

TRANSFIGURATION WOMEN

MEETING 07/09/19

09 JULY 2019 / 10:00 AM / PARISH HALL

ATTENDEES

16 ladies (plus a number of children) attended the meeting

AGENDA

Ces Erdman from the Cape Fear Parrot Sanctuary presented along with “Charlie”, the Picasso of Parrots. The Sanctuary was opened in Beulaville on 6+ acres in 2013 and currently cares for 298 parrots. It costs \$85,000 annually to operate. The sanctuary is funded through private donations. Charlie’s paintings sell for \$15 each and help fund the sanctuary. Ces accepted our “bird food” donations in lieu of a speakers fee. You can schedule a private tour of the sanctuary (\$10/person) by contacting Ces at cesnc1978@hotmail.com or 910-471-2186. This is a great experience for children and grandchildren of all ages.

Thank you to Sharon Sivori and Mary Della Rossa for the refreshments.

Looking forward:

- It was suggested that the group do a painting activity at the next meeting in August. Karen Lutze will contact Maureen McKenna to potentially lead this activity.

Old Business

- Sharon Sivori gave an update on the Welcome Home Shower that will be held on Sept 8th at 10 AM in the Parish Hall. Per info from the Knights, 18 families in our parish were displaced by Hurricane Florence. Right now it is anticipated that 30-40 people may attend the event. Cheryl Partyka and Sharon Sivori are coordinating the event. Sharon requested chairs for the following activities:
 - Invitations (Patsy Harran) -- Invitations to be created and go out by August 1st with an RSVP deadline of August 16th.

- Gift Donor Coordinator (Patsy Harran) -- Will coordinate women of the parish who will be providing the gifts (i.e. \$25 gift card plus other small welcome home items for a gift bag).
- Decoration Committee (Karen Lutze and Julie Couch). Julie will be donating the paper products for the event.
- Games - Patsy Harran will create a Word Search game. Karen Lutze will create another game.
- Jeanne Jazowski will help with food.

New Business

Food Pantry Donations. Karen Lutze noted that the Knights receive 2-3 times more food donations for the food pantry when grocery bags are distributed. A summer project for kids/grandkids could be to decorate the bags.

Onslow Pregnancy Resource Center. Cheryl Homan (along with Karen Lutze and Patsy Harran) gave an update on the visit to the Onslow Pregnancy Resource Center. The center, located in Jacksonville, provides free and confidential services including pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, life affirming options, adoption agency referrals, abortion education, compassionate and nonjudgmental care, a baby boutique with maternity and baby items, an earn and learn program, ongoing pregnancy support, post-abortion healing, fatherhood mentoring, etc. The center is run by volunteers (there are only 3 paid staff members) and is funded through donations from fundraisers and churches. They saved 37 babies from abortion in 2018 and had saved 21 babies from abortion already in 2019 at the time of our visit.

The visit was discussed at the Transfiguration Parish Council meeting where it was decided that a Task Force would be formed to make recommendations regarding how Transfiguration can have a pro-life impact in Duplin County. The task force decided that our first impact should be to refer women needing assistance to the OPRC in Jacksonville. Signs with the message, "Pregnant?, Need Help?, OPRC phone number, OPRC website" are currently being created. Next step is to find ways to assist women in Duplin County that may need transportation to OPRC.

Stacey Holland, Executive Director of OPRC will be invited to speak at our meeting in October.

Pro-Life Prayer Chain. Diane Orłowski asked whether Transfiguration participated in any Pro-Life prayer chain. Trish Dean noted that there is a Pro-Life Prayer Chain event in Wilmington every October. She will bring information on this event to the next meeting so that we can organize to participate.

NEXT MEETING

August 13th, 10 AM, Parish Hall

Program: Painting (more details to follow)

Refreshments: Diane Orłowski & Cheryl Homan