

Notes from [Our Lady of Fatima Social Ministry](#) Projects Meeting
which took place on September 14, 2011 at 7 PM in the Gathering Space at St. Catherine's

Those present were: Bill Duetsch, Tillie Clark, Virginia Gerken, Sue Linebeck, Sue Buffington, Connie Wieneke and Mary Lou Mulligan.

Mary Lou Mulligan opened the meeting with our parish stewardship prayer. She reported that beginning at our next meeting in November that we begin a study guide from the National Rural Life Conference titled Food and Justice. Fall Fest will be on October 2 at St. Mary's and October 9 at St. Catherine's. Sign up sheets are available for all who can help at each parish. Bill Duetsch said that most of the slots were filled in Ellsworth.

We had a short discussion about Fair Trade. We looked over the new cart that contains our Fair Trade items so that everyone will know how it is arranged. Then we talked about the volunteer list. Several people signed up to staff the cart for sales on the first and third weekend. We had a very good response for the fall months.

Sue Linebeck attended the Hunger Free Rock County meeting in August. The meeting was not well attended but they discussed many pressing issues. There are going to be a couple of items added to the resource guide, which the Chamber is printing. One of the items is Catholic Charities.

One of the new ideas is Shoes for Kids and Sue Linebeck is heading it up. They will furnish shoes for kids who have none. There are collection boxes at Pamida and at Atlas. They also have vouchers for those who need them. We will continue to have the boxes in the gathering Space for the shoe collected to be sent over seas from Sheldon, IA.

Sue also mentioned that Second Harvest of Minnesota will be stopping in Luverne twice a month beginning in February. SHARE will collect donations on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 and distribution will be on Dec. 2. Cropwalk will take place on September 25 at the Courthouse Plaza with sign in at 130 PM. The packets should be in the Gathering Space this weekend. All are invited to attend and to enjoy root beer floats afterward.

LCCW is sponsoring the Anointing Mass on October 20. Mass is at 1030 AM with a free lunch to follow. The LCCW will pay for Heartland bus trips for those who need them. LCCW will also continue to support the bingo games on Saturday beginning in October.

Another point that was discussed was that we should have representatives from all parts of our parish attending our meetings because social projects are the business of our whole parish so we should have more input from more people.

Everyone received a copy of the Bread For the World suggestions for writing to Congressmen regarding better use of our foreign assistance dollars to serve the hungry people in the world. We will be having our annual Offering of Letters on October 23.

Mary Lou reported that Habitat for Humanity now has received some applications from folks interested in becoming partners in home ownership on the Wiegel lot here in Luverne.

We discussed once again the Social Network Alerts. These are reports sent our by

NETWORK, MN Catholic Conference, Catholic Relief Services and several other lobbying groups. They contain alerts about many items of a political nature, which these groups suggest that Catholics and any other interested persons contact their elected officials. Mary Lou will forward them by email to each person in our group who has given her an address. She will also make copies and include them in the Social Network Alerts folder, which will be displayed at SM's and SC's. Anyone may take these and use them.

Bill Deutsch thanked everyone for cards and prayers received during his recent illness. He is feeling very good now.

Our **next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 2 at 6:00 PM**. Mary Lou led the closing prayer and we had a nice fellowship time following our meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Lou Mulligan, Coordinator