

COMBINED COMMISSION REPORTS – MAY 2023

Commission: Hospitality Report – Ruth Bruno

During the Vestry Commission Fair held in March we were able to gain two more volunteers to serve at the Sunday Coffee Fellowship. We also obtained a man to serve at the Mens' Breakfast events led by John Johnson. The new coffee fellowship volunteers, Sally Flack and Marcia Riesz will serve on the 1st Sunday of each month at the 10am service beginning May 7th. They will be taking over for the Bonville's who will be up North until the end of the year. Both volunteers have been trained on procedures by Harry Bruno. A new stove was delivered to the kitchen but is not as yet installed. We are expecting a new dishwasher and microwave in the future. During April, I completed, in person at Good Shepherd, the 6-hour session of "Dismantling Racism" seminar which all vestry members were required to attend. Thank you to Robert Sawyer for the extra hours he put in to set up equipment and make this presentation possible for us.

Commission: Outreach – Stephanie Kitt

Mission Trip - Dave Beall led the mission trip to Tuscaloosa where he, Sally Mock, Father Joe & Desiree, Tim Hudson, and Sue Green joined Dave and E.K.'s daughter's group from Michigan, to work with Habitat on building a house. This was Dave's 26th mission trip! Well done good and faithful servants. I have had several inquiries on potential opportunities closer to home, especially considering the recent destruction in our Gulf coast region. Queries sent to the Fort Meyers Habitat have not been answered and in investigating other opportunities it seems most mission trips are organized for youth and carry a hefty cost to participate. I will, however, continue to pursue other opportunities.

Local Habitat - The work with local Habitat has slowed down due to funding issues and necessary professional work reducing the need for volunteers. There were no volunteers needed in April.

Silver Sale - All of the silver that took up space in a closet has been dispositioned. A tea service and a few platters have been kept for receptions. Otherwise, every piece was reviewed to determine if it was sterling or silver plated. The sterling was sent to "Sell Your Gold" and we received a check for \$2,448.30 that will be deposited into the building fund. The 160 pounds of silver plate was taken to "Classic Creations" pawn shop and yielded \$81 deposited to the building fund as well. Many thanks to Katherine Riherd for her partnership in bringing this project to fruition.

Literacy Tutoring - There has been interest expressed in tutoring English as a second language. Both the Venice and Northport libraries offer this through a literacy program. I have information and can disseminate to those interested unless others think a presentation to the outreach commission would be in order.

Fund Expenditures 2023 - The below motion was developed in conjunction with the Outreach Commission via email communications due to the lack of a suitable time to meet and a looming deadline to contribute and take advantage of a match for two of the recommended organizations (Food Bank Summer Hunger program, and Salvation Army). The proposed partner organizations and spending for the first half of 2023 is below. Vestry will discuss at this month's meeting.

Stephanie Kitt makes these motions on behalf of the Outreach Commission, to identify preferred partner organizations for 2023 and to propose the first half of 2023 spending:

MOTION: Stephanie Kitt moves that Sarasota South County Habitat for Humanity, Center of Hope, Sarasota's All Faiths Food Bank, mission ministries, El Hogar, St. Mark's Community dinners, and the Salvation Army as our primary organizations for outreach fund disbursements with the proviso that if needs arise beyond these organizations, we would be able to respond and not be limited to these six.

MOTION: Stephanie Kitt moves that the vestry approve fund disbursements to total \$6,750, as follows, for the first half of 2023: Sarasota South County Habitat for Humanity - \$1,000 Center of Hope - \$1,000 All Faiths Food Bank (program to end summer hunger) - \$2,000 El Hogar - \$2,000 The Salvation Army - \$750 \$2,750 will come from the outreach operational budget (#186410) and the remainder will come from restricted funds 33690 (non-designated outreach), 336907 (DB Mission), 336908 (El Hogar), 336909 (Men's Breakfast), 336911 (Local Habitat).

Commission: Parish Care – Carole LaBate

The Parish Care Commission met on May 1st with all members present. The team agrees to meet every other month during the season with special meetings called as needed. The Commission will not meet during the summer months when the Vestry does not meet. The commission addressed the possibility of beginning Christ-centered care for hurting people in the congregation called Steven's Ministry. The ministers undergo 50 hours of training. A trained clergyperson usually leads the program. After much discussion, the team agreed that the clergy and laity are presently addressing the community's needs and do not need additional laity assistance through Steven's Ministry at this time. In fulfilling God's call to serve our community, the teams report the following:

Health & Wellness - Elaine Hedrick. The committee discussed whether to continue meeting during the summer. One suggestion was to use the summer months to focus on a particular project. Decision deferred. Blood pressure screening by request on Sundays began in April. One parishioner had blood pressure taken. Bereavement/Grief Ministry - Deacon Rich, Pam Clark. The group will wind up by mid-May. However, Deacon Rich and

Pam will be available one-on-one over the summer. Plans are to start another group if enough people are interested in September.

Comfort Meals - Teresa Baechtold. Six (6) meals were delivered to parishioners by the Comfort Meal team this month. Teresa stresses the need to educate the community about the services available.

Mailbox Ministry - Teresa Baechtold. Two (2) Get Well cards, one (1) Sympathy card, sixteen (16) Birthday cards, eight (8) Anniversary cards, and two (2) Thinking of You cards mailed to parishioners.

Eucharistic Ministers - Archdeacon Michael. Fourteen (14) Visitations in April with 17 Communicants.

Transportation - Mary Maday. One (1) parishioner received rides to church in April. Mary states that she needs more volunteers. Presently, there are only three on her team, which includes herself.

Prayer Team - EK Beall. One hundred thirty-seven (137) ongoing and two (2) new prayer requests. We, as a commission, seek to serve our Lord Jesus Christ through this ministry. May God lead us in all we do and grant us the gift of discernment to know His will.

Commission: Spiritual Formation – Libby Chinman

Happy May!!! The Spiritual Formation Task Force had their final meeting to review, discuss and reflect on the Congregation survey results. The survey results showed that overall the congregation is in a good place, spiritually, however there is the want and need to continue to grow. Quite a few ideas for future programs, studies, informal talks and learning about other religions are just a few of the ideas that our fellow parishioners are seeking. The survey was a great success and some wonderful comments and insight were given. Thanks so much to the Survey Task Force for giving their all to this survey!!! The Spiritual Formation Commission will be meeting to further discuss and discern what will be offered to help our family grow further into a "Oneness with God" We will take these quieter summer months to address all the amazing possibilities ahead of us!!

Commission: Stewardship – Barbara Rao

The month of April, after the Ministry Fair, was very light in terms of activities for this chairperson. Sunday mornings were spent with the stream team preparing the cameras and helping to record the 10 a.m. service. After Palm Sunday and Easter week, the flowers were done there was a lull in the events. Time was consumed with outside activities and the end of the month with a major Flower Show for which I was chair. The communications team did not meet. Greeters' duty was held on Easter with a deluge of rain as worshippers arrived for service.

Thankfully the sun came out and shone on everyone as they left. It was truly an Easter blessing. The remainder of the time was spent in anticipation of preparing for the Fall UTO.

Feeling negligent and lacking in participation, I look forward to being more involved this summer.

Commission: Welcome – Ed Silva

For the month of April, I believe that we, as members of the Welcome group, carried out the welcome ministry of Good Shepherd. Greeters have made new parishioners and guests feel welcome and, hopefully, their time with us was memorable. In the month of April, to the best of my knowledge, 2 new families have filled out registration cards and plan to continue to worship with us at Good Shepherd. Our Ministry Fair yielded 2 new individuals who showed a desire to be greeters. Our Ushers continue to carry out their responsibilities before, during and after each mass. Some of our parishioners will soon be going north for the summer months and this will result in less people attending mass. Also, the scheduling of Greeters and Ushers will be affected once I receive the summer schedule whereby Rite 1 and Rite 2 will alternate each week. May God give me the direction to carry out my responsibilities in overseeing our Ushers and Greeters.