

**Title: Christian Service Commission Meeting**

**Date: February 18,, 2017**

**Place: West Overflow**

**In attendance:** Adriana Fernandez, Bill Hill, Sr. Grace Keane, Karen Schenk,

### **Salt and Light**

We reviewed the assessment on prayer from the website and we discussed the first two point of the assessment and how we could move these in a positive way. One idea was to connect the parish to service through a prayer service and the other was to add some petitions to the bulletin.

1. We root our work for justice in prayer and in our relationship with God, who loves those who are poor and vulnerable.
2. We pray together (through Scriptural reflection, Prayers of the Faithful, etc.) for those who are vulnerable in our local and global communities.

### **Review of Jan. Minutes and Special Meeting Minutes**

Bill reviewed the proposed changes to the assessment matrix. He will forward these on as a replacement to the original minutes.

### **Projects/Committees/Reports**

#### Plan for Celebration dinner [Sr. Grace]

Sister explained that all items were prepared for the gathering. 28 people have signed up as of Feb 21. Newly initiated, new parishioners, and seasoned parishioners were invited specifically. The gathering is an opportunity to highlight different service opportunities; announce "Peaceable Kingdom" awards, and elicit suggestions on Christian Service priorities of homelessness, hunger, mental health, and Life issues. Adrianna will provide a dessert.

#### Lenten Almsgiving Outreach activity [Karen]

We discussed the bulletin announcement. Karen requested that Sister include a link to the right-to-life information on the USCCB website and focus on life issues from birth to death.

We discussed having a prayer service early in Lent [Mar 5 was suggested and at the Council meeting, it was agreed that this was acceptable.] This will be followed by a short talk by Diane Trombley from Right-to-Life Lifespan.

Karen will also prepare a bulletin insert [probably for March 12-front page is shown in attachment 1, back page will highlight the almsgiving collection and baby item collection for Wee care] and she will provide envelopes [250] for contributions.[She will outline what needs to be printed on them.] Christian Service Office will arrange the printing for the envelopes.

We discussed the possibility of having Tim Stickel from Crossroads Pregnancy Center, but it was felt that this might not be appropriate since our almsgiving focus is on RTL-Lifespan.

A roundtable discussion will planned later in Lent around the encyclical of Pope Paul VI. [HUMANAE VITAE] Bill volunteered to help lead this. Karen will obtain some booklets with the encyclical.

#### Status of contacts to Ministry Coordinators [Bill]

Bill reviewed a spreadsheet that he was working on to summarize his contacts with the ministry coordinators. Calls are progressing, but still more to do. A copy of the spreadsheet will be attached to the email with the minutes.

### **Ministry Report Outs**

There was some discussion on the expectation for this section. Bill explained that he hoped that the ministry coordinators would provide some feedback on the events that occurred in the prior months either in person or by email. He will try to emphasize this in his phone calls with the coordinators.

### **March Event overview**

- 01 Lenten Almsgiving [see bulletin for focus and Lenten Message Series connection]
- 03 Fri. 7:00-9:00 PM Crossroads' 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Benefit Banquet, Royal Park Hotel, Rochester
- 05 Blood Drive-Holy Family Regional [moved to April 21]
- 12 Wee Care Collection [RTL-Lifespan]
- 27 Mon. 10AM-1:00PM Serving Lunch at Baldwin Center

**Next meeting date:** Sat. March 18, 2017

### **Wrap-up/Roundtable**

Sister brought up a request from CCRT to support a meal for those in a life-skills training class that they will be providing. The group supported a monetary donation to support the cost of a simple meal for 20. [estimated cost of \$200] Sister will investigate getting the funding from Charitable Giving.

We also discussed the program from SVDP for support of refugees [estimated cost of \$200/y]. Since Father has "Unbound" coming to the parish this weekend, it was felt we would defer this, but consider this for the Almsgiving program next year.

Karen discussed the Mental Health resources available at Oakland University and provided some samples. We need to increase awareness of this resource.

### **Brief feedback on the Parish Council meeting:**

There were several requests made to all commissions. These are outlined below:

1. The "Core Member Definition" was revised to remove the paragraph requiring approval of Core members by the Council and approved in this form. We need to discuss the Core member issue at our next meeting.
2. The two new members for each commission by the May, 2017 was emphasized
3. Another request was made for all commission to develop one pager that can be provided to parishioners at the meet and greet. I will work on this and send something out under separate cover.
4. Each commission was requested to review the AOD Hospitality Process and determine how their commission might assist in implementation at SMOTH.

Respectfully submitted:

Bill Hill, Chairperson, Christian Service Commission

Attachment 1: Front page of bulletin insert



## Right to Life - LIFESPAN'S WEE CARE PROGRAM

A Program of Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund  
32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 100; Livonia, MI 48150-4305  
Phone 734-524-0165 • Fax 734-524-0166  
Office Hours: By appointment  
Karen Patrosso, Director



**W**ee Care is LIFESPAN's very own outreach program that provides hundreds of moms and their precious little ones desperately needed baby supplies.

Wee Care's humble beginning in 1990 (in a borrowed storefront with no heat or electricity) was born of a need to outwardly show our love for mothers and their babies.

And now, each year, approximately 600 mothers receive a package overflowing with sleepers, onesies, blankets, diapers and so much more.

Who are these moms? Some are teens who have been abandoned by their families because they refused to abort their baby. Some are homeless or in shelters for abused women. Some are grandparents whose son or daughter has dropped off their children and never returned. And some are moms who have never asked for or needed help before. They rejoiced with their husband and other children when they discovered they were expecting, and then jobs were lost, children needed to be fed and homes needed to be saved from foreclosure. There were no fun trips to the baby store and the months passed quickly and one day they had to make that reluctant call for help. These are just some of the moms we help. Each has a different story, but every baby so very cherished.

Our families are referred to us by visiting nurses, social workers, hospitals, school counselors, churches, crisis pregnancy centers, charitable organizations and others.

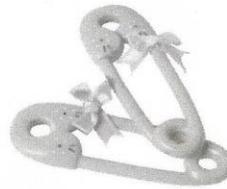
We have no public funding and all of the material goods that we are able to distribute are donated by very caring individuals. Some churches host baby showers and others organize Giving Trees at Christmas. Without their loving support, Wee Care could not exist.

Every year, we are able to give out over 5,400 sleepers, 6,000 onesies, 3,000 receiving blankets and that is just three of the items that the moms receive!

Each layette (valued at \$500.00) is filled with:

- Sleepers/outfits (9)
- Onesies (10)
- Crib sheet
- Towel set
- Lap pad
- Crib blanket or afghan
- Receiving blankets (5)
- Diaper bag
- Bibs
- Sox/booties
- Blanket sleeper
- Snowsuit/sweater set
- Gown
- Diapers
- Wipes
- Lotions
- Pacifier
- Rattle
- Bottles
- Stuffed animal
- Bathtub
- Spoons, cups, grooming, health & safety items
- Gently-used clothes

Most importantly, along with the material goods, the moms receive gifts of hope and love. They are touched that strangers care about them and their precious baby and are assured of your love. If you know someone who needs Wee Care's assistance or would like to donate to help our babies, call Karen at 734-524-0165.



**LIFESPAN'S Wee Care Program**



*All material and monetary donations to Wee Care are tax-deductible.  
Checks must be made payable to Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund.*