

ST. MARY'S CHRISTIAN SERVICE COMMISSION – SEPT. 12, 2009

The Christian Service Commission empowers its members to fulfill the Church's mission of love, justice peace and freedom. It is a model and resource for placing Catholic Social Teaching into practice. Its members respond to human, financial and temporal needs locally and globally through a variety of supported agencies.

Facilitator: Dee Valade

Attendees:

Joan Cashman, Cyndie Ferrera, Judy Rhoads, Bob Sheldrick, Cindy Yanachik, Alex Kiwior, Gary Rhoads, Claire Bono, Karen Schenk, Shirley Cameron

New Business

- Members were introduced.
- Discussion was held on scheduling any meetings or gatherings by each ministry on the Church calendar ASAP.
- Information was received from Mary Margaret regarding an "Operation Christmas Stocking" drive. This drive supports our American troops. The info was forwarded to Claire Bono who presented it to the Senior Fellowship group. SMOTH Senior Fellowship may pick this project up as an outreach project.
- Claire Bono and Karen Schenk will be the Parish Council reps from Christian Service.
- Upon review with the Volunteer Coordinator, Cindy Yanachik will chair Voice of the Parish. More info on Community Kitchen will be forthcoming.

Reports from Members

Blood Drive (Bob Sheldrick) The next blood drive at SMOTH will be held on Sunday, December 6, 2009 from 8 a.m until 2 p.m.

Crossroad Pregnancy Center 3 new reps will rotate meetings

Divorce Support Group (Shirley Cameron) A new 13 week DVD program will be started this year. Workbooks are available at \$15 each and an in-depth leaders guide will be used. Attendance ranges from 5 to 15.

Giving Tree (Cyndie Ferrera) The kick off will be on November 7th – the cards will have an end date of December 6th (December 13th is final). Monetary gift cards will be placed in the collection basket and placed in the vault. Cesar Chevez will be dropped from the recipient list and under consideration is the addition of Catholic Community Response Team with additional cards to Wee Care. Total gift cards last year: 896.

Habitat for Humanity (Gary Rhoads) \$5000 was donated as part of the Rochester Coalition "Building on Faith". 13 parishioners expressed an interest in participating in the build at the Volunteer Fair. Only one (Gary) participated in the actual build. The home is completed but not occupied due to mortgage denial and school system reputation. Under consideration is that SMOTH drop participation for a 2-3 year period until interest is rebuilt (report available).

Special Needs Children's Horseback Riding Therapy (Alex Kiwior) 34 volunteers signed up this year, but participation was very low. Confirmation candidates were suggested but not feasible due to underage. This program which helps children gain confidence with therapeutic benefits ends on Sept. 28, 2009 and restarts on April 5, 2010..

Neighborhood House (Cheryl Bida & Nancy Drapalski) A fund raiser to benefit RANH will be held at St. Paul's United Methodist Church on October 2nd. Mark Tisdell will be the performer. Tickets are on sale at Janet Varner on Main Street or Sharon's Hallmark at Livernois/Walton Blvd.

Parish Nursing (Sue Putman) Articles are in the bulletin.

Peace and Justice/Moses/Catholic Caucus (Joan Cashman) Topics for discussion at Catholic Caucus will be Health Care on October 5th and Progressive Income Tax on November 10th. Meetings are held at 10 a.m. at Our Lady of Fatima Church. Peace & Justice meetings will be held in homes this year with immigration being the focus. Ham & kielbasa sales to support Moses will be held.

Prayer Chain (Carol Hanna) Requests for prayers are called into Carol – see page 6 of the bulletin.

Provide a Ride John Griffith has been the contact.

Right to Life/Lifespan (Karen Schenk) Pro Life legislative breakfast will be held at Burton Manor on Sept. 26th from 9 – 12 noon. The speaker will be Marjorie Dannenfelser, President of the Susan B. Anthony List. St. Mary will host a portion of the National Life Chain on Sunday, October 4th in front of the church from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. LIFE CHAIN is a time for prayerful self-analysis and serious commitment to helping end abortion in our nation. Participants stand in witness to love and protect the unborn and their mothers.

SOS (Rochelle Tester) The date for 2010 is June 27 – July 3rd.

St. Michael Pantry (Chris & Amy Kennedy) A committee is working on developing a wood box on wheels to be used for food storage.

St. Vincent DePaul (Ken Beres) Friends of the Poor Walk will be held on Sept. 26th. Seven sites have been established for this 3 mile walk. Donations and participation are welcome.

Tithing Committee No meeting this month.

Minutes compiled by Dee Valade and Joan Cashman

Next meeting – October 10, 2009