

# Christian Service Commission

## Meeting Minutes

***January 16, 2023; 10:00 am***

***Present:*** Katy Deffe - Chair, Lorrin Darby, Kimberly Gaa, Leroy Scott, Jim Capp, Chris Christiaens

***Next meeting:*** April 16, 2024, 10am, Holy Spirit Catholic Parish conference room

### **1. Call to Order – Opening Prayer (Lorrin Darby)**

### **2. Discussion**

#### **A. Old Business:**

##### **1. *Parish Homebound Bus -***

- a. Commission wants to list the bus for sale or donate. If sold, proceeds should be used toward purchase of a new van. (Katy Duffe and Chris Christiaens will advise the parish council of the plan to sell bus).
  - b. Those parishioners who were riding the bus were otherwise contacted to determine if Homebound communion was needed and was scheduled.
  - c. Discussion was held regarding other existing options within Great Falls.
  - d. Chris Christiaens will provide a list of potential foundations to contact for grant opportunities to purchase a replacement van.
2. ***Uganda: Kasese and Water Security Assistance -*** this will not be pursued further due to a. unable to send funds electronically; b. outside of the main pastoral priorities.
3. ***Yellow Envelope outline*** – NOTE: that the envelope descriptions will be in this week's bulletin for 01/27&28/2024.

#### **B. New Business:**

##### **1. *Charity versus Social Justice-***

- a. Pastoral guidance is that we take a charitable approach to parish relief assistance going forward.
- b. Parish Relief Fund activity report provided to the Commission members.

- c. Stipend updates - Rocky Boy was added to every month. All others will be reconsidered at the next quarterly meeting.
2. **Uganda Catholic School** – adding an additional 5 students to support at Saint Pope John Paul II school.
3. **Time and Talent training is going on now-** . Reminder all volunteers need to attend one of the training sessions for ministries that are signed up for. If unable to attend please contact Aubrey Rearden for further information.
4. **Priest Appreciation Dinner:** Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 6pm in the Parish hall. Please bring a side dish.
5. **Rice Bowls** - Already ordered for Lent (received on 1/17/2024). Commission members would like the youth groups to do these again for 2024. (Youth Minister Brien Rosendale confirmed on 1/18/2024 that the Youth Group kids will construct the bowls again this year.) Rice bowls will be put out in the church starting on Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024 and we will ask that all be returned by Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024.
6. **Feeding the Poor Dinner:** Family of Faith formation group presenting on March 20, 2024 at 6pm. Looking for everyone to participate.
  - a. Question - going forward will there be a monthly dinner/potluck each month going forward sponsored by this group? (Follow-up to ask Nick W.)
7. **Child Bridge:** Foster Care Services met with Andrew Morrow representative for Cascade County. They are a Christian based organization trying to connect children to foster families. Kimberly attended a discernment meeting via Zoom to learn more about Child Bridge. Kimberly will be following up with Catholic Charities services of Montana (Scott Heald - Helena).
8. **Catholic Mental Health Services:** Updated Catholic Social Services of Montana bookmark for contact information for mental and spiritual health services available to the parish.
9. **St. Vincent project status report:**
  - a. St. Vincent Commercial Kitchen is operational as of the week of 1/8/2024. An open house date is pending.
  - b. 3200 lbs. of food donated by HSCP for December/Christmas
  - c. Grace Haven - homeless women's veterans home will be open in February. There will be 12 "family" rooms available. First 8 will be open in February. Fire suppression system being installed. Open house date is pending.

#### 4. Adjournment – Closing Prayer (Kimberly)

