

**Church of St. Mary**  
**Parish Administrative Council**  
**January 27, 2014**  
**MINUTES**

**Present:** Father Steve, Sharrie Follmann, Sue Minnehan, Bill Schindele, Bob Hogan, Penny Johnson, Rick Conway, Kurt Schimek, and Mary Nordstrom. **Absent:** Dave Reed

We began with opening prayer and a recommitment to our Vision statement. The minutes from November was approved and tonight's agenda was approved with additions.

**Pastor's report:** Father Steve thanked the parish for its generosity over Christmas - both in terms of attending, preparing for and participating in our liturgies, and monetarily. Staff - like everyone else - is frustrated with the weather, especially with Confirmation right around the corner. We have had to cancel classes the last two Wednesdays and had to cancel the Confirmation retreat yesterday.

Father Steve has had conversations with Heartland Community Action Agency with regards to moving our Door Ministry to them. We would send money to them each month and have them administer the program. They have the expertise to help people with the root cause of their problem(s). This has been a ministry at St. Mary's for many years.

**CMG Investment Update:** Dana Rucker came to give an update on our CMG investment. There were some questions and Dana was going to check on monthly performance.

**Area & Parish Committee Reports:** There was brief discussion on the reports.

**Finance Reports:** We reviewed December's financial reports. It was noted that we need to update the Foundation Fund Annuity with a revised fund balance. Rick walked us through the summary report and our finances are still strong. Father Steve is looking at a few members of the PAC to be more involved in the investment details and make recommendations to the whole council.

**Information Items:**

1. St. Mary's Foundation Gala will be held this Friday, October 31. The theme is *American Bandstand - the early years*. As of today there are approximately 190-some people signed up to attend.
2. Bishop LeVoir will be here on Sunday, February 9 to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. We have 57 students scheduled to be confirmed.

*Sharing the Life of Christ; Being the Love of Christ*

3. The AFC Easter Vigil will be held at the Church of Our Lady of the Lakes in Spicer at 8:30 pm on Saturday, April 19. A subcommittee is being formed to help plan the evening and take care of the logistics at that worship space.

### **Discussion/Action Items**

1. We reviewed the tithing allocations for January. There was some discussion about how we allocate the tithing funds and how we make general parishioners aware that the parish tithes and the organizations that benefit from it. It could be a teaching opportunity for children about the parish giving to the poor. The Tithing Committee also requested that the PAC approve a request to do an Ash Wednesday collection with the proceeds to go to Heartland's Safe Harbor's program. While there were some concerns, the council recommended that we try it this year to see the response. We will review the results at the March PAC meeting.
2. We discussed the Time and Talent forms and questions came up regarding people who sign up but haven't been contacted. Father Steve explained the process. One suggestion was that we should put "preferred contact method" on the form so that people can be contacted in the way they want. We will put this on the next staff meeting agenda.
3. There were some beginning discussions regarding our 2014-2015 budget.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Nordstrom