

**Saint John the Baptist –
Pastoral Outreach Commission
Monthly Meeting Minutes**

Date:	Tues., Dec. 12, 2023 6:30pm	Recorder	Socchie Fondevilla	Chair:	Marie Zimmerman
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Member/Attendee	Present	Member/Attendee	Present
Louie Fondevilla	X	Gwen Schuller-Bebus	X
Socchie Fondevilla	X	Marie Zimmerman	X
Mary Kohlhaas (Staff Liaison)	X	Carolyn Brandt	X
Joni Metz		Jeannie Koslowski	X
Cheryl Puffer	X	(PLC Guest)	

A. Opening Prayer: Socchie

B. Tonight’s Agenda was approved.

C. How will you ‘Gather to Witness’ with your family and friends this Christmas?

1. One of us is doing the Rejoice program on Saturday mornings. She has a Bible study with some couples and her husband is helping her to lead it. God is working in them. The children are coming home for Christmas.
2. She has a number of Advent books to read. On Christmas, they host one side of the family one day and the other side the other day.
3. A couple is with the Rejoice Programs on Tuesday mornings & formed their own small group on Friday evenings. They attended last Saturday’s Advent Retreat at Mary Mother of the Church Parish in Burnsville. On Monday, they joined a Christmas celebration in Bismarck, North Dakota with eight Couples for Christ (CFC) families, as part of their evangelization mission. They are expecting 200 or more visitors at the CFC Christmas Lunch Party in St. Bonaventure Church this Saturday, the 16th of December. In the evening, there’s a ‘Midnight Mass’ here in St. John’s. They are celebrating with their in-laws’ families, who do all the Chinese meals each year on Christmas.
4. One of us in POC is just finally finished with a lot of events and ready to take a deep breath for preparing things through Advent, doing some reading.

D. Pastoral Ministry Coordinator Update:

1. **Mary’s Meals**
 - a. In the post event, which was held in St. John’s too, we introduced people who, on World Mission Sunday, had indicated interest in being part of the team. it was just a nice social and did some brainstorming. So, a couple of the new people came, and Mary handed out some of those hygiene bags cards, to encourage participation.
2. **Sharing & Caring Hands’ Hygiene Bags/ Blankets Update**

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- a. Those bags have been pouring in. Mary’s been handing out cards (the list of items in a gallon Ziplock) to whatever group she has gone to. On Thursday, one of the women who is on the Mary’s Meal team from Elk River is bringing down hygiene bags that she and her Secular Franciscan friends did. The Widows, the Quilters, the Men’s Group, the Circle of Women dropped off their donations. They come from all places.
 - b. Marty is keeping track of the donations received. With the last batch that came, there are 47 hygiene bags and 17 or 18 blankets.
3. **Young at Heart Advent Party**
- a. Date: Saturday, December 9; Time: 11:00am-2:00pm; Venue: St. Joseph’s Hall; potluck
 - b. There were 35 people who attended; last year it was 70. Are changes in what we are doing now needed? Does it have to be formal? Should there be dancing instead?
 - c. Most of the seniors she spoke to preferred to keep it casual.
 - d. The response of the party- they all had an enjoyable time. One of those who attended called someone who felt bad for missing the fun for medical reason.
4. **Rochester Medical Supplies**
- a. Joni called to say that her husband, Paul, is ready to drive down and drop off the medical supplies to Rochester Medical Mission, next week on the 20th of December. The medical supplies shelves are almost full, so it was good timing that they are ready.

E. Old Business:

- 1. **Vetted Missions Proposal** – we’re adding it to the goals.
- 2. **2023 – 2024 Bulletin Shorts**

MONTH	MINISTRY	COMMENTS
January	Faithfully Fit	Jean
February	Sharing & Caring Hands	Cheryl
March	Growing Through Loss	Gwen

- 3. **Sharing & Caring Hands-** For the Bulletin, it has been suggested to comment on the hygiene bags and blankets donation campaign; to put a ‘thank you for your generosity’. Keep them coming because they are still in use. Marty might have something to say.
- 4. **Quilters**
 - Wally, the social worker from the Villa, picked up four quilts for tying the knots and brought back 4 that had been tied. These volunteers used to be quilters too, so he requested the Quilters to go over to the Villa on the 4th Tuesday of January to show them what they do here in St. John’s. This be a good memory for those Villa residents.
- 5. **Goals Worksheet:** Reviewed & Updated POC’s Current Year and Last Year’s
 - **Last Year’s (2022-2023)**

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Goal	Goal Description	Expected Start Date	Expected Completion Date
Vetting Process	Review documents for vetted missions, make changes, send to PLC	Apr-2023	
Nursing Moms Room	Temporary private area for nursing mothers in Church		summer 2023
Adult Changing table	Adult changing table in bathroom by the Library		summer 2023
Ministry Collections	Blankets & hygiene bags for Sharing & Caring Hands	ongoing, Nov 2022	
Ministry Promotion	Support ministries thru Bulletin notes	ongoing	
Medical Supplies	Take donated medical supplies to Rochester, MN	ongoing	
Compassion Clinic 2023	Ecumenical Free Clinic	4/22/2023	4/22/2023
World Mission Sunday	Promote SJB Missions: Liberia & Mary's Meals	Oct. 2022	Oct. 2022
Hospitality	Host hospitality January 21/22/2023	Jan-23	Jan-23
All Saints Party	Have a booth at All Saints Party	Oct-22	Oct-22
Create on-boarding document	POC on-boarding document created & submitted to the PLC	Dec-22	Sep-23

▪ **This Year's (2023-2024)**

Goal	Goal Description	Expected Start Date	Expected Completion Date
Vetting Process	Review documents for vetted missions, make changes, send to PLC	Jan-24	
Ministry Marketing	Promote ministries thru Bulletin notes	ongoing	
Collect for ministries	Blankets & hygiene bags for Sharing & Caring Hands	ongoing	
Medical Supplies	Collect & take donated medical supplies to Rochester, MN	ongoing	

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Hospitality	Host hospitality January 13/14/2024	1/13/2024	1/14/2024
All Saints Party	Have a booth at All Saints Party	10/25/2023	10/25/2023
Liaison to Ministries	Advocating & Keeping Ministry Statistics	9/1/2023	
World Mission Sunday	Promote SJB Missions: Liberia & Mary's Meals	10/21/2023	10/22/2023
Compassion Clinic 2024	Ecumenical Free Clinic	TBD	

[PLC Goals Workbook 2023-2024](#)

F. New Business:

1. Hospitality

- **Action Item:** Serve after each week-end Masses

Mass Time	January 13	January 14
5:30 PM	Cheryl & Jean	
8:30 AM		Joni & Mary
10:30 AM		Louie & Socchie, Mary

Details:

- Those who are out of town on this weekend: Marie, Gwen & Carolyn
- There will be two Confirmation kids on Sunday.
- Melissa will not be around too, so we're on our own. She's OK with us choosing another date, knowing our predicament.
- Cheese and crackers are served on Saturday night. They're just put on the trays.
- Mary, Jean and Joni will come on Sunday morning.
- The Sunday, at 8:30 AM volunteer will have to pick up the donuts from the White Bear Townships Cub Foods Bakery down 96 at Centerville. Last time it was Carolyn. Marie will email Joni to do it this time.
- Mary will make the coffee.
- It worked well with last time when the previous team cleaned up for the next one.

2. Table Tents for Hospitality

- a. The other Commissions doing the Hospitality are also doing their promotions & advertising.
- b. Since in POC we have a lot of Ministries, who do we highlight? which ones do we not.
- c. Can we envision anything for a table tent?
 - i. What about images? Displays of Quilts or pictures of events
 - ii. A listing with a short description for people to know what's available for them or opportunities for them to volunteer for. We can print it on a tablecloth.

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- d. Our forthcoming Hospitality is remarkably close so, we don't have a lot of time to prepare a table tent. We all agreed to pick a time to do this.

3. Fall Fest Booth

- For further discussions in January or February

G. Three items for PLC

1. Great success with the Sharing & Caring Hands hygiene bags and blankets
2. We're working on our 2024 Goals.
3. Someone will drop off the medical supplies to Rochester Mission

Closing prayer: Marie

Next Meeting: January 16

2024 Commission Meeting dates: February 20*Mass*, March 19, April 23, May 21, June 11

Minutes recorded by:
Socchie Fondevilla

Minutes approved by:
Marie Zimmerman- POC Chair