**Saint Vincent de Paul Society**

**Saint Faustina Conference**

**Meeting**

**9-11-2021**

Call to Order

* Present: Father Eversole, Dave Scharett, Laura Morris (Zoom), Don Carlson, Michael March, Annie Mason, Amy Whittaker, John Buccigrossi, John Morris, Ann Ellis (Zoom),Kathy Schwetz, Cathy Lee, Bonnie Weber, and Greg Acors.

Opening Prayer

* Dave led the Prayer for Peace which highlights love over hate

Spiritual Reflection

1. Father Eversole focused on the balance between prayer and service. Busy-ness must not interfere with prayer as prayer is the fuel for the work God uses us to accomplish.
2. Pray for those we serve.
3. Father opened the discussion about ways we can better balance prayer and work. Prioritizing prayer, remembering the source and summit of the faith is the prayer of the Holy Mass as the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, and the community aspect of this singular form of worship. Finally, being thankful to God for our abilities, crosses, and achievements.
   * Annie Mason reflected on moments in life with high stress and the importance of expressions of support and affection, such as a hug
   * Amy mentioned that surrounding ourselves with sacramentals and tangible reminders in our living spaces can remind us constantly of the importance of keeping God in everything.
   * Greg discovered the greatest, shortest prayer is simply making the sign of the cross as well as leaning into God without any words at all.
   * John B also shared his mother taught him to always make the sign of the cross when challenged in life
   * Kathy said that technology can be harnessed to easily access inspiration throughout the day through religious podcasts, etc.
   * Laura echoed that prayer and volunteering go hand-in-hand and that many resources, such as FORMED, can fuel inspiration and encouragement.
   * Dave added that keeping a portrait of Christ in his primary space makes him feel connected to Him.

Prayers

* Dave asked for prayer for Joanie Goins son, John B’s daughter Casey, and Susan Sablon’s in-laws.

Treasurer’s Report: Don Carlson

* Current balance: 6,172.52
* Credit Card: 593.92
* Real Balance: 5,583.60
* Income:
* 2, 400.00 from St. Matthew
* 500.00 from St. Patrick
* 520.00 from Friends of St. Vincent de Paul
* 25.00 from donor
* 553.55 from Website
* 400.00 from Friends of the Poor
* Total for August: 4,398.55
* Walk for the Poor: 2,395.00 thus far with a goal of 3,500.00.
* Obligations:
* 500.00 for Great Expectations
* 200.00 for Youth Conference
* 6,821.13 paid for assorted assistance; 4,053.57 of this total from Catholic Charities

Emergency Assistance: Dave Scharett

* Support is both financial and non-financial
* John B inquired about status of mobile pantry; serving several families at a few different locations
* Father Eversole believes that needs will swell as unemployment and rent moratorium is ended
* Amy added that many of the Afghan refugees may need help
* Emergency Assistance Line
* 85 calls in August
* 47 calls handled by case-workers; 9 cases still open
* 7 families received a group total of 6,821.13 in aid
* 31 cases closed

Public Affairs: Annie Mason

* Assigned duties for Walk for the Poor on Sept 18, 2021
* VIRTUS trained members: Dave, Cathy, Amy, and Annie will be necessary for any interactions with children
* Cards and Prints will be sold for benefit of SVdP SFC in the future, not at the walk as previously planned.
* Cathy needs volunteers to station at each entrance during walk to ensure safety. The course is set, Banner made for first and subsequent walks, water and bananas will be provided at walk, bathrooms TBD, Melanie Bolas will sing to launch event, Father Eversole will do opening prayer, Dave to speak about SVdP SFC activities, pictures of the event are needed, a list of participants is in hand, Laura will help with registration, Amy will help with t-shirt distribution

President’s Report: Dave Scharett

* Cooperative efforts with Knights of Columbus: 7 major events
* Walk for Poor: Sept 18, 2021
* Audit September-October
* Coffee and Donuts: Oct. 3, 2021
* Coats to Go: Oct. 16, 2021
* Thanksgiving Dinners: Nov. 18, 2021
* Coffee and Donuts: Dec. 3.
* Santa’s Sack: Dec. 16-18.
* Slideshow to be presented at Coffee and Donut events; pictures needed
* Dave will be speaking before each Mass; Cathy Lee will help
* Don has walkie-talkies to use at events as needed
* Kathy said thrift shop has a bin of several scarves, hats, and gloves to be donated at Coats to Go event
* Three KOC councils are participating in events: Holy Trinity, Battlefield, and Bishop Keating.
* Timeline and procedures defined for Coats to Go event to include distribution of home essentials and to identify potential needy to serve in other events, such as Santa’s Sack.

Secretary’s Report: Amy Whittaker

* No Old Business
* Speaking dates updated
* Next Meeting September 25, 2021 @ 9:30 and Zoom available

Closing Prayer:

* Dave led a reflection on God’s Love