

Church of St. Mary
Parish Administrative Council
MINUTES – 10/27/2014

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

We began with opening prayer and recommitment to our AFC Vision.

A correction was made to last month's minutes to add "the crucifix." to the sentence under DMA. The minutes were approved with this correction.

Area Council and Committee minutes

- Father Steve gave a brief update on Family Promise of Kandiyohi County (FPKC). We (the area faith community) have agreed to join with Bethel Lutheran, so that together we can be a host congregation. Bethel's facility will be used for the homeless and our volunteers will help with the week both in providing food and being on hand.
- The Christmas Eve Mass schedule has changed for Willmar: Instead of a 5:30 Mass with elements of Spanish, we have added a Spanish Mass at 7:00 pm.
- Brief discussion of the Bereavement Workshop took place. Those in attendance thought it was a great evening.

Pastor's report

- Last Friday, Father Steve and members of the Tithing Committee received Heartland Community Action Agency's Partners in Hope Award. This is due to the funding we have provided to their Safe Harbors program which provides a motel room for homeless and due to our Door Ministry program which has provided Heartland with over \$20,000 since our agreement in January of 2013.
- Msgr. Garvey's funeral was today. It was a very nice liturgy.
- We have had about 50 deaths in the past year. Crosses will be going up this week.

Financials

- Rick led us through the September financial reports.
- We discussed the reduction in the AFC budget due to Fr. Jim moving to Ortonville. This will reduce each parish's assessment to the AFC.
- Mary Nordstrom will now be living in the rectory in Kandiyohi and assuming the utilities and rectory costs.

- Father Steve would like to reconvene the Area Stewardship Committee. This committee will be responsible to review the AFC financial reports each month, define criteria for capital (paid by the parish instead of the AFC) vs. budgeted expenses, help with staffing/salary decisions, and help with the budgeting process. The committee will consist of one person from each parish, Father Steve, and Mary. Rick will be the representative from St. Mary's and Sharrie will attend when he is unable to. The goal is to have the first meeting in November/December.

Information Items

- The Area Evening Prayer of Remembrance will be on Sunday, November 2 at 4pm at the Church of St. Mary.
- We will be doing a Ministry Spotlight of the APC and Area committees on the weekend of November 22/23.
- The annual anointing Mass and Thanksgiving dinner will be on Thursday, November 20, beginning at 10:30 am at the Church of St. Mary.

Discussion Items

- The Fall Festival netted approximately \$9,000. The Parish Society is looking at replacing the convection ovens in the parish kitchen.
- We reviewed the parish and AFC self study reports. How do we address a declining population? It was suggested that the diocese begin some planning on a diocesan level.
- Mass Schedule
 - The APC has recommended to Fr. Steve that he and Fr. Jerry come up with options for a temporary Mass schedule to begin January 1, and then have AFC consultation meetings in February/March to get parishioner input on a permanent schedule that will reduce the load on the priests.
 - The temporary schedule will run January – May.
- How to recognize key volunteers
 - In the past, key volunteers were recognized with the Bishop's Medal of Service. This has been discontinued. How can we acknowledge and recognize volunteers at a parish / AFC level?
 - Do we want to consider a volunteer supper or other means? We will continue this next month.

Our next meeting is on Monday, November 24, 2014 at 5:00 pm.