

Parish Council Minutes
February 21, 2018

Present: Mary Cimperman, Thad Grzesiak, Angie Hanson, Joel Loecken, Jane Oyen, Dean Rademacher, Jackie Schluter-Johnson, Paula Lutz, Fr. Terry Rasmussen and Terri Wehling.

Absent: Claire Hsia, Gabby Johnson and Sophie Latourelle

Prayer: Jane Oyen “Call to Ministry.”

Agenda Changes: Communication report from Erin on the agenda was tabled as she has Confirmation commitments. We will try to have her join us in April or May.

January Meeting Minutes: Approved

Youth Report: There are over 40 youth signed up for the Feed My Starving Children trip Sunday night, February 25th. Lent is a busy season for Confirmation. There was conversation about the Sunday night mass. The objective is a contemporary youth friendly liturgy.

Pilgrimage Idea: Terri talked about funding for a project in Kenya, Africa. Cross Catholic Outreach has been to our parish a number of times. Former pastor Fr. Hazel is a spokesperson. Fr. Fabian is a member of the Society of African Missionaries and he is spearheading a major water project that Cross is co-sponsoring. It is called the Lodwar Diocese Clean Water Project. The project is a series of wells associated with schools. Fr. Hazel will be speaking to our parish at masses on March 17 and 18. Terri requested that the parish rallies to support the project.

Report from Dean Rademacher: Financial giving is marginally behind budget. Dean does not see this as a concern. Parish Council members are encouraged to start thinking up party ideas as the mortgage on the new worship space will be paid off in the fall. Warning-some big ticket items including parking lots, heating systems and roofs will be in the future.

Dean provided highlights from a number of ministry areas:

Pastoral Care

Ongoing grief group 6 months of the year. Monthly meetings of Stephen Ministers for support and supervision as they provide one on one visits to parishioners. Meetings with Ambassador and Mission Farms staff requesting additional services (communion services and one on one visits). Scheduled Sacrament of Anointing at Ambassador, Mission Farm and Heathers during the month of March where we do monthly communion services and liturgies. The Reps are doing Metro Pack this month and in March a diaper shower for Northside Life Care Center as well as a Bake Sale and Scholarship promotion. This year there will be an extra scholarship as a memorial for Jill Stapleton who was a long term member.

Catechetics (K-5th Grades)

Baptism Preparation: Had 12 couples prepare for their children’s baptism at the end of January.

Eucharist Preparation (4 Wednesdays in January). Over 30 families participated.

We begin Reconciliation Preparation this Wednesday night.

Almost all our Prepare Couples have a couple that they are preparing for marriage.

Please stop at the Elementary Lenten board to see their Lenten work.

Wanted to start small with the Early Childhood Family Life (ECFL) Program. We have 4 families involved with that program.

Liturgy and Music

Three new members have been added to the Carpenters Ensemble: One drummer, one clarinetist and one singer.

Two new soundboard ministers and three new projector ministers have joined these ministries and are quickly learning the systems.

One of our long-time 8 AM Mass Coordinators at the Little Church is moving and a new person is taking her place. She will be missed.

We adopted a new hymnal for the 6 PM Mass and new songs have been introduced slowly throughout the liturgical seasons. Two new keyboard players have been added to the 6 PM Mass and one new youth cantor. One new youth lector coach has joined the ranks. One new 6 PM Mass Coordinator has begun and we are in great need of at least one additional Mass Coordinator for this Mass. 6 PM Mass was negatively affected by the play-off and Super Bowl games in January and February.

New lectors began serving in the fall after our Lector workshop. New Eucharistic Ministers have been commissioned for both churches since the fall.

A new visiting presider has begun ministering at St. Joseph since the fall and has been very well-received by parishioners.

Social Justice and Outreach

Over 145 parishioners signed up for the NW Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack plus Erin and Larry are bringing the Middle and High School youth on Sunday. We should exceed 225 volunteers from the parish which is about what we did last year.

Jason will be delivering the Gun Control postcards from this last weekend to the capital.

High School Youth Ministry

They had a wonderful Confirmation retreat at Camp Friendship in Annandale. Father Terry was part of the retreat. Erin is using the Little Church for Confirmation taking advantage of the intimate setting and in response to youth appreciating doing praying and meeting at the Little Church.

Flocknote has grown to 640. The staff continues to find ways to use this tool. We will be using it to promote Holy Week and St. Joseph's Feast Day.

Middle School Youth Ministry

Mayhem Lock-in was a success. We continue to be diligent about proper background checks, online trainings and required documents like the Code of Conduct.

Book Sale Collection has started with sale starting March 11th.

Homebound Mass: Thad reported that insurance does not allow us to sponsor rides to Church. He thanked everyone for checking with other parishes. St. Therese is no longer able to provide services. Metro Mobility has not been able to fill the void.

Welcome Letters: Parish Council members signed welcome letters to new parishioners.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.