



Holy Spirit Parish Christian Service Commission

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 18, 2020 @ 6:30 p.m.

CSC Mission: Share God's love through action, education, and community building.

GOALS

1. Encourage all parishioners to strive for peace, justice and equality.
2. Provide opportunities for parishioners to share their God-given gifts with individuals coping with difficult situations.
3. Educate parishioners about Catholic social justice.
4. Build community partnerships to better serve others and promote the Kingdom of God.

Present: Justin Bishop, Taffy Cochran, Lorrin Darby, Rick Lopes, Pat Hilgendorf, Cindy Eultgen, Lori Durocher

Absent: Dawn Clutter-Collins, Dave Stukey

Cindy Eultgen began the meeting with prayer.

Introductions: Rick, Lorrin, and Lori were introduced to the group.

First on the agenda was a re-stating of the first meeting agenda which included assignments of committee members to explore programs active in the parish to get strengths and challenges associated with those programs.

Justin Bishop began discussion with the following:

Senior Fellowship Lunch (re-named to **Fellowship Luncheon**)– interviewed: self & Jim Capp

- ◆ Held on the first Tuesday of each month at noon
- ◆ Is no longer just for senior members of the Holy Spirit Community, but open to all
- ◆ This is a growing program which now averages between 30 and 40 attendees
- ◆ Lunch is a free-will offering
- ◆ It is about providing a meal and forming community and is a peer ministry

Challenges: None

Strengths: It is a joyful ministry for Jim and the participants

Kids 'N Kans – interviewed: Frank Handwerk

- ◆ Collected at the time of offertory during the Saturday and Sunday Masses
- ◆ Baskets are placed in front of the altar for collection
- ◆ Transferred to St. Jude's Circle and distributed to St. Jude's families in need

Challenges:

1. People/families often forget to bring items
2. May be a source of distraction to some parishioners
3. Some families may feel uncomfortable if they feel excluded because they cannot contribute

Strengths:

1. Provides food for the hungry. (2000 pounds per year)
 2. Provides an opportunity for children to participate in Mass at the offertory
 3. Provides an opportunity for parishioners to see the children in our parish and the family to which they belong
 4. Provides children the beginning concept of giving to others
 5. Builds a sense of community as parishioners watch the future of our parish grow
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Pat Hilgendorf reported the following:

Fair Trade – Equal Exchange – Contacts: Cindy Eultgen and Open

- ◆ Came out of the Just Faith group meetings
- ◆ Coffee, Tea and Chocolate are sold
- ◆ Holy Spirit Parish purchases the items and it is sold by a committee from the parish
- ◆ Father Andrew in Uganda is the contact who distributes scholarships to the students

Challenges: Awareness is a challenge – perhaps we need more literature regarding the program and its benefits?

Strengths: Assists small producers of these items to ensure they receive a fair price for their goods

FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT WEBSITE:

Otherwise known as Coffee, Tea, and Chocolate Sales!

Why Purchase Fair Trade Products?

When we become aware of unfair, painful, unjust conditions that exist for our favorite foods and products; soon we want to make choices guided on strong Catholic Principals:

– Access to the common good that all can work & grow in fair working conditions

– Rights are respected

– Supports just practices keeps solidarity with our human family

-Through our parish purchases of Fair Trade Goods, we support six high school students at Catholic schools in Guatemala and Pakistan

What does Fair Trade mean?

- *Building respectful, enduring relationships*
- *Fair wages*
- *opportunities for advancement*
- *equal employment Opportunities*
- *Public Accountability*
- *Environmentally Sustainable Practices...and more!*

Recycling – interviewed: Ken Weinheimer

- ◆ Collection sheds are located in the parking lot to the west of the parish
- ◆ Newspaper, cardboard and aluminum are collected
- ◆ No company is paying for the paper and aluminum at this time
- ◆ The bins are emptied once a week and recyclables are taken to Pacific Steel and Recycling and Steel Etc.

Challenges:

1. Currently, there is no payment for cardboard
2. Often, packages are bundled to heavily
3. Paper needs to be separated between magazines and newspapers and is often bundled together
4. Items are placed in the wrong shed and have to be separated

Strengths:

1. We are creating awareness of our environment
2. There is a good, dedicated group of volunteers for this program

Pat will be contacting the two companies listed above regarding recycling and what is available to us.

Birthday Cards – Contact – Cindy Eultgen:

- ◆ 12-15 cards are sent per month
- ◆ Usually sent to people who are 79 and older (possibly 75 too)

Dave Stukey was absent from the meeting, but submitted his information regarding the following programs:

Parish Nurses– Interviewed: Theresa Hopkins

- ♦ See information from the Holy Spirit website below as to the services provided by this program

Challenges:

1. Regular participation and commitment is sporadic
2. Some parishioners expect more clinical responses from the nurses, this interferes with their license and we have chosen not to have that kind of ministry at Holy Spirit Parish
3. Different opinions

Strengths:

1. Longevity
2. Support some good ministries
3. About 17 members
4. Meet once a month

FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT WEBSITE:

We believe in enhancing health with spiritual nurturing and invite others with that same interest to join us.

We provide educational opportunities throughout the year on multiple health issues.

A variety of Parish Nurse projects include:

- *Prayer Shawl Ministry*
- *Eye Glasses & Hearing Aids Collection*
- *Breast Cancer Awareness*
- *Baby Bottles Project for Echoz Pregnancy Center*
- *Lenten Day of Prayer for Women*
- *Men's day of Prayer, first part of October*

Bus Ministry - Contact – Cindy Eultgen:

- ♦ Holy Spirit Parish connects with the homebound with our Holy Spirit Bus
- ♦ Our bus runs for the 4:30 pm Saturday Mass and the 11:00 am Sunday Mass
- ♦ We can take up to 11 people along with a driver and assistant
- ♦ Need to be 25 years old to drive
- ♦ Do not need a chauffer's license
- ♦ Our parish bus is a fantastic example of Stewardship

Challenges:

1. Recruiting willing and able drivers and assistants – (Cindy currently has about 5 new recruits)
2. Losing some of the older drivers and assistants
3. Different opinions

Strengths:

1. Longevity and tradition
 2. The parish owns a reliable bus
 3. Fills a definite need within our parish
 4. We have dedicated teams of drivers and assistants who treat our riders with respect and dignity.
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Taffy Cochran reported on the following programs:

KIVA – Contact – Kate Triplett:

- ◆ KIVA works by crowdfunding loans and unlocking capital for the underserved, improving the quality and cost of financial services and addressing the underlying barriers to financial access around the world
- ◆ Through Kiva's work, students can pay for tuition, women can start businesses, farmers are able to invest in equipment and families can afford needed emergency care.
- ◆ By lending as little as \$25 on Kiva, you can be part of the solution and make a real difference in someone's life.
- ◆ 100% of every dollar you lend on Kiva goes to funding loans.

Challenges: Taffy did not contact Kate Triplett, but will do so for more information on challenges and strengths

Strengths:

FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT WEBSITE:

We loan because...

"For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also".

About us:

- ◆ Started from a Social Justice committee wanting to promote micro lending as a way to empower people to escape poverty.
- ◆ We have loaned to people in Kenya, Philippines, Uganda, El Salvador and more. Visit Kiva, www.kiva.org, and click on team Holy Spirit to get started.

Fellowship Dinner - Contact – Pam Noble:

- ◆ Usually held once a month (not in December or May) after the 4:30 Saturday Mass
- ◆ To promote fellowship within the Holy Spirit community
- ◆ Free-will offering for anyone who attends
- ◆ Came out of ideas for building community from the Just Faith group to have a meal that encouraged parishioners to visit with other parishioners that they may not know or not know well
- ◆ Dinner is prepared by a group within the parish such as Knights of Columbus or the Ladies Circle; a member of the parish who owns or has ties to a restaurant or food service; or by the committee itself using proceeds from the dinners
- ◆ Desserts are provided by parishioners who sign-up after Masses

Challenges:

1. Many get take-out meals which runs counter to the premise behind the dinners
2. Depending on the night, volunteers are not plentiful
3. There are not many who sit with someone they do not know
4. Marketing – especially stressing the premise behind the dinner

Strengths:

1. Promotes camaraderie in the parish
2. Feeding our community
3. Provides a vehicle for meeting new people
4. Provides a neutral space for conversation outside of Coffee and Rolls
5. For those who ride the bus – they usually get take-out meals meaning they have an evening free of cooking

Community Garden - Contact – Cindy Eultgen:

- ◆ Probably one of the best kept secrets at Holy Spirit
- ◆ The garden needs to be planted, watered and tended
- ◆ Watering optimally needs to be done once a day and maybe twice a day when the weather is hot
- ◆ The produce is put into baskets at the entryway to church and is free for the taking
- ◆ It is located south of Fr. Dick's residence and contains raised beds

Challenges:

1. Tools for the garden
2. Possible security issues for Father Dick
3. Difficulty in getting committed gardeners that will be responsible for watering
4. Volunteers are available but have not been contacted

Strengths:

1. The concept that we are feeding each other
2. We are developing community
3. Provides an opportunity for meeting new people
4. A sense of accomplishment by creating a beautiful, productive space

Cindy spent time going through the 1st Quarter to date for (February 18, 2020) Parish Relief expenditures, which included January and part of February. This gave us an idea of how funds are allocated. Funds for this are provided by donations through the yellow envelopes included in the envelope packets and through online donations. This fund currently is carrying a balance of around \$10,000 – so is well-funded.

Parish relief requests can be made by walk-ins, by phone, through a parishioner who knows someone in need or by parishioners in need. Items typically needed are gas, rent, utilities, My Student in Need, Opportunities Inc., Alliance for Youth and car repairs

Cindy also works with the parish finance committee to form the Christian Service Budget. The proposed budget for 2019-2020 is for possible expenditures of \$6,750.00. Items on this list are Hospital-Nursing Home Ministry; Continuing Education; Hospitality; Programs/Services; Supplies; Travel and Just Faith. The full, detailed listing was provided.

Other items on the agenda:

Soup and Bread will be provided on Fridays during lent after Stations of the Cross. There will be a short program including a video from Bishop Robert Barron on the Mass after the meal. If anyone can provide soup or bread for these sessions, please contact Deacon Pete.

Rice Bowls – Volunteers are needed to distribute Rice Bowls for the collections during Lent. Please contact Cindy if you or anyone you know can help. Ash Wednesday is one week from tomorrow.

Toiletries – Justin pointed out that toiletries such as disposable razors, toothpaste, toothbrushes and toilet paper cannot be purchased with food cards. Suggestion was made that we provide a means to collect these items during Lent and give them to agencies such as St. Martin de Porres and the Food Bank. Would need a rolling garbage can for this with a clearly marked sign. NO TRASH. Taffy said she would provide once Cindy gets clearance from Father Doug.

Tasks for next month:

Look over the budget that was given out, bring any questions/comments etc. to the next meeting.

Go over strengths and challenges that we did not cover in this meeting.

Appointment of chairperson.

The Prayer for Solidarity was said as a closing prayer.

Next meeting will be held on March 17.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05