

Minutes for Human Concerns Committee  
May 16, 2018

Members present: Linda Bardele, Jim Deguzzman, Craig Griffie, Judy Maret, Steve Obscherning, Mary Sermersheim, Z Schaefer, Terry Brennan, Sarah Griffie, Craig Griffie, Tom Heller, Carol Bannan

- ✦ March minutes were approved.
- ✦ Treasurer's report: Tom Heller submitted the 2018-2019 budget to the parish. This was approved, although 500 less than current budget. There was discussion on how to use the \$500 emergency fund. Pending the approval of Fr. Phil, it was decided to donate that money to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, which was destroyed by fire earlier this week. A \$60-dollar memorial from the estate of Janice and Jim Higgins will be donated to St. Vincent de Paul.
- ✦ Mary Sermersheim reminded us of the SVDP Clothing Drive that will take place this Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 10AM to 1 PM. It was also recognized how her committee has grown from a small group of 4 to 21 members, including younger members with good ideas.
- ✦ Judy Maret reported food drives have been successful and another will probably be planned for the summer. She reported on that on May 25<sup>th</sup> Ray's Liquor will donate a percentage of total sales to Tosa Food Pantry. Meijer Foods will contribute to Tosa Food Pantry with the *Simply Give* cards purchased on June 1<sup>st</sup>. To participate, customers are encouraged to purchase a \$10 *Simply Give* donation card upon checkout. Once purchased, the donation is converted into a Meijer Food-Only Gift Card and donated directly to the food pantry.
- ✦ Library: Carol Bannan reported that she has updated the on-line catalog and purchased of DVD series by Bishop Robert Barron.
- ✦ Z Schaefer reported on the successes of the Care Ministry. To this date, 300 prayer shawls have been given to those who need them. The responses of the recipients have been overwhelmingly positive. In addition to prayer shawls, hand-knit mittens and hats are distributed. This committee also includes several prayer groups, Ministry of Praise, and Bereavement support for families.
- ✦ Sarah Griffie introduced herself. She expressed her support for Anna Retzke's work and research on Social Justice and Anna's initiative to become involved. There was discussion on how we can move forward with this as a committee. Educating ourselves on issues to better understand the basics is important – but action is the key idea. Consulting other parishes that have already begun the process is a step toward becoming involved. **Tosa Together** might be another good resource on how we can work with community leaders towards our goal.
- ✦ Our next Common Meeting night will be held on September 12<sup>th</sup>.

**We have several positions open on our committee for next year:**

Chairs for the following: Social Justice, Habitat for Humanity, Director of Communications.

Please let us know if you or someone you know might be able to step forward to take over one of these positions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Terry Brennan

- ✦ Sarah Griffie introduced herself. She shared Anna Retzke shared information that she has researched on the topic of Social Justice and how we, as a parish, can become involved. Basically, there are three components to the Archdiocesan plan. They are: Formation, Advocacy, and Direct Service. **(I have attached a document from Anna that gives a clear explanation of this. She has also included several websites to explore.)** We continued to discuss how we can move forward with this as a committee. Steve suggested that we begin to educate ourselves on Formation to better understand the basics. Other parishes have already begun the process and would have information to share with us. **Tosa Together** would be another good resource on how we can work with community leaders towards our goal. Craig suggested that we invite a spokesperson to join us at a meeting to give us more background information on how to move forward. Anna will reach out to those who could possibly join us at a future date. Steve also suggested that we arrange a possible April meeting (April 25?) to explore the topic of Social Justice. We do not have a common meeting night in April.