

# PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

## SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

**Present:** Dave McDonald, Cathy Teague, Phil Baumert, Mary George, Jim Thornton, Lisa Richardson, Julia Alsobrook, Ann Tucker, Steve Wilson, Fr. Tom, Jim Newell, and guest Chuck Koesterer

**Absent:** Diane Dolak

Opening prayer: Dave McDonald

There was one addition to the agenda by Steve on a display case for the narthex.

Approval of August 10th minutes: A motion was made by Phil to approve minutes, seconded by Cathy, and unanimously approved.

### **Old Business:**

**1) *Update on the Forward-In-Faith Campaign by Jim Newell***

Total pledges to-date are \$1,171,439 for the capital campaign, and \$1,515,289 for the annual appeal. Fr. Tom added: At the final steering committee meeting last week a follow-up committee was established which will carry us through the full three years of the campaign.

**2) *Discussion of council member terms, election of officers, and selection process of new members***

Dave noted, according to the by-laws, council member terms are for four years, and members have the option to stay on for an additional two years. Election of officers is to be held when new members are brought on, and the selection process of new members shall be by discernment on even years. After discussion, the consensus was to continue with the discernment process, however, to propose a change in the election of officers as there has been some inconsistencies of elections since we don't bring on new members each year. Dave will present a proposal on election of officers at the next meeting.

### **New Business:**

**1) *Discussion on Ministry Appreciation Dinner/Prayer/Meeting—Requested by Ann Tucker***

Ann would like to recognize all volunteers for our different ministries in some way similar to what we have done in the past. All agreed it is important to show appreciation for the many in our parish who are so dedicated to serving. Phil said he would talk to Danny Baker about this, and report back at the next meeting.

**2) *Discussion on fall cleanup and setting a date for it—Requested by Phil Baumert***

Phil said he will arrange for the Boy Scouts to help with the outside cleanup projects. The council tentatively set the date for Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup> if there isn't a conflict with the parish calendar.

**3) *Display box for narthex – Requested by Steve Wilson***

Steve presented a drawing of the proposed display box for council member's photos and biographies. It will be a nice wooden box to be placed on the wall in the narthex, and council member's photos and bios can be replaced as the members change. Steve said he will take the digital photos of each member, and for each member to prepare a 10 pt. typewritten biography for the 3" x 3 1/2" space for this.

### **Ministry Reports:**

- **Youth:** Lisa Richardson told the council this would be her last meeting. Her replacement should be selected by the next meeting. She also reported that she along with four other youth attended New Vision Camp at Notre

Dame recently. She said it was such a powerful experience, strengthened her faith, and helped her how to discern God's call. Youth Group and Confirmation classes start this week.

- **Activities:** Mary George suggested having a Day of Remembrance again in November. She said it was well attended last year a real nice event.
- **Groups:** Ann Tucker reported the Altar Society had a good faith sharing meeting for their first meeting of the year. They will have Bingo on January 16<sup>th</sup>, will work on the cleanup day, and head up the Rosary Rally on October 7<sup>th</sup>. The new system for funeral dinners is working well. Peruvian goods will be on sale October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> for our sister parish appeal. The Precious Blood Companions Retreat will be October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> at Marillac Center in Leavenworth.  
Steve Wilson reported that Families of Faith are a very active ministry, and the Knights are doing a number of things.
- **Liturgy:** Phil Baumert reported the new choirs are starting up. There will be more Bell Choir involvement this year. Plans are to have an adult choir Christmas presentation the Sunday before Christmas.
- **Education:** Julia Alsobrook  
*School:* Enrollment is 385 which is down from last year. A \$14,000 grant for Fit America was received so walking trails, etc. will be placed out back for use by students and adults. All teachers now have laptops.  
*Religious Ed:* (Report from Cecilia Richardson) The program kicked off with a rousing good start. We currently have about 263 students enrolled in the Sunday session and 81 in the Wednesday session, but are expecting additional late enrollments. There's a great group of volunteer catechists this year--we have several couples who have volunteered as well as several people coming to us from other parishes where they also were catechists. We have 48 catechists with 16 being new to this ministry. I still need to fill a couple of holes--I need a second person to co-teach 4th grade on Wednesday nights, and I need another team of two catechists so that I can split my very large 3rd grades on Sunday mornings into 3 classes. Our diocese is switching to a new Safe Touch curriculum, which we plan to implement in the spring. Unlike the previous curriculum, this program--Circle of Grace--is short (only a few sessions) and focuses on a broader overview of personal safety. Our Feed Your Faith series will begin with the Fall Gathering on Oct 25th from noon to 3pm. Our theme this year is All Saints: Models of Faith and we're going to focus on the saints. First parent meeting for First Reconciliation is Monday, Sept 21st. The 3rd Annual Northland Catechist Kickoff was held here in August--catechists from all over the Northland region came to hear a great keynote talk by David Butel, and enjoy various breakout sessions.

#### **Pastor's Comments:**

- Father Tom said in the past it has been traditional to attach the Sister Parish Project to the annual appeal on Mission Sunday. According to the diocese, this causes a conflict so they cannot be held together. Therefore, October 4<sup>th</sup> there are special envelopes for the appeal for our Sister Parish Project.
- Father Tom said two parishioners had been nominated for the Bishop's Recognition Award, however, in checking with the diocese it is not being held this year. The nominees are: Judy Keisling and Shawn Doherty.

The council expressed their appreciation to Lisa Richardson for her service as Youth representative to the council. This is her last meeting.

Closing Prayer: Dave McDonald

The next meeting will be Monday, October 12th at 7 p.m. Opening and closing prayer will be by Cathy Teague.

October Agenda Items:

- Discuss recognition of ministry members and other volunteers.
- Discuss proposal on change in by-laws for election of officers.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Dorothy Haynes, Recording Secretary*