, for example, Bev carry on with Grief Ministry and Margie lead Elizabeth Ministry. There is a need at St. Therese to carry on a card ministry for the hospitalized, for the grieving, and for the shut in. A difficulty that is new to this time in history is the confidentiality of patients in hospitals and residents in nursing care facilities. The information is not given out to the public any longer. Adopt-a-shut in was discussed as a possibility. An invitation in the parish bulletin to families/individuals who would like to have their loved one remembered is another way to secure the names of people who are experiencing any kind of hardship/isolation.

7. Jean Rasmussen reported on the **Prayer Shawl Ministry**. They are presently knitting/crocheting white Baptismal blankets for the newly baptized. They are working to get a supply ready to give out in 2011. The group continues to meet each Tuesday at 1:00 to pray and to knit prayer shawls as well as the baptismal blankets. In 2010 they have gifted 78 people with prayer shawls thus far, compared to about 60 in 2009. They often receive warm messages of thanks from the recipients of the prayer shawls.
8. Jean Rasmussen reported on the **Eucharistic Outreach Ministry**. Eucharistic Outreach serves shut ins at Green Leaf and Ward Enterprises as well as other parishioners who are home bound. During the Advent season, they will offer each communicant a copy of THE WORD AMONG US. At least one shut in was invited by his/her Extraordinary Minister to attend Pauline's Thanksgiving Meal .
9. Sue Williams reported on the activities of **Social Ministry**. During the weekend Masses of November 13-14 and November 20-21, volunteers will offer the opportunity to St. Therese Parishioners to purchase a monetary gift from the Alternative Gift Market for one of three causes identified:  
A needy family from St. Therese,  
or Bishop Kettler's Diocese in Alaska  
or Children's Connection, a support group for children of incarcerated parents.  
Social Ministry recently served at the Back Pack program, packing about 3,000 bags of food.
10. Louise Johnson reported on the **Parish Activity Leaders** work. Tanya Lipetzky and Dave Husby attended the last meeting of PALS. Each has offered to work with PALS. PALS will meet next Wed. November 17<sup>th</sup>. They are planning Turkey Bingo on Sunday, November 21 from 2-4:00.
11. Shirley Donnelly reported that **Elizabeth Ministry** has provided funding for grief and sympathy cards that St. Therese sends out to parishioners. The Big Soo Coupon Books sold by Elizabeth Ministries has a profit of \$300.00, thus far. The Prayer Shawl Ministry recently received a gift of \$200.00 from the Elizabeth Ministry for yarn for the Baptismal blankets.

12. A discussion was heard on the need for updating the Parish Pictorial book. The SOFC group agreed to undertake the project with work/research to start in 2011. Potential companies to research – Lifetouch and Olan Mills
  
13. There will not be a scheduled meeting in December, unless necessity calls for it.

The meeting closed with a Veterans Day Prayer led by Louise Johnson.

In His service,  
Jean Rasmussen, scribe