

St. Michael's Parish
Community Life Committee
Report to Parish Council March 12, 2015

The Community Life Committee members are: Gerry Ignatz, Helen Whaley and Cindy Kiel, with Pat Hotchkiss, Ted Kolankowski and Tim Meyer as the Parish Council liaisons for this committee.

Program Updates:

Respect Life – Ted K. told about the March in Washington in January. It was very moving and it was great to see lots of young people participating.

Habitat for Humanity – Gerry reported that contractors have been working individually in their own special trades on the renovation of the house at 8 Cottage Court in Warsaw. They are trying to get a furnace installed. Gerry finds people to make lunch for the workers when he receives a request from Allan Roth.

Welcoming Card Ministry – Helen Whaley continues to send cards to shut-ins, those experiencing health issues and to families who have lost a loved one. She sends Welcome cards to new parishioners (an average of 10-12 new people each year) as well as sending cards to St. Michael's parishioners who receive their First Eucharist, First Communion and Confirmation.

Snackpaks for Kids – Betty Finch, Clarabelle Eccleston and Maureen Felix represent St. Michael's Parish in packing backpacks, on a rotating schedule, which is usually done Thursday mornings at Trinity Episcopal Church. There haven't been many donations lately so a bulletin announcement will appear soon reminding people of this project and what items are requested. The collection box is in the foyer on the left as you enter the church.

Warsaw Food Pantry – The Warsaw Food Pantry, housed at The United Church of Warsaw, is very grateful for the continued support by St. Michael's parishioners. A couple parishioners bring our donations to the Food Pantry. If the Food Pantry is in need of specific items, they will let us know.

Missions – Currently, the Mission Money collected in the Mission baskets has been sent to Sr. Kathy in South Africa. Phil Walker reports that since bulletin announcements appeared about the Mission Baskets, donations have increased.

Euchre Night – A parishioner has been approached to see if they would take charge of getting this started again. They will let us know after Easter.

Prayer Shawl Ministry – This continues to go smoothly, according to Tim Neel. There is an inventory of shawls so if anyone knows anyone who would like to receive one, please contact Tim.

Clothes Closet – Mel Brunner has a list of Clothes Closet volunteers for the year. Donations continue to come in on a regular basis. The shed in the back parking lot has worked out very well.

Martha and Mary Ministry – Laurie Barone and JoAnn Flynt are co-coordinators.

Free Meal – Cyndy and Joe Rebisz and their teams report things are going well. New volunteers are Ted and Mary Kolankowski and Ed Schichtel.

Knights of Columbus – Ted reports the February 15, 2015 breakfast they were hosting at St. Michael's has been postponed. It was suggested perhaps the breakfast could be held at a time when religious education classes were going on, which could generate more people coming, or be held during the summer months.

Angel Action Giving Tree – Helen reports St. Michael's parishioners were very generous with their donations. This year, instead of adopting two families, we offered people ideas of what to donate and the response was wonderful! Two car-loads of donations were brought to Cornerstone in Perry, for which they were very grateful!

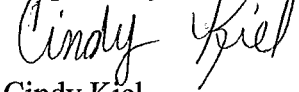
Shadow Stations – These were held on Friday, February 20, 2015 and were wonderful. They were portrayed in a very meaningful way. Three young people from St. Michael's participated. Community Life served pizza and beverages to the group before their performance.

Proposed Upcoming Activities:

- 1) St. Michael's Parish Picnic – This will be Sunday, June 14. We request that the Senior Recognition Mass be held the same day. A Parish Picnic 'Save the Date' bulletin announcement will appear soon and frequently during April and May.
- 2) Summer Juice and Donuts under the Tent (July and August) - Joyce Ignatz has offered to be in charge again this year.

The Community Life Committee is open to any and all ideas and we welcome new members. We are very willing to collaborate with other parish committees. If Parish Council has something specific they would like addressed, please let us know. Our committee plans to meet again in May, but if something warrants meeting sooner, we will.

Respectfully submitted,



Cindy Kiel

Community Life Committee Chairperson