

**Church of Our Lady of the Lakes
Parish Administrative Council**

**Minutes
October 3, 2016**

Present: Father Steve, Ron Dobbs, Steve Maher, Luann Sieben, Dave Henle, Sheri LaPatka, and Mary Nordstrom. **Absent:** none.

We began with opening prayer. June's minutes were approved as printed and today's agenda was approved with one addition.

Pastor's Report: Father Steve gave updates on the changes in the meeting schedule for this year.

The Diocese of New Ulm has been named in 101 cases of sexual abuse of minors by clergy/religious. The Churches of St. Mary and St. Thomas More have been found to have insurance coverage during the years of their lawsuits. We hope that this coverage will help at least with the legal fees.

We are in the process of trying to sell the church properties in Kandiyohi and Lake Lillian. We do have a pending sale for the property in Lake Lillian with an anticipated closing date of November 1. The proceeds from the sale will be put into the bank until the sexual abuse lawsuits are resolved. The Church of St. Patrick is still on the market. There is some interest in the property, but there is a gap right now between what has been offered and what the council hopes to be able to put into the cemetery fund.

Finance Reports: We reviewed the year-end and August reports for both the AFC and the parish. We also discussed the video screens and how helpful they have been. The only drawback on the screens is that we need to recruit more volunteers to run the slide shows. This would be a good project for youth! Both the area and the parish finished the fiscal year in very strong positions. We left money in the checking account for the AFC as a buffer in case this year OLOL and/or St. Mary struggle to make their increased assessments without St. Patrick and St. Thomas more.

Information Items:

- Evening Prayer of Remembrance will be held on Sunday, November 6.
- The Anointing Mass and Thanksgiving Dinner will be held on Thursday, November 17 at 10:30 am.
- One-priest Mass schedule: The Area Pastoral Council approved a schedule that can be used when Father Steve and/or Father Jerry will be on vacation or there is a planned absence. This will not be used when one of them is ill or there is an unplanned absence.

Discussion/Action Items:

- Adult Faith Formation: One area in which we need to put a stronger effort is the area of adult faith formation. As we look at staffing in the future, we will look for a full-time Director of Adult Faith Formation. This year, we have readjusted some responsibilities and Barb and Diane are leading the current adult faith formation activities this year and Erin and Christine have each picked up one year of youth faith formation from each of them.
- Parish Self-Study: We reviewed the parish self-study numbers for Our Lady of the Lakes. The total numbers are holding fairly steady over the last ten years; however, the number of adults over age 70 have increased significantly. We also discussed ways to attract families who are now being pulled multiple ways on Sundays. We discussed the possibility of Sunday-evening Masses and whether families would attend. Maybe. Another problem with Sunday evening Masses are getting enough liturgical ministers so that people attending can have full and active participation in the Mass.
- Update on the closing of St. Patrick and St. Thomas More: Mostly discussed in the Pastor's Report. We reviewed the chart showing where families are joining after the closing of St. Patrick and St. Thomas More.
- Atrium: There were only four families who registered for preschool Good Shepherd Catechesis (Atrium) this year. Due to the need for balancing and prioritizing the workload for staff, we are not offering the program this year. There is a fear that by not offering it this year, we are sending a message to the families who did register that their religious education is not important. We will be looking at the possibility of moving to a different date/time.

LOLO PAC Meeting Schedule:

- Monday, October 3
- Monday, December 5
- Monday, April 3
- **Tuesday, May 23**