

Social Concerns Committee Summary

June 2023

Social Concerns serves as the umbrella committee for many outreach ministries of St. Paul Lutheran Church. Social Concerns activities provide both volunteer and financial support to a variety of community organizations addressing needs such as poverty, hunger, homelessness, abuse, and education.

The following have agreed to serve as Committee members for this year: Renee Staggs, Chair, Patrick Pratt, Bill and Darlene Blosser, Jane Berninger, and Jay Creamer. Rostered Liaison is Pastor Jeff.

Goals for 2023:

- continue to support St. Paul's members in outreach activities which utilize member's talents and meet community needs in order to effectively be God's Hands in our community. Outreach activities provide opportunities to serve others, and build relationships with God, with other believers, and with our neighbors.
- Increase members awareness of and participation in social concerns outreach activities.
- Develop a master calendar of Social Concerns activities.
- Continue financial support for outreach ministries.
- Periodically review outreach activities to ensure they fit community needs and St. Paul member's talents in order to effectively be God's Hands in our community.

Social concerns activities provide both volunteer and financial support to a variety of community organizations addressing needs such as poverty, hunger, homelessness, abuse, and education.

We are currently supporting the following with monetary donations from the Social Concerns 1% Fund:

Area Churches Together Serving (ACTS), Trinity on Laurens, Medication Assistance Program, Cumbee Center, Helping Hands, Children's Place, Camp Gravatt, Child Advocacy Center, Christ Central, Kairos Prison Ministries, Lutheridge, United Way-School Tools, Family Promise, Angel Tree, Crisis Pregnancy Center.

Volunteer support is provided in a variety of ways to include:

1. Community events such as Walk to End Alzheimer's, Buddy Walk for Down Syndrome, and Out of Darkness Suicide Prevention, Family Promise walk (homelessness), and Cancer awareness/prevention walks.
2. Quilting/Sewing ministry makes quilts for Lutheran Relief Services and other requests that may be made.
3. Prayer shawl ministry makes prayer shawls to welcome new members and to express support/concern for those who are ill.
4. Adopt-a-Highway clean-up volunteers (quarterly).
5. Maintaining, stocking, and promoting the STP Little Free Library.
6. Volunteering at ACTS.
7. Family Promise activities (Providing meals/childcare for "Good Tenancy Participants, Upcoming Community Sale, and sheltering activities)
8. STP Blood drives.

Prepared by Renee Staggs, Committee Chair