

NOVEMBER -
November 2025 Meeting

1. Attendance: 8
2. Thanks to Jenny, Ramona, Cindy, Gwen, Maggie, Tana and Diane for the lunch today!
3. Personal intentions or special prayers - several people were mentioned who have serious health problems, we also prayed for safe travels during Thanksgiving season, and for all those who have been hurt by actions of the federal government and the shut down. Tana will send cards to those who are going to the hospital.
4. Treasurer's Report: Our treasury has \$4,511.94 In addition we will be reimbursed \$150 from other churches for advertising costs for the bazaar. We started with about \$500 before the bazaar. Bazaar profit was \$4,003
5. Discussions
 - a. Proposal to give \$2500 to Crisis Assistance Ministry. Vote approved.
 - b. Proposal to give money to The Health Foundation in addition to the \$200 we sent right after the bazaar. Linda proposed sending another \$400, and direct it be used for food. Vote was unanimous.
 - c. Many said they would like to hold an evening or Saturday afternoon program where women who work (or entire families) can come; not a regular meeting but a fun meeting; another option is a potluck Christmas, Advent, or Lent dinner with ECW providing the main entry while others bring a side or a desert; one suggestion was having a soup or chili dinner. We'll talk about this more in February.
 - d. We still need a program and volunteer to lead the meeting in April. Can someone find a guest speaker, plan a field trip, or introduce us to something new in the parish or Wilkes community? Here's the tentative lineup for the remaining 2026 programs: January - Jenny with how to rid your home of plastics; February - Carol with a guest speaker from The Health Foundation; March - Nancy with oils of the Bible; April - ???; and May - Diane with how to take good photographs.
 - e. Report on the 2025 Holiday Bazaar
 - a. Publizing: we need to find the banner we bought for Peach Festival to hang on the hedge in front of the Parish Hall; we need to buy yard signs with arrows that point up the hill and over to the Parish Hall. Gwen will check to see if the person who made our current banner can do this.
 - b. Raffle basket: it needs to be on it's own table near the door. Sale of tickets was down - the first year we sold 160 tickets, this year we sold about 80. We need a different theme next year - it was proposed we make this one featuring specialty holiday foods. We'll ask people to drop off donations for the basket the week before and ECW can buy additional things if needed. Things to buy would be nuts, dried fruit, candy, cookies, cocoa and tea mixes, wine or sparkling grape juice, crackers, etc. And we'll also need a basket to be donated.
 - c. Baked goods - more needed; and call it homemade treats or something similar instead of "baked goods" so people don't assume they can only make baked goods. Make sure there is a sign that says things can be frozen and taken out at the holidays. We will start publicizing the need for food items in October and include a list of suggestions if you don't have any ideas of what to make.
 - d. White Elephant - We need to curate donations and only put out regifted or gently used items. Other items will still be taken but we reserve the right to not display them during the bazaar, but rather give them away or sell them at a different venue.
 - e. Drop off - It was too hard to have the final drop off day the Friday before the bazaar. We'll set our dealine the Friday 1 week ahead of the bazaar, although baked goods can be dropped off the day before. And we will ask people to price things before they bring them in or help us price them by putting on a price tag when they bring it in.
 - f. Display - We need to display more items vertically, perhaps by stacking wood blocks or boxes and maybe adding twinkle lights to the food table.

- g. Several people have asked that we change the date to later in November. We will bring this up at the planning meeting of all the churches, but we will have to go along with the majority vote. Some of the drawbacks to holding it later in November are:
 - Although we used to hold it the weekend before Thanksgiving, we have fewer bakers and buyers now, plus some people do not want to think about making something extra when they're busy planning Thanksgiving meals for family and friends
 - Just about everything we sell at the bazaar can be frozen and taken out at the holidays so shoppers have that option.
 - We already bought a vinyl banner that publicizes the bazaar for the 2nd Saturday in November.
 - h. Schedule workers more evenly and especially for the cash table. Let's personally ask people to help instead of just putting out the sign up sheet which is generally ignored.
 - i. Volunteer workers will get a \$5 credit to buy something at the bazaar and they will get to choose two things to buy on Friday ahead of the general shopping day on Saturday.
 - j. Planning team - new members are needed and welcome. Dec. 9 is the wrap-up meeting to which anyone interested is invited. It has been the same faithful 5 people leading this fundraiser for two years, with 4 others coming to a few meetings.
6. Reminder about next month's program
- Christmas Party on Dec. 9
- For refreshments everyone should bring a holiday treat to share - store bought or homemade.
 - We will have a gift exchange of holiday foods - storebought so no one has to make something extra. Those who don't want to participate don't have to. The value is limited to \$10 or less.
 - We will not have a game or activity. Instead we will also be asked to share a Christmas memory, whether it is something happy, a holiday disaster, or a family tradition.