



Antiochian Orthodox Christian Women of Ss. Peter & Paul

9980 Highway 9, PO Box 458
Ben Lomond, CA 95005

V. Reverend Father Andrew Beck, Pastor

Minutes for Meeting on: Sunday, May 19, 2013

Time: During coffee hour

Location: Church Sanctuary

Members Present: 14, including Fr. Tom

• **Opening Prayer**

- **Treasurer's Report:** Balance = \$3,772.86
Expenditures = \$200 for Archdiocese Yearly Special Project
Income = (none)

1. **Spiritual Advisor:** The parish priest (as a representative of the Metropolitan and our Diocesan Bishop) is the spiritual advisor for our group. According to the "Priests' Guide" of the Archdiocese, the priest is also "the head of every organization in the parish" therefore he should be present at our meetings. Since Fr. Andrew is not easily available for Sunday meetings he has recommended Fr. Tom as our spiritual advisor.
2. **Fellowship Activity report by Valerie:** the trip to Filoli Gardens Estate on Saturday May 18 was attended by 8 women, it was a delightful time of fellowship and the estate is quite beautiful.
3. **Charity Report by Janelle:** the Sienna House will host their Spring Fundraiser on Saturday June 1st. They requested help with serving the catered luncheon on that day. Janelle will email our group with details and will also see that a notice is put in the Sunday Bulletin. Since Janelle will be in Canada by that time, it was agreed that Barbara Schmidt will resume as our liaison.
4. **Parish Life Conference:** this year's Antiochian Women's Brunch and Meeting is on Friday July 5th in Anaheim. Our Women's Group will sponsor two women (Thurs night hotel and luncheon fee) if anyone wants to go and represent our parish. Linda will email everyone requesting volunteers.
5. **Future Fellowship Activities:** please submit ideas! Some prefer a monthly activity; some want it every other month and a few suggested quarterly/seasonally! It was agreed by all that our fellowship activities are "optional events", with no pressure or guilt involved. We are trying to alternate no-cost activities with events that have a fee. We are hoping to have a **June Pool Party** near the end of the month. Email notifications will be sent out with details.
6. **General Sharing:** our group is composed of a variety of women who have differing interests, talents and ages; it was suggested that those women who have raised families might have ideas or wisdom to encourage and share with women who have younger families; how we might incorporate this into our Women's Group was discussed. Since Sunday meetings are not the best time (we are trying to keep the meetings short) it was suggested that our fellowship activities might be good for this. It was also suggested that each of us could share a little of our background to get to know each other better. These are wonderful ideas that should be pursued and followed up on further.
7. **Fundraising:** Fr. Tom pointed out that during these economic times, our parish is hurting financially; he wondered if the group would consider fundraising as a way to help the parish.



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- **Announcements** (*to be read individually, these were not discussed during the meeting*)
 1. **Report to Parish Council:** each month every parish group is required to submit a report to the Parish Council. Our group submits a brief report of our activities.
 2. Antiochian Yearly **Special Event:** \$200 was donated from our Women's Group
 3. **Book Study** to resume in the fall: several suggested books (please speak up if you have a favorite to add to the list of possibles)
 - a. Our Thoughts Determine Our Lives—Life and Teachings of Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica
 - b. God's Path To Sanity by Dee Pennoch
 - c. Prayers By The Lake by St. Nikolai Velimirovich
 - d. Spiritual Counsels—select passages from My Life In Christ by Fr. John of Kronstadt
 4. **Church Website:** the Women's Group section is full of information, section on women saints, etc. www.sspeterandpaulorthodox.com, User name = *member*, Password = *narthex*
The Archdiocese website is also very informative: www.antiochian.org/women
 5. **Choosing a patron saint** for our Women's Group: it's a process involving prayer and asking God's help. If there is a particular saint, you think would be good, bring a short excerpt about her to our next meeting. Look on website for list of saints.
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List of Possible Ideas for Fellowship Activities

1. Beach Day at Seacliff Beach, BBQ
2. Summer Garden Party at someone's house/yard
3. Craft event: learn picassiette mosaic art with Ruth Duterte
4. Food event: learn a Korean dish with Eunkyung
5. Tea Party
6. Meet out for breakfast
7. Invite Mother Melania to come and give a talk
8. George Papageorge retreat (*already being planned*)
9. November Women's Antiochian Retreat in Palo Alto (*already planned*)
10. Summer event at someone's house with pool and/or hot tub
11. Dinner and a movie in Scotts Valley
12. Baseball Game in San Jose with the San Jose Giants
13. Private party at the True Olive Connection in Santa Cruz (on Lincoln St.)
14. Michael's On Main--Tuesday Night Food, Wine & Beer pairings
15. Lunch on Sunday afternoon

Help us out and suggest some ideas that appeal to you!

Next Meeting Date: Sunday July 14

Officers:

•President: Leanne Albers •Vice-president: Monica Zweers •Treasurer: Kh. Ellen Steiger •Secretary: Linda Young