

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Women of North America (AOCWNA)

Ss. Peter & Paul, Ben Lomond, CA

MINUTES FOR MEETING ON: Sunday, November 5, 2017

Time: 11:20am / Location: Sunday School Classroom / 14 Members Present

Treasurer's report: \$ 638.64 ending balance as of 10/31/17

Opening Prayer and Spiritual Enrichment

1. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes from 9/6/17: Approved
- Meeting minutes are emailed out to the Women's Group
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2. Treasurer's Report

- We are currently in good standing and dues are paid for 2018.
- Our current balance is \$638.64
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3. Book Study

- Will be held after prayers on Tuesday mornings (around 9:30am), except the 3rd Tuesday of the month when there is the Bakery Meet Up!
- The book is "Becoming a Healing Presence," by Dr. Albert Rossi, PhD. You can find it on Amazon.
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4. Fall Gathering Report

- Sarah reported on the Women's Group meeting for our region, Diocese of LA and the West.
- The Antiochian Women 2018 Project is "Strengthening the Ministries of our Church— VOCATIONS"
 - <http://antiochian.org/antiochian-women-2018-project-strengthening-ministries-our-church-vocations>
- There is a new Antiochian Women's Blog, with weekly Sunday updates. The purpose of this blog is to reach out to the women in our diocese, and to encourage each other to read Orthodox articles written by clergy and laity from Orthodox perspective.
- There is a ministry called "Sunshine Ministry" devoted to prayer. Please go to <https://www.ssppaoc.org/womensgroup.html> to read more about all the ministries mentioned above.

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5. Upcoming Events

- Visit to see St. John Maximovich in San Francisco, Nov. 11th. Metropolitan Joseph and a group from LA are going to be there the same day. Fr. James asked if we can join their tour earlier at 9am instead of 10:30 or reschedule to a different Saturday. We decided to stay with Nov. 11 since people interested have already made plans for that day. Keidi will send out more specific info. in the next few days via email.
- Bakery Meet-Up for November will be Tues. 11/21 at 9:30am at Ben Lomond Bakery on Hwy 9 across from Casa Nostra. On December 19, we will do an Akathist to the Mother of God at church with coffee afterwards.
- St. Nicholas Night will be Sunday, December 10 at 5pm in the Fellowship Hall. Help is needed to decorate - please contact Wendy Sakoda. A sign up sheet will be put up in the Fellowship Hall for those willing to bring cookies, set up and clean up. Contact Sarah Steiger if you have questions.
- Please mark your calendars for a one day retreat to Holy Assumption Monastery in Calistoga on March 10.

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6. Fundraising

- A flyer was put in parishoner's mailboxes describing how to sign up for AmazonSmile, which will contribute \$ to our church when you purchase on Amazon. Please sign up if you are an Amazon shopper.
- eScrip and Goodsearch are two other ways to passively raise money for the women's group. Please go to our church website for a description of the program: <https://www.ssppaoc.org/fundraising.html>
- Please sign up especially as we come upon the holiday season and if you are planning major purchases (appliances, etc.)

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7. Harvest Festival Fundraiser

- The Harvest Festival and fundraiser for Cicily was a success. The luncheon raised almost \$3000.00 which was given to Cicily to support her during her daughter's medical crisis. The bake sale raised \$448.00. At our Sept. meeting we decided to raise funds for our group through the bake sale, however, because it was later decided to raise funds for Cicily through the event, there wasn't clear communication on the flyer that there were two fundraisers and some people thought their money for the bake sale was going to support Cicily. We need to decide how to direct the money brought in by the bake sale.

- After a discussion, a vote was taken to direct the bake sale money to the women's group to be used for the Antiochian Women's Project. A. Baillie made a motion. K. Newberry seconded motion. Motion approved.

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9. Future Meeting Dates

- Next business meeting will be in January, date TBA.

2017-2019 Officers

- Facilitator: Keidi Lewis
- Treasurer: Leanne Albers
- Secretary: Sarah Steiger