

## Service Committee Meeting

St. Francis University Parish – Tuscaloosa, Alabama

Thursday, August 10, 2017 – 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was opened with a prayer by Father Tom Ackerman at 6:00 pm.

Those in attendance were: Father Tom, Barbara Sullivan, Janelle Avery, Judy Van Heest, Pat Larkin, John Cooper, Bea Cooper, David Prestridge, Christine Metzger, Linda Dover, Francine Wuebold, Kathy Bergeron, and Francine Marasco.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<b>OLD BUSINESS:</b>		
International	John Cooper reported that he attended a meeting of the Board of Tuscaloosa International Friends. International students will be arriving on campus very soon and sponsoring families are desperately needed. John reported that 149 families are needed and only 30 current families can take new students, so he asked that anyone interested to please sign up as soon as possible. Bea Cooper and Janelle Avery both said they would sign up soon. His information table will again be in the Narthex on this coming Sunday.	Information will be put on the parish Facebook page.
Refugee Family:	Father Tom reported that we are still holding for further information on our family coming from Rwanda.	We will wait for further information from Sister Carol Gran on this issue.
Habitat for Humanity:	Father Tom said he spoke with Steve ___ (works with Habitat). It has been suggested that we find a Hispanic family from this area to help partner with the Habitat family, to ease in communications and welcoming.	Father said he would contact Francine about the Habitat house.
Food Pantry:	Kathy Bergeron reported that the pantry has helped three persons during the summer break. She said the pantry is full and all that is needed right now is additional grocery store gift cards, i.e., \$15, \$20 cards, that can be given out. She gave a small stack of cards to Father Tom.	Father Tom suggested that an accounting be kept of the grocery cards that are given out by the pantry.
Eutaw School Supplies	Kathy Bergeron reported that a huge truckload of donated school supplies was delivered to the Sisters in Eutaw for the students in need of assistance. She also said she has another ½ carload to take, as well. She said that although the Sisters have had a successful donation drive, St. Francis was the only parish in the Diocese to take the project on parish-wide.	Kathy Bergeron will get the remaining supplies to the Sisters in Eutaw.

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<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>OLD BUSINESS, cont'd:</b>		
Diaper Drive:	Barbara Sullivan reported for Judy Spadoni – t he actual Diaper Drive takes place on Saturday, Sept. 23, 2017, but The parish collection dates are Sept. 10 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup> . Notices to Parishioners will be placed in upcoming bulletins announcing The drive.	The Diaper Drive will be promoted in upcoming bulletins.
Jeremiah’s Garden:	Barbara Sullivan reported that last weekend’s parish Introduction to the Garden and some of the garden workers And the fresh produce they brought was very successful, Leading to \$250 in cash donations and vegetable sales And a few people who signed up ;to help in the garden. Father Tom suggested that the organizers plan a designated Work day/time – that making it easier for would-be helpers To plan to be there. Janelle will speak with Fran Viselli and Roy Lofton with this suggestion.	Barbara and Janelle will follow up with Roy Lofton and/or Fran Viselli regarding promoting help for the Garden.
Soup Kitchen:	Judy Van Heest reported that the Parish will host the Soup Kitchen on three dates, still undecided: October 1 or 15; November 15 or 19; December 3 or 17. Again, Jalapenos restaurant wishes to help by donating food To the Mexican cuisine on one of those occasions, but As before, wishes to remain anonymous. She said they Plan also to have an Italian meal, and a “comfort” meal (meatloaf or fried chicken). Judy also suggested that A more detailed organizing take place when planning So that too many people don’t show up at the same time. It was suggested that the Greek organizations on campus Be approached for their students needing community Service hours (Pledge Hours), and other students needing Service hours for their resumes/work histories.	Judy will contact the office with definite dates for the soup kitchen.
Jesus’ Way Homeless Shelter:	This is a 501 c(3) non-profit, serving dinner on Wednesday Evenings to approximately 40 women and children. Mollie Chambers needs contact information of restaurant owners Willing to donate a meal. Parishioners wanting to provide A meal and/or help serve will be much appreciated. Donations Of individual packaged snacks and water are welcomed. Please Contact Mollie at (205) 799-2641 or email her at <a href="mailto:mwc2751@gmail.com">mwc2751@gmail.com</a> .	Follow up needed for time and days for tutoring for the Jesus’ Way students.

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<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>NEW BUSINESS:</b> Website	Father Tom reported that the parish website needs Updating; he will speak to Judy Spadoni about this at Later date.	Father will speak to Judy Spadoni about updating The website.
Directory:	John Cooper asked if he could broach the subject of Perhaps planning a new parish directory. He asked Janelle Avery for her input.	Father suggested this might not be a topic appropriate For the Service Committee.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janelle B. Avery (for Judy Spadoni, Recording Secretary)