

St. Xenia Sisterhood annual report – 2024 **St. Vladimir's church, Ann Arbor, MI**

- Maintenance of the church building –

Maintaining candle stands:

We have Lena Alvarez leading this effort and doing a good job! Thank you! We have some ladies who are owning stands and helping Lena to keep them clean. But we need more sisters to help. Anything new we need for this?

Our curtain-divider in church was replaced, thank you to our sister who donated to that effort. Our previous curtains lasted 20 years and they sure looked like it.

- Adornment of the church –

Gardens: We need to have solid help with this. We have about 6 sisters who are working on them, but we could use more. Diana Paterno is leading. Please have more communication between.

Indoor holiday beautification:

All year the decorations fell on Katya Miller and Leta Nikulshina with the help of just a few sisters on the site. We need more sisters who can learn and work on this. This is an art form on its own and very satisfying, at the same time it is your way to glorify God and His Saints. It's the same thing when you put your candle up, it's a donation and prayer. Please consider helping to glorify God in this way.

-Visiting sick -

Marina Edwards and Helen Tkach-Gable are more involved in this, but usually it falls just on Fr. Gregory. What can we do better in this regard?

-Education-

- We have started our AAOCA first year of full time in the new school building. I am amazed how busy life in this building is! We have a hard time keeping up with cleaning and have to coordinate the schedule of events in it. Seems to me it will only get busier. So far teachers and parents were able to keep up, but with more events scheduled we need help with decorating and cleaning after.

We need to think of the fundraising ideas for this project.

- We should have more sisters taking classes in Theology School online. To be a catechist is not only for men. It helps us to know more about our Faith and will help to catechize other women. I would love to organize the Catechism classes, but didn't have an ability last year. If anybody would like to help with this, please let me know.

-Church School-

Thank you to Matushka Alexandra Pirozhenko for heading it so well. The curriculum is amazing!

We need to involve kids more in the cleaning of the candle stands, icons and teach them church specific maintenance as well. They are the ones who will take care of the church after us.

Matushka Lisa Joyce is hosting groups in her house.

Matushka Katie Bower shaving the Young Mother's Group.. Do you need any help with that?

-Fundraisers-

Annual Festival

It was our 10th and it went well. The profit was more than ever. Consider vacation planning not around the dates of the festival. We need all hands on deck, because we lost some ladies who helped a lot. Russian Saturday School helped a lot.

Maslenitsa Ball

Matushka Katy is the lead. We would like more participation in this, we need a stable group to do this every year. Profit was around \$5000.

Bake Sale

It was good, but some people didn't help as much as before and because we had to buy some stuff we didn't make as much. I think we should start ahead to bake and use our freezers in the barn to store it. Thank you everyone who helped with it! Any improvements we should talk about?

-Charity-

A2OCA needs our support. We need to work with them to have more fundraising events.

We need to have more participation in the Alpha House project that Addy Lanterman leads.

We are restarting the Zoye for Life and started to work on ideas on how to help our young mothers, who are already blessed with more than one kid. Could we involve more of single Great Grandmothers, who don't have much to do and board at home.

-Prospora Baking-

We have 3-4 active bakers now and 3 men as well. It seems to be going well.

-Organizational help-

Maria Arnion asked if she can help with organization of events by creating sign in documents. I really need help with this! Let's try this! When a big gathering has to be organized Maria will sent the document for you to sign up with what you can help with. Thank you, Maria!!!

-Having FUN- NO CHANGE AGAIN!!!

We had a great time with the baby showers!

Maybe we can find one night a week to work out together with dances? We have permission and the blessing to use the school building for that.

How can we do it? It was hard to get together. But when we had a sauerkraut making party we sure had a nice time. We can start a group who can sew or knit. We need to have more gatherings together. I want to start having cooking classes as well. One of our sisters was trying to organise the monthly gathering, but it's hard to coordinate with a busy priest.

We want to have pilgrimages. We have at least 2 women monasteries within a 5 hours perimeter (Romanian and Serbian). Who can lead this effort?

We want to have a Retreat. What should we do? How can we actually do it?!

Election of Sisterhood Officers

Positions:

1. Head Sister - Leta (Xenia) Nikulshina (Lena Alvarez still needs time to feel comfortable to lead the Sisterhood). Please suggest someone as well, I don't want to keep this position till I die :)
2. Assistant Head Sister - Zhanna Skalitzky
3. Assistant Head Sister - Natalia Veniaminova
4. Assistant Head Sister - Elizabeth Joyce
5. Treasurer - Shannon Harmon
6. Secretary - Snezhana Knysh
7. Kitchen supplier - Oksana (Xenia)Balayeva

Sisterhood financial report 2024

Income:

Weekly Lunch	\$9,358 (L.Y.\$7,846)
Monthly Dinner	\$9,394 (L.Y. \$7,290)
Bake Sale	\$4,360 (L.Y.\$5,193)
Kulich Sale	\$335 (L.Y.\$290)

Total: \$23,447(L.Y.\$20,489)

Expenses:

Kitchen Supplies	\$1114.18
Gifts for Clergy	\$2,717
Building Fund	\$10,000
Flower	\$525
Support to Fr. Dmitri	\$3,500

Total \$15,356.18(L.Y.\$14,098.35)

Total profit: \$8,090.82(L.Y.\$6,390.65)

On 1/1/2025 in the account: \$4,072.30