

**Catholic Area Faith Community of Jesus Our Living Water  
Area Pastoral Council**

**MINUTES  
2016-04-21**

**Present:** Father Steve, Father Jerry, Christa Rivers, Tim Macik, Pat Malmgren, Terry Braun, Michelle Ridl, and Mary Nordstrom. **Absent:** Dave Reed, Donna Carver, and Joan Conway.

The notes from the February joint meeting with staff were approved, and there were no additions to the agenda.

**Pastor's Report**

This weekend we have First Communions at Our Lady of the Lakes. Graduations are right around the corner.

Father Jerry's 40th anniversary celebration is Sunday, June 5 at the 10 am Mass with an open house from 1-4 at Our Lady of the Lakes.

Father Steve has been very consumed in his role as Director of Priest Personnel. Please pray for the priests in the diocese.

**Review of Area Pastoral Council and Committee Reports**

Discussion took place about our joint meeting in February. People felt very positive about the day - they weren't aware of everything that the staff does! It was also a great opportunity for the two groups to get to know each other.

We talked about the area committee reports from February, specifically focusing on their discussion about the move from the committees to teams. The committee members were mostly positive about the change.

**Information Items**

1. Lawsuits - Bishop LeVoir and Msgr. Grams have worked very hard in these cases. Bishop LeVoir has met with the victims and we must continually pray for healing for the victims. The Church of St. Mary and the Church of St. Thomas More have signed retainers with attorneys, and all parish records are being combed looking for information regarding insurance coverage.
2. AFC Bookkeeper - We have received inquiries from five people regarding the position. Father Steve and Mary will select applicants for interviewing and assuming the position is filled, they would work alongside Dennis.

3. Financial Reports - We reviewed the financial reports for March. All parishes are current on their AFC assessment and we are in good shape.

#### Discussion Items

1. Pastoral Initiatives from February 20 meetings - Members chose which of the groups they wanted to be on.
  - Christa - Leadership Development/Teams
  - Pat - Leadership Development/Teams
  - Joan - Support for merger/closure process
  - Terry - Support for merger/closure process
  - Michelle - Recruitment and retention of ministers
  - Tim - chose not to select a team as he and Ila plan to join a parish outside of our area faith community

Mary will contact Donna, Ron, and Dave and ask which group they want to be on.

Father Steve will ask staff who can attend the May 19 APC meeting to see if we can have our first team meetings then.

2. Consultation meetings in Kandiyohi and Lake Lillian - We discussed the meeting with Bishop LeVoir. It was felt that Bishop LeVoir was very straight-forward, and using the visual of the map with all priests - and telling them that in five years we need to get rid of ten faces.

Some of the clarifications need to happen at the parish meetings

- Difference between a closure and a merger
- What happens in the "as is" situation?
- What are the pros and cons of each choice?

Our next meeting is Thursday, May 19 at 6pm at OLOL.