

GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH
Social Concerns Committee Meeting
February 26, 2019

The meeting was opened with a prayer. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Bill announced that he is stepping down as Chairperson, and that Kevin Wein has agreed to take on this task. Kevin, who is a member of the parish council, introduced Wayne Lorandean, also a council member, and said that he and Wayne will be working together, to bring more transparency to the council's activities and the activities of members of the Social Concerns Committee.

Marie said that minutes of the council's meetings should be printed for parishioners, and Ann said that the minutes are posted on the parish website, but they are very difficult to access. Wayne said that most of the meetings concern the school, liturgy, Christian Formation, and Building and Maintenance. Kevin said that they will work on some solutions to get people more involved.

RESPECT FOR LIFE: Susan said that 70 people went to Washington on January 18 and joined the Annual March for Life, perhaps the largest group ever from our parish. She said that the group plans to show an 90 minute film, "Unprotected" sometime this spring.

She and Paula Hoppel attended a "Catholics in Annapolis Day" at the state capital where they were encouraged by legislators to advocate for issues of importance to the Right to Life movement.

PRAYER LINE: Marie said that it is going well, although they could use some more volunteers.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: Terri gave everyone a copy of the Society's annual report, which was published in the parish bulletin. She also reminded people that SVDP published monthly reports on the numbers of people helped each month in the bulletin.

Kevin said that the response to the yearly report was positive, and that the more communication, the better.

MEDICAL MISSION TO PERU

Barbara provided the group with copies of a friend's diary written during their last trip to Peru. It carefully defines the poverty, the lack of medical services, and the dire needs of the people who live in villages in the mountains. Because of the horrific damage to their facility due to flooding, this year the group hopes to have temporary tents available for their services.

She suggested that instead of donating vitamins this year, perhaps we could collect donations to help this year's trip scheduled for June. Contributions can be made to "Global Health Volunteers in New Town Square, PA.

LAZARUS/BEREAVEMENT/ PRAYER SHAWL: Ann reported that the Lazarus Committee has done four funerals since October 1, and that about four people regularly attend their bereavement meetings.

The Prayer Shawl group made over \$400 with their craft table at the Christmas bazaar and that they donated 25 shawls to women in Philadelphia recovering from addiction. In addition they have also begun providing shawls for Veterans at Upper Chesapeake Medical Center with wonderful results.

S.A.M: Marie said that all is going well. They plan a Day of Recollection on March 30, 2019. Bill asked about movies, and Marie said that they would have to be 30 minutes or less, since the group likes to play Bingo.

CHRISTMAS IN APRIL: Prosper said that it is scheduled for Saturday April 27, 2019. He suggested that their biggest issue is jobs that will only take one day. He said that they have over 20 applications for help, but most are too large for them to handle.

NEW BUSINESS; Prosper asked what the diocese was doing in response to the drug problem, and what the parishes are doing. Kevin said that he would look into it.

Bill presented the group with the guidelines for the Social Concerns Committee, and most felt that the committee operates within those guidelines. But some felt that we should be doing more to attract young people to the church, as well as reach out to "fallen away" Catholics. Kevin suggested that the group meet quarterly, and he will schedule the next meeting for May. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,
Marilyn Pare.