

Our Lady of the Lakes Parish Administrative Council
January 27, 2015
MINUTES

Present: Father Steve, Ron Dobbs, Luann Sieben, Berni Schwaegerl, Steve Maher, Dave Henle, and Mary Nordstrom. **Absent:** Shari Lapatka

We began with opening prayer and a recommitment to our Vision statement. November's minutes and tonight's agenda were approved as printed.

Pastor's Report: Father publicly thanked everyone who helped get our worship sites ready for our Christmas celebrations. They were well-attended and beautiful liturgies. In addition, the parishioners were very generous, for which we are grateful.

The Area Tithing Committee met in early January. Luann and Michelle Then-Day are the OLOL representatives on the committee.

Father clarified that the money invested with Catholic Community Foundation out of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis is not affected by the recent bankruptcy filing by the Archdiocese.

Area Committee Reports:

Father highlighted some items on the reports.

Area Service Committee - Mary Pieh is one of the representatives on the AFC Homelessness Sub-committee which will be working with Family Promise of Kandiyohi County.

Finance Reports:

We reviewed the December financial reports

Information Items:

1. Confirmation - Sunday, February 15, 10:00 am in Willmar - approximately 53 students to be confirmed
2. Ash Wednesday Masses - The Mass in Spicer will be at 7:00 pm
3. The Ash Wednesday collection this year will be designated to Family Promise of Kandiyohi County
4. Our region (5) will be hosting the Diocesan Chrism Mass on Thursday, March 26 at 7:00pm in Willmar. We will be looking for volunteers from the area faith community to help at the liturgy.

5. Budgeting process - We discussed the budgeting process for 2015-2016. The Area Stewardship Committee will be responsible for reviewing/tweaking/approving the budget and then parish assessments will be calculated. Each PAC will then review those amounts to ensure that they feel they can meet the revenue requirements to meet the assessment. Father Steve has notified the staff that we need to be conservative with the budgets; with the number of funerals we are doing, some of these represent steady, generous donors.
 1. It was suggested that we send a letter to all parishioners who use automatic withdrawal asking them to review their donation amounts and see if they are able to increase their donations.

Discussion/Action Items

1. Stations of the Cross / soup suppers - The organizations will be running the meals and all contributions will go to the Youth Scholarship fund. It will be helpful if there are youth to help. The groups will send Christine a list of the helpers in case she needs that information for service hours.
2. Parish consultation meetings - There will be one meeting held on Monday, March 16 at 6 pm at the Church of St. Thomas More in Lake Lillian and one on Thursday, March 19 at 6 pm at the Church of St. Patrick in Kandiyohi. The tentative outline of the meetings will be:
 1. Remind the people of where we were three years ago (4 priests doing 9 Masses a weekend), and where we are now (2 priests doing 8 Masses a weekend),
 2. Show them what a vital parish looks like, and
 3. Review what our parishes look like.
3. Audio visual system - tabled
4. Garbage shed - There was discussion about the current enclosure for the garbage and recycling containers. Some people feel that there are issues with snow blowing and drifting in the enclosure and feel it would be better if a garage was built. After much discussion, we tabled the conversation.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 24, but will need to be rescheduled due to Pastoral Leader Days.