

**Church of St. Patrick
Parish Administrative Council**

September 17, 2013

MINUTES

Members present: Fr. Steve, Joan Conway, Joyce Wittman, Jerry Barnes, Pat Burgemeier, and Mary Nordstrom. Jim Strouth was unable to attend.

We began with opening prayer and a commitment to our new area faith community Vision statement: *Sharing the Life of Christ. Being the love of Christ.*

The minutes from May 21 were approved, and tonight's agenda was approved with additions.

Pastor's Report: Father Steve commented that since our last meeting we have our pews fixed (people were very happy with the work), a new sidewalk, got Fr. Jim moved in, and did a much-needed cleaning of the garage! He thanked everyone who helped Fr. Jim move in and Fr. John move out.

We also had our picnic to welcome Fr. Jim to the AFC - unfortunately had a leak in the rectory that same night.

While we had a couple of new people sign up as catechists, we did not get enough to keep the Faith Formation program running at St. Patrick's. All of the families were contacted by Diane Cronen as well as by Colleen Lindstrom from St. Mary's. We are making a strong effort to reach out to the families who are attending classes at a new worship site (parish) to make sure that the transition goes well. We will be checking in with them throughout the year.

Father also brought up the recent lawsuit filed against the Diocese, and commented on how painful it is for everyone involved - especially the victims. He reiterated that if anyone is approached by others with questions about this, please refer them to Father Steve or the Diocesan Office of Communications.

Area Pastoral Council / Committee reports: No reports

Parish Committee/Organization reports:

- **Cemetery:** stump has been removed and lilac bushes have been planted. The funds for these improvements were donated by an anonymous parishioner.
- **Knights of Columbus:** There has been discussion about the future of the KCs - whether to disband and have the members join another council, or does someone have a way to get energy into the group? The main item that they do that would need to be covered is the Food Baskets at Thanksgiving. Jim Strouth and Rich Maxfield are the main contacts for this.
- **Maintenance Committee:** A committee is being formed to address items. Father recommended that one person be the main point of contact. That would be the person who gets contacted when an issue arises. Jerry is going to work with Jim on setting this up. There was discussion on the possibility of setting up a Maintenance Fund. We will consider including that in the budget for 2014-2015.
- **Finance Reports:** We reviewed the financial reports.

Information/Discussion/Action Items

- **PAC Purpose Statement:** We looked at the notes from the September 3 meeting at St. Mary's. Many people consider the main area for the council to be financial. Fr. Steve looks at this council as his advisory council to identify both the financial and pastoral needs of the parish.

One way we performed this function was how we discussed our Faith Formation program in May. The council provided a recommendation on how to deal with the issue: send a letter to all households looking for catechists, setting a minimum number that we had to have to be able to continue the program. In addition to the financial issues, the council needs to be listening to the people in places where Fr. Steve can't be present.

We will develop a purpose statement over the next couple of months. We would like to have the same one for all four parishes.

- **Faith Formation:** There was a question about whether St. Patrick's wants to contribute to the programs in Spicer and Willmar. One way that could be funded is to see if Catholic United Financial wants to continue the basket raffle. Fr. Steve commented that we could try to do the basket raffle in conjunction with the Ham Dinner if we wanted to do that.
- We do feel that it is a good idea to provide a subsidy to the parish where the students registered for classes. We aren't sure whether we should offer the subsidy to just the ones who registered at St. Mary's and Our Lady of the Lakes, or also the ones who went outside the AFC. We will sit on this for two months. Joyce will talk to Diane and see if she has ideas about a basket raffle.
- **Parish Self Study:** Mary forgot the report. It will be on the agenda in November. Many of the numbers were in the Fiat.
- **DMA:** Our goal dropped about \$450 for 2013-2014. The goal is \$4,065.10. Any amounts that are collected over that will go to a maintenance fund.

- **Maintenance:**
 - Mike Cain is going to seed the area between the rectory and the church. He also did some work at the cemetery. Next year we are looking at hiring the same person to mow both the church property and the cemetery. Mike has also been doing some of the work at the cemetery while Greg has been ill. Mike is going to submit a receipt so that we can put it on his donation record.
 - Snow removal: Father Steve or Mary will contact Brian to see if he is willing to plow this year.
 - Parking lot: There are lots of cracks in the parking lots, both the upper and lower lots. We have directed the maintenance to create the scope of work so that we can compare similar bids. Mary will get Jerry a template to use. We are going to look at possibly filling in the big holes and waiting until Spring for the major work.
 - Roof: Jerry recommends getting someone up to patch the holes that are up there and evaluate the roof. Mary will call Kandi Roofing to patch the holes. There are three holes that we are aware of, but they should take a look at the whole roof.
 - Carpet: If we get the roof fixed, we should consider including new carpet in the budget.
 - Tuckpointing: Jerry will get a bid on tuck pointing.
 - Washer/Dryer: We are looking at a new washer and dryer for the rectory. Mary is getting some estimates.
 - Fall/Spring clean-up: We will do one next Spring. The Maintenance Committee will look at cleaning the gutters.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, November 19 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Nordstrom