

St. Christopher Conference- Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Meeting Minutes – March 11th , 2017

Meeting 9:00 in the Parish Center

District council web site: <http://www.svdpmadison.org/> National web site: <http://svdpusa.org/>

Group Adoration was offered before meeting from 8:45 am to 9:00 am for those who could attend

Attendees: Ryan Zakrzewski, Mark Rayha, Joe Amato, Bill Schneider, Mary Yeiser, Marge Purcell, Larry Raab

Opening Prayer - 9:00 am

Pray for those we visited

Prayer intentions from the group

Spiritual Reflection - Bill Schneider led a reflection from St. Frances de Sales about "Trust"

Minutes - Minutes from Feb. 11th meeting approved

District Council Report for December –

1500 in utility, 6 families

121K of food given away at the food pantry

246 clothing vouchers value 17K

38 furniture vouchers

60 air beds

13 pack and plays

545 prescriptions filled

54KK in medicines

Lots of donations, quality is down a bit

Special events Yoga, video game, Lego very good

19K from video games

Store revenue up 1.25%

Care Café has 30 companies signed up

6-13 tables available

Rosalie Rendezvous- 32 attended dinner at

Imperial Garden in Middleton , positive feedback

Financial Report/ Offering – Joe Amato

Our Conference paid \$ 400 to sponsor 2 students in the Haiti School Program.

\$ 236 was sent to the District Council from money received at St Christopher Blanket Drive in January.

\$ 200 was spent on gas cards for home visits.

Committee reports

Membership - There will be an upcoming membership drive. More info to follow.

Social - no report

Home Visits Report

Larry and Sheila did 2 home visits. One was difficult because the family spoke very little English. This may be an opportunity to ask the parish for volunteers to help interpret when we visit Spanish speaking families.

Joe and Ann had 2 home visits as well

Old Business

- Thursday Meeting- Evicted Book Study. January-April
 - Book discussion is going well
- Recycle the Warmth Blanket Drive
 - 6743 blankets total ; 928 new blankets received from Shopko Store Donations
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- Lenten Member Retreat March 4th, Jeanne Harper, regional vice-president speaking
 - Very nice, challenged us on our knowledge of SVdP history
 - 4 members attended

- St. Maria Goretti invite- Matt Wachter, Housing Initiatives Specialist with City of Madison CDA.
 - Very encouraging presentation
The city has an initiative with the goal of helping at least 100 homeless vets off the streets.
They have already helped 120. City is also working on a plan to help the "system homeless, i.e. those with mental illness. City is also looking for strategic housing locations near shopping and bus lines.
- Youth Council Scholarship application
 - They have raised \$1000
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- Port St. Vincent- Serve a meal –Thursday meeting night after Evicted?
Ryan talked to the manager Peter about the possibility of our conference sponsoring a spaghetti dinner in the future.
- Haiti Adopt a student program
 - Adopted 2 students - Joe sent in paperwork and check for the sponsorship.

New Business

- Soup Supper- March 24th
Our Conference will prepare the Soup Supper (6:00 pm) after Station of the Cross (5:30 pm).
Soup, fruit, bread, etc will be served. Just show up between 4:30 pm to 5 pm to help with the food prep.
Help needed afterward with cleanup as well.
- Food Drive – April 29-30th
 - Handing out bags April 22nd-23rd
 - Stapling Bags April 21st 6:00 Parish center

The truck has been arranged for the drive. Marge has made arrangements for the pantry to be open for donations drop off.
Marge will look into revising the shopping list to request more healthy options.
- Ozanam Orientation has 2 options. See calendar below.
- Recruitment drive coming - more info to follow
- Tom Pelger will be the new North Central Regional Vice President. Jeanne Harper' s term is ending.
- Fishing Event & Syttende Mai Event @ the Stoughton store - April 6-23
- Gayle's emails, are you getting them?
 - St. Vincent de Paul Madison <gwestfahl@svdpmadison.org>
30-50 % are reported as un opened

Closing Prayer led by Bill Schneider at 10:00 am

Calendar of SVDP - *CVC (Center for Vincentian Charity, Fish Hatchery)

March 11th – Conference Meeting 8:45 Adoration, Meeting 9:00 Parish Center
 March 23rd– Evicted Book Study 6:30 PM Parish Center
 April 1st – Ozanam Orientation St. Thomas Aquinas (morning)
 April 1st – Home Visit Training St. Thomas Aquinas (evening)
 April 8th – Conference Meeting 8:45 Adoration, Meeting 9:00 Parish Center
 April 5th – Ozanam Orientation CVC (evening)
 April 21st – Stapling bags 6:00 Parish center
 April 23rd&24th – Handing out bags (after all Masses see sign up)
 April 30th &31st – Collecting bags (after all Masses see sign up)
 May 5th – Friday Care Café Fundraising B-fast 7:30 Alliant Energy Center
 June 22-24th – Regional meeting St. Charles Illinois