

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

Report to Parish Pastoral Council

Parish Life Committee

September 1, 2021

Members: Cathy Fugiel, Ruth Hughes, Cherie Trapp, Mary Maeder, Patty Johnson, Pam Brophy, Kathy Upp, Susanna Bour and chair, Mary Kopmeier.

Ministry Reports:

Grandparents Room: Cathy Fugiel reported that 12 parishioners were helped since July 1 with toys, child care items or medical equipment. An article with description of this ministry appeared in the bulletin one time during the summer.

Prayer Blankets: Kathy Upp reports that 13 prayer blankets were given out this summer after Father Michael blessed two trays of blankets in July. An article appeared in the bulletin this summer explaining the ministry and asking for volunteers to sew the blankets. One person replied and is sewing 3 blankets. More blankets are needed but volunteers are needed to sew them. Kathy said she may try another sew-in this fall, which she hasn't done since before COVID began.

Social: Ruth Hughes reported that there have been no social events in the parish in the past 18 months. She recently has been in contact with Jack Smith to coordinate food for the September 11 retreat, which will feature boxed brunch food along with coffee, tea and water. Arrangements for Oct. 3rd are not complete. Our committee suggested parishioners bring their own picnics as food trucks and caterers are not available.

Funeral Lunches: Ruth Hughes reported that no funeral lunches have been held in Sheehan Hall in the past 18 months and we do not know when we will be able to return to serving funeral lunches.

Welcome: Mary Maeder and Cherie Trapp have been streamlining the welcome process to include an introductory phone call, drop off of an informational packet at an arranged time with as much conversation as all are comfortable with, and taking a picture of the family. In the past 2 years St. Francis has welcomed 88 new families, however, the traditional welcome breakfasts have not occurred due to COVID guidelines. Mary and Cherie continue to explore ideas for ways to welcome new parishioners on a more personal level. One idea floated at the

meeting was to pair existing parishioners and new parishioners with the goal of meeting for coffee, lunch, etc. to have a one on one, personal experience.

No date or time was set for a future meeting.

Request for consensus action by the council: None at present.

Submitted by: Mary Kopmeier, Chair.