02/27/18 SVLM BOARD MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Judy Reynolds, Rebekah Schennum,, Peggy Baseler, Anna Barb, Beverly Polk, and Pastor Mary Louise Brown .

Pastor Mary Louise Brown opened the meeting with prayer.

SECRETARY’S REPORT: Minutes were accepted with the correction of Sherry Ritenour and Lacy as guests. Minutes approved with corrections..

TREASURER’S REPORT: Report for January was distributed, discussed , and approved as distributed.

LUKE’S BACKPACK: A total of 233 bags were packed; 75 for the Southern Campus, 105 for Central Campus, and 53 for the Northern Campus. All packing stations are proceeding well.

FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE: Report was emailed to Board members, discussed and explained. Shenandoah County Health Ministry meeting Thursday, March 1. The condition of having a sustainability plan is due by July as s condition of receiving the second half of the grant. The first half of the grant ($10,000) has been received. Pastor Mary Louise voiced concern that since this mail was addressed to her and dated January 10th why she is only now made aware of this letter. The midyear report in July will address the concerns in the award letter (sustainability). They will call to schedule a meeitng in the Spring. HCN Jeanie Coffman has had an ankle replacement and will be in rehab.

Good Shepherd Program. Work with the coordinators at all packing stations with Reformation yet to meet. Schedule will be given to Pastors for possible fund raisers, and raising awareness of this program. Continuing with the idea of “Pack the Pews” on Good Shepherd Sunday or on the fifth Sunday of April. Bulletin inserts for distribution, posters, and items list will be given to Churches. Spreadsheet of inventory has been made. Information for expansion has been received from coordinators and HCN. February article in the Mountain Courier was discussed.

SMALL HANDS: The space at the church is now secured. Things are moving along well. We are actually now working with community partners (Family Promise, Healthy Families). Transportation is an issue. We are working with our community partners for distribution to individuals through their organization, when they are unable to come for their package .In the past they were recipients of a foundation grant out of Richmond. They are sending clothing. Not all contact information had been forth-coming on different grants. We were approved for a $20,000 grant, after Rebekah applied. Information on forth-coming grant applications. We are getting a lot more exposure.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT: Rebekah applied to National Diaper Bank to sustain a different initive. She attended Strength in Community Workshop which was held in Edinburg, exploring more networking opportunities. She is working with Family Promise and other local non-profits. Through this grant to do a Poverty Simulation was written with the help other community partners to show how families face hurtles. Gravel Springs Lutheran Church brought items for A Small Hands. Rebekah was wondering about reaching out to Gravel Springs with information about our programs. The new logo for A Small Hand was introduced. SVLM members were invited to Central Valley Women of the ELCA Spring Gathering to be held at Emanuel Lutheran April 15th . Rebekah will be the guest speaker to tell about SVLM and their programs. There will be Grandparents as Parents meeting March 5th at Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Woodstock.

We discussed about items to think out to raise awareness of SVLM. Perhaps come up with a 5 year plan. Nine congregations are presently members, St. Luke, Mt. Zion Fariview, St. Paul-Jerome, St. Mathews, St. Paul’s-Strasburg, St. Peters, Emanuel, Prince of Pease, and . Talk up our organization. Our new business challenge is to encourage church members to be liasons. Come up with a financial plan for the organization not just for their programs.

Next meeting will be March 20th  at Prince of Peace . April 24th at Zion Lutheran with invitation extended to Luke’s Backpack Packers.

Meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer

Respectfully submitted, Anna A. Barb, Secretary