

Mary & Martha (M & M's) Meeting Minutes (Nov. 17, 2022)

Attendance: June Cierzan, Tammy Norgard, Joleen Pierce, Teresa Peterson, Geri Sausen, Marge Scheele, Shawn Yerges, Liz Yerks

Opening Prayer: Marge led us in prayer

Approval of Minutes: Addition to the minutes. The amount of \$100 paid to have the quilting done for the raffle was omitted from the minutes. Minutes approved as corrected.

Treasurer Report: Balance as of Oct. 31, 2022 is \$2277.29. There are no outstanding checks.

Groceries to Go: Robert Olson from Lakes and Pines Community Action Council spoke to us about Groceries to Go. In North Branch it partners with County Market and assists senior citizens by ordering their groceries online through Instacart, picking them up and delivering them. Please see the attached sheet for more detail. Volunteers are needed who would help seniors from our parish with their shopping in this way. Individuals who want to help can respond to this email or contact any member of the M&M group before our December meeting.

Craft & Bake Sale:

- So far we have received \$345 in sales. Sales will continue and the quilt will be displayed after Mass the next two weekends.
- Tammy will order the rolls through County Market, pick them up and deliver them.
- Geri is donating the apple juice
- Joleen will request the tables and shelves be set up
- Joleen will purchase candy canes and ask Tammy to put the sale on the Church sign
- A pulpit announcement will be made. We are requesting to do this the week prior to the sale and the weekend of the sale.
- Tom Sundly is unavailable to be our Santa. Some names were suggested about who could fulfill that role and we will follow up on those.
- The quilt raffle will take place at 12 noon on Sunday.
- Set up for the Craft/Bake Sale will be after Mass on Friday Dec. 2 (9:30 am). The sale will be from 9:00-am-2:00 on Saturday, Dec. 3 and before and after Masses on Dec. 4. We will be doing coffee Sunday on Dec. 4. Help is needed for set up and for both days of sales, but especially for coffee Sunday. Please let us know what time you can help.

Next Meeting: Thursday, Dec.15 @ 6:30pm.

Opening prayer next meeting: Joleen

Closing Prayer: We closed with a Hail Mary

Creating Community in an Independent World.

Goal is to partner with faith based, community based, organizations to create a network of volunteers that will assist participants receive nutritional requirements in a time of need.

Making the connection. There are a number of nutrition based programs and organizations out there to assist seniors with obtaining food, however, the distribution network is lacking or comes at a cost that prohibits some from obtaining the food they need to stay in their homes. Many organizations rely on volunteers to fulfill this need and are struggling to fulfill positions in their community with delivery requirements.

Meeting this need starts by identifying participants and then offering them access to programs that will work in their situation. The question is how can neighbors look out for neighbors in the communities that they live in?

How One Model is making the connection. The G2G (Groceries to Go) model works with neighborhood grocery stores that have online ordering and curb side pick up capabilities. Volunteers assist with ordering and delivery of groceries to the participants of the program. This model also seeks to work with other nutrition based organizations that are seeking a way to deliver goods efficiently to a broader geographical range within each community.

Why should we consider this idea? The need is real, participants that do not have, or understand how to use, online ordering is a reality with our community. This service is combined with delivery, helps to keep costs to a minimum and seeks to create a community that cares for its aging population and/or others in need.

Who will help? Outreach and Volunteers are the necessary components to creating a sense of a community that cares. Matching outreach goals with the volunteers to fulfill the goals is necessary to meet this particular need in our communities.

What is needed? Organizations who can commit the following resources to make the model operate effectively. Volunteers that have computer/Ordering skills and volunteers that are willing to deliver the goods to the participants.

Reasonable time commitment is ½ hr per participant for ordering and ½ hour per participant for delivery. This varies but is a good estimate of time required to successfully complete the process.

It has also been determined that smaller groups of participants per volunteer is the most accepted, 5-1 ratio is working well. This generally equates to approx 2.5 hours per week per group. Also it is important that back up volunteers for each position be created and utilized so that the commitment of time and resources can be flexible to the volunteers needs.