

**Title: Christian Service Commission Meeting**

**Date: March 18,, 2017**

**Place: West Overflow**

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

Bill Hill started out with some scriptures from Matthew on being humble and serving others as Christ did when He was on earth. We also prayed a prayer from St. Patrick.

### **Salt and Light**

We discussed various ways that we "Reach Out" through Christian Service. Items mentioned included RANH,ICW, Lifespan, and Mental Health.

### **Review of Feb. Minutes**

Group discussed the Celebration dinner from last month. Sister Grace indicated that she would send the slide presentation to all of those in attendance.

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

#### Lenten Almsgiving Outreach activity/Crossroads Pregnancy Dinner highlights---Karen

March 5-handed out 150 baby bottles and envelopes after all masses.

Prayer service was held March 12, 12 people in attendance, Diane Trombley from Lifespan then shared a brief background on abortion and how euthanasia, assisted suicide, and other means to shorten an elderly person's life have resulted from killing pre-born babies.

Baby Shower for Lifespan's Wee Care program is being conducted the weekends of March 12 & March 19.

Round table discussion on the encyclical Humanae Vitae is planned in the gym following 11 AM Mass on March 26. People have been encouraged to pick up copies of the encyclical.

Almsgiving opportunities for Lifespan are offered using an envelope or a baby bottle in the narthex and return them by April 9.

Some have prayed outside the abortion clinic in Sterling Heights along with parishioners from St. Iraneous.

Karen also reported on the speaker at the Crossroads Pregnancy fund raiser. Le'yandria Murray was born to a teen mother and experienced poverty first hand. She shared a compelling story about the importance every life makes. Crossroads provides health care information at the high schools in the area among other services. Name will be changing to "Crossroads Care Center".

#### Ministry List Discussion [separate file attached, yellow highlights]---Bill

Bill highlighted some issues from his phone calls to ministry coordinators

1. Need a contact for CCRT [Sister to contact Carol Benham]
2. We need a plan to offset the costs for funeral lunches. [Sr. Grace to call Bev Schuler]
3. ICW is without a representative. [Sister to contact pre-school Mom's group]
4. Need definition of goals for Advocacy and Education Ministry. Lori Irwin has volunteered to be the coordinator. [No action plan discussed but maybe we could invite Lori to next meeting?] Sister also mentioned she is considering another title for this group.
5. Meal Share-we care seldom gets a request for help. Some mentioned that it may be they are getting assistance from School groups or other sources. [Sister to publicize in the bulletin]
6. Mental Health is a new ministry from the CS survey. We do not yet have a coordinator. Two people were mentioned. [Sister to contact them about being the coordinator of this ministry. Working definition will be required to recruit and to be refined once a coordinator is on board.

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There was discussion of the grief counseling and counseling offered by Dennis Naeger at St. Mary's as areas that could be consolidated under this heading.

7. Prayer chain does not seem to fit well under Christian Service. [Bill to take this to the Council]
8. Sunshine ministry is seldom used. [Sister will contact Grovecrest to see if they are interested in having cards sent to their residents] There was also mention of the Senior group at St. Mary's being a source for people who may need some sunshine.

### Council Initiative/Core Member Definition [Attachment 1]---Bill

There was a discussion about the Core members. Bill indicated that Cheryl had volunteered to be the "3-year" member. Karen volunteered in the meeting to be the "2-year" member. Hopefully we can get at least one new member to take on the "1-year" position

### Target given to recruit two new members for the commission---Bill

#### ---June barbecue/other ideas

Bill proposed that the Hill's are willing to have a barbecue and maybe each member could invite another person who is not involved in other activities. We could have casual conversation about Christian Service and see if this stimulates interest. No other ideas were proposed. We need to continue discussion next month.

### April Prayer Service [separate file attached]---Bill

We reviewed the prayer service and deep dive presentation. I received a few changes from Sister Grace after the meeting. These changes along are included in the presentation attached. I also added names at the bottom of each page for suggested presenter. Please let me know if you are not going to be able to attend.

## **Ministry Report Outs**

No reports this month.

## **March Event overview [Sister Grace reviewed the list below]**

CCSEM Sanctum House [sanctumhouse.org]-Friday, April 7th at Sacred Heart Major Seminary.

[Sister will attend-covers Human trafficking][<https://breakthechaindoc.eventbrite.com>]

PAV: CS Coordinators working with CCSEM on Refugee Resettlement

Pastoral Ministers Association Detroit Pastoral Alliance: 3 Day Racism Training. [Sister will attend]

Fundraiser at Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, 1730 W. Auburn Rd RH 48309, Muslim Outreach

March 27 Baldwin Center Lunch [10:00-1:00] [carpool from 09:30 at St. Mary's]

St. Charles Lwanga [50th Anniversary of the Race riots, Mutual Outreach Opportunities, Good Friday walk

Advocacy and Education: CS books to borrow from CS office

### April Event overview

2 Blood Drive

8 09:00-11:00 trying to organize a group to go to God's Helping Hands to help organize the shelves [need publicity]

29 Sat. 10AM-12:00 PM John R Road Clean-up [tentative]

29-30 SVdP Bundle Weekend after all the Masses

**Next meeting date:** Sat. April 22, 2017

## Wrap-up/Roundtable

There was some discussion on involvement with St. Charles Lwanga. Bill took this to the Council for discussion.

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

1. Council has no clear plan for cooperation with St. Lwanga. They requested that the Christian Service group proceed to organize some kind of joint service project and invite the parish.
2. Council is planning to organize 10 greeters for all masses. Anyone interested should contact the office.
3. Any new Commission members should be invited to the Council for introduction.
4. Newcomer's lunch is planned. They are looking for Commission members to attend and sit at a table to explain the Council and Commission activities. [I volunteered] These will occur quarterly for the rest of the year.
5. Budget feedback should be coming by the end of March
6. The gift that will be handed out at Easter is "access" to a website called "Formed.org" which offers a number of Catholic resources. Parish will pay a license fee for one year.
7. Prayer chain ministry will move to Evangelization [Bill will contact Carol to advise her.]

Respectfully submitted:

Bill Hill, Chairperson, Christian Service Commission