

*Antiochian Women of Ss. Peter and Paul*  
**MEETING MINUTES for December 15, 2019**

Attendees: 12

- **Opening Prayer, Troparia of Patron Saints**
- **A Word from Fr. Nathan**
  - “Take a minute and be still. We are filled with so much “doing”, when it only matters who we are in Christ.” Fr. Nathan gave us instructions on how to practice breathing deeply and reciting the Jesus Prayer. Try to do this at least 10 times a day; “(Breath in) Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, (Breath out) Have mercy on me a sinner.”
- **Approval of Last Meeting’s Minutes**
  - Approved
- **Treasurer’s Report - as of 10/31/19 our balance is \$1,083.77**
  - Bake sale earnings for Harvest Event in October = \$315
  - AmazonSmile earnings = \$32.63
  - Women were encouraged to use Fundraising resources for their holiday shopping
  
- **AW Diocese Report:**
  - Fall Gathering Meeting Report
    - We commenting on what was meaningful to us about the Fall Gathering.
  - Annual Dues to be paid this month = \$250
    - To be paid by the church, not our own funds
  - We voted to purchase Nativity cards from the bookstore and send them to people in need of comfort, as well as to Bishop Anthony to thank him for visiting us.
    - Sarah will provide addresses and Sophia will sign and mail the cards.
  
- **Book Study (Kh. Mandy)**
  - Fridays at 10am in Parish Hall
  - Reading “Our Thoughts Determine Our Lives” *The Life and Teachings Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica*
  - Next meeting will be January 10 at 10am.
  
- **Service Project for Nativity Season**
  - We discussed several ideas; doing something with Valley Churches United (Marilyn will provide info on what needs there are), Adopt-a-Child (Sarah will

research what our AW Diocese does with this), Stephanie Peterson works will an elderly woman who needs more in home assistance, helping Sienna House for pregnant single moms, etc.

- Acts of Mercy Booklet was handed out.
- We didn't come to a decision, but most people seemed interested in doing something directly with VCM. We will aim to offer an opportunity in January.

- **Social/Spiritual Events**

- We will have a coffee meet-up on **Tuesday, January 11 at 10am at Kh. Mandy's house.** Please bring snacks to share. She will provide coffee and tea.

- **Save the Dates:**

- Antiochian Women's Spring Retreat at St. Nicholas Camp, Frazier Park April 2-4, 2020
- Linda Y. brought up the idea of offering scholarships for the retreat. It has been done in the past. We should discuss this at our next meeting

- **Next Business Meeting Date (tentative): **Sunday, Feb 2****

### ***AW Diocese News***

**Prayer List & Sunshine cards** - Reminder that we have a Diocese prayer list & also a Sunshine ministry to send cards throughout the Diocese -- Please send names/addresses to: [awdlawsunshine@gmail.com](mailto:awdlawsunshine@gmail.com)

**Diocese Winter Newsletter** - Our Diocese newsletter is published in the Winter & Summer by our Public Relations Director - Lauren Malouf -- attached is a flyer requesting submissions for the newsletter. Please consider a submission to be sent to Lauren - also we love photos of your events!!

**NAB Project** - Soon your parishes will be receiving a packet with information on this year's Antiochian Women's project - assigned to us by Sayidna JOSEPH. Information was included in the DIAKONIA Fall Newsletter issue. Sayidna has requested we work together on "Fulfilling the Vision" in support of his vision for the Antiochian Village.

**“Act of Mercy”**, For the 2019-2020 year’s “Act of Mercy” we will continue working with FOCUS’s “Education Support for School Children”. This Act of Mercy will help provide educational access, food, books, supplies, tutoring and more to disadvantaged children in the United States.

### **Day Retreat for Orthodox Moms**

Recognizing that the Mom's of our community have their own needs, this retreat hopes to provide a day of fellowship with other mom's and the opportunity for an Orthodox Christian perspective from our "A-Team" speakers - V. Rev. Nicholas & Kh. Jan Speier of St Athanasius in Santa Barbara, CA. This day retreat will take place on *Saturday, January 11th & be held at St. Luke Church in Garden Grove*

### **Ongoing Ways to Support the Antiochian Women:**

- **AmazonSmile**
  - i. To join choose Ss Peter and Paul Antiochian Orthodox Church as your nonprofit
- **eScrip** - Please update your accounts: <http://escrip.rewardsnetwork.com/>
  - i. To join choose Ss Peter And Paul Women's Group as your nonprofit
- **Goodshop/Goodsearch** = 1% purchase price goes to our group
  - i. When signing up choose: Ss Peter and Paul Antiochian Orthodox Church Women's Group
- **iGive** ( [www.iGive.com](http://www.iGive.com) ) = iGive is 300% (or more!) better than Amazon Smile.