**Human Concerns Commission**

**February 9, 2021**

**Present:** Erv Lesczynski, Jim Stewart, Mary Ketterhagen, Doris Grajkowski, Rick Voell, Dan Zeleske, Erin Cobb & Mary Denzin

**Excused:** Fr Fabian, Joyce Gau, Barb Braun

**Old and Continuing Business:**

* Little Food Pantry- working on completing the Little Food Pantry that will be outside SM.
* Farm Visits on hold due to COVID

**Updates and New Issues:**

* Day Warming Shelter
	+ Warming Shelter closes on March 31st. The Outreach Center will stay open at least another week, dependent on the weather.
	+ Looking at programming to do during the spring & summer to utilize the Center and help the community. Literacy, educational programs, life skills, crafts/skills are some ideas.
	+ Group will visit Fr Carr’s Place in Oshkosh to see what types of programs they offer.
	+ POST MEETING UPDATE – Erin & Mary met with Doris and Juana from FDL Adult Literacy. We will be partnering to offer them space for tutors and students to meet. Also, work on starting additional programs or individual tutor/student relationships.
* Blessed Bites
	+ About 50 meals served each Monday. Food should now be dropped off before noon on Monday at St. Mary’s Outreach Center.
* Home Bound/Care Facilities
	+ Fr Edward brought on 3-4 new volunteers for this ministry
	+ Nursing Home & Prison Ministry – will resume as soon as allowed in,
	+ Valentine’s Day - Christian Formation and others have made cards for nursing home residents
		- Purchasing carnations was too cost prohibitive. Will have a few high school students deliver cards on Monday, Feb 15
* Soup du Jour
	+ Sat., March 13th following the 4pm masses at HF & SH and take out 2-5:00pm at HF
	+ Letters went out to restaurants asking for 3-gallon donations. Have 5 responses so far.
		- Will need volunteers to package soup on Friday and others to serve on Sat at HF. SH is already staffed with volunteers for Sat.
		- Need boxes to hold containers when purchasing more than one
* Love Begins Here
	+ Archdiocesan program for students to have a service mission locally.
		- July 18-23. Will host students here to do 4 days of service projects.
		- Erin asked for ideas of volunteer/service ideas
* Lenten Retreat
	+ “Christ and Chaos: Catholic Spirituality in a VUCA World” with Fr Edward
		- Tues, March 2, 9:00-11:30am
	+ About 20 registered as of today

**Next meeting Tuesday, March 16 @ 4:00pm**