



January 26, 2024

Rescheduled

**Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them, humanity cannot survive. *Dalai Lama***

**Spiritual Advisor:** Debbie Weingroff/ prayer service approximately 1:30 PM

**Community Comfort and Fellowship** coordinator: Marie Alfano

- flyer attached
- 61 guests for the December dinner; next DDF dinner is on January 25th
- We just applied for a grant (\$5,000.00) through Friends of the Poor. We will know the results in March of our request.

**Food pantry co-coordinators:** John Connelly and Mary Schwarz

- New van awarded to our conference from Fulfill based on the volume of need for deliveries and pick up at local stores and restaurants.
- total # of adults and children for the calendar year of 2023 -**7,607**
- pantry has implemented new procedures to distribute food to guests
- Request for additional position for each shift 😊

**Fundraising:** Barbara Neary

- Projects and suggestions/additional proposals
- Magic Show in October

**Furniture/Vincent's Legacy coordinators:** Pat and Paul Capelli

- Approximate number of families served is 2 per month

**Garden:** Meg Otchy

- church composted all the poinsettias from Christmas for the garden
- update to begin our garden in 2024

**Helping Hands:** Christine Cotgreave (report of the month of **December 2023**)

- 207 families; 1,488 items with an in-kind value of \$14,874.68 (this includes donations to Minister Steve and our toy event)

**Intake/ Home Visitors:** Michelle Jones and Joe Damato

- number of home visits completed during 2023/ mostly requests for rent
- planning a meeting in February with volunteers of Intake

**Registration coordinator:** Linda Panaccione

- each member needs to complete her/his 2024 registration form/**plus update all info.**

**Sunshine Fund:** Karen Rott

- overview of our Sunshine Fund /collection of donations
- collection of donations

**Technology coordinator:** Kathy Minton (on vacation – Jill Bradley, our secretary, presenting for Kathy)

- website/ noted on the attachment/ on -line SVdP clothing store

**Data coordinator/time sheets:** Mary Serughetti

- total volunteer hours for 2023 was 7,656 and mileage was 23,982 miles
- please continue to fill out time sheets (even if being handed in late-it's okay)

**Toy Event:** Susan DeMillio

- Toy event in-kind value \$9,218.68 /total of 467 toys donated
- Overview and committee for next year

**Treasurer:** Sharon Bianchi

- Overview of the amount of donations in our treasury (currently)

**\*One of our previous guests** is “paying it forward.” He is fixing needed repairs for our current guests’ homes (SVdP supplies the materials)

**Ozanam Orientation:** Saturday, February 3rd from 8:30 AM-3:00PM @ St. Martha’s parish: 3800 Herbertsville Road, Point Pleasant, NJ 08742

**Retreat:** Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>@The Church of Mother of Mercy in Asbury Park – details to follow.

To register for one, or both of these events, please email Patty Brand at [svdpbrand@gmail.com](mailto:svdpbrand@gmail.com) or call 609-346-1058

Please provide your name, address, phone #, conference name (St. Luke Church of Toms River) and district name (Ocean County)

**Raffle:** good luck to all

**End meeting with a prayer:** add special intention of praying for the doners to SVdP,

The families of our deceased members, for the good health for all our current members, and at this time, our member, Marie Alfano's brother: John Sublett

**Suggestion box:** if you have any ideas, suggestions, or concerns please place a note in box; each one will be addressed by the Board.

Ending with a very positive note: one of our guests, two weeks ago, said to me: "I really like coming to this food pantry- everyone is so nice to me."

It is very rewarding to be a member of SVdP at St. Luke's: from the time an Intake call is answered and recorded, to the time a guest is helped, she/he always feel treated with dignity and respect.

Take good care every day!

GEMMA