

Charities Committee Report 2022

November 20, 2022

Officially, our new Charities committee kicked off in October with the first meeting on October 9, 2022.

We have re-purposed the bulletin board at the bottom of the stairs in the church hall to show charitable activities (local and Orthodox Charities) that the parish is taking part in.

We will have charity committee meetings every other month to discuss upcoming projects, and a yearly planning meeting will take place in September each year to outline what our upcoming year might include. Anyone who is interested in being a part of the committee is welcome to attend.

Events since October have been the coats drive for Transition Projects in Portland. We collected 9 large garbage bags full of new and used coats, socks, hats, gloves, and other miscellaneous clothing. Items were delivered to Transition Projects in Portland. For 53 years Transition Projects has been providing shelter, housing, and supportive services for very low-income people. They work with veterans, women, people with disabilities and other highly vulnerable groups. We are working with them to determine the possibility of being involved with feeding the Homeless, more to come on this.

December 4th we will be kicking off an ongoing food drive, if you have unexpired food that you have not used in your cupboards or if you wish to donate newly purchased non-perishable food items...there are shelves set up

upstairs next to the bookshelves to put food items on. Food will be delivered to sites recommended by Oregon Food Bank. The items most needed are Peanut Butter, Canned soup, Canned fruit, Canned vegetables, Canned Stew, Canned fish, Canned beans, Pasta, Rice. We need volunteers to help deliver on an ongoing basis.

Project Angel Tree – led by the Bacon family. The parish has been involved in this activity for (# of years). The gifts support..... (Getting info from Annette before meeting). Gifts should be returned to Saint Nicholas by Sunday December 11. Gifts will be delivered the week before Christmas.

An announcement about Project Mexico and their program to build small homes for Mexican families in need was made on Sunday October 30, after Liturgy. Information is posted on bulletin board. We had a few people who were interested in finding out more about the home building project. Project Mexico and Saint Innocent Orphanage have several programs in place to support their efforts. Some we may want to take part in.

We will be discussing ideas to support Alaska and posting them on the bulletin board, announcing in church and including in the church bulletin.

As a Parish although not officially as part of the new Charities committee events we raised and donated \$3682.00 to Orthodox Africa for the Saint Peters Orthodox Mission to finish their water project. \$1000.00 of the total donations were made at the Junk in the Trunk Sale on August 27th. The remainder was through monetary donations made by the parish.

Our next meeting will be on December 18th, 2022, after coffee hour. Please come and join!

Cheryl Wilson