Mission minutes from Dec. 6th, 2021

Pastor Leigh opened the meeting with prayer.  She then went on to report on the BIG meeting she had attended earlier.  As of the meeting the homeless will continue to be housed in motels until March 31st, 2022.  The Good Samaritan Haven is full as well as the overflow shelter in Montpelier.  The number of homeless living outside is about 6 in Barre and 20 in Berlin. Many of these choose to live this way.  The Food shelf is providing about 400 lbs of food per day.  Around 300 meals were given out for Thanksgiving.  Christmas take-out meals will be provided by Enough ministries.  Bev will inquire if we need to provide breakfast on Christmas day.  They are still looking to hire someone to supervise the warming center at the Aldrich library from 8-11am.  The city is going to cover the cost of this service.

Bev reported that Monday Haven meals are covered for the next 6 mos.  The 20 Saturday morning take-out breakfasts are continuing to be provided by a loyal group of volunteers.

Mary Ann Johnson was not present to give a report as our parish nurse.  Pastor Leigh relayed that Mary Ann has been providing COVID updates in the weekly E-window.

Laundry Love was not quite as busy in November as it was in October.  Darlene Clark reported that around $160 was spent for Laundry Love in November.

Lauren Chase reported that it looks like we will have raised a little over $6000 from The Gobble Wobble Turkey Trot, even after expenses have been paid. We had 179 people register online before the trot and 23 on the day of the trot.  She will be sending thank you letters to all the businesses that were sponsors for this event.

Samn Stockwell held an introductory meeting with the 4 parishioners that have volunteered to be mentors for the new Mentoring program.  The applications for the students will be going out for the next semester.  Once they have been chosen they will be introduced to their mentors.

Kelly Funk reported that the Angel Tree Project provided gift bags, quarters for laundry use, Visa gift cards and grocery gift cards for 31 families.  About $9000 was spent and she still needs to raise over $2600 dollars.  Darlene suggested that our money from our Missions budget could be used to cover this since we had such a successful Gobble Wobble.  A vote was taken and it was unanimous in favor of doing this.

We decided to skip the January 2022 meeting and will meet again on February 7th, 2022.  By this time Finance will have a budget in place and we will have a better idea of what we will have available for funds and can then decide where those monies will be most needed.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Clark