

Pastoral Council Minutes- December 1, 2009

Members Present: Scott Belanger, Sandy Blankenship, Bill Harper, Mike Humphrey, Tom Kadela, Renee Kirschbaum, Adam Lawler, John Rains

The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. with a prayer. The minutes were approved with a small correction from the last meeting regarding Tom's upcoming presentation for the teens on relationships. The pastoral council approved the plan to go forward with the presentation.

Storm Damage/Insurance Claim Update for Bell Tower

On Dec. 9th, there will be a meeting with Bill Johnson from the insurance co. Settlement of the bell tower may be postponed until the other renovations are done. The current bid is \$89,000 minus the demolition costs. Bids for the flag pole and other small miscellaneous items are still being sought. The repairs will be complete after these items are resolved.

Church Survey Update

Approximately 125 surveys have been received. Mike and Sue Humphrey have agreed to work on the data input for the surveys. They will try to have this ready for the next meeting on Jan. 7.

Cluster Committee

An RCIA retreat will take place on March 27 from 9:00 to 12:00. On March 7, there will be a possible presentation at OLMC on the topic of divorced and lapsed Catholics. The next cluster meeting will be on Feb 7, 2010 here at St. Joseph.

Welcoming Committee

Four new families have moved into the parish. Two have been contacted through phone calls with messages left. The other 2 will be contacted shortly.

Religions Education/ Youth Ministry Update

There will be an Advent penance service with opportunities for reconciliation for both the PSR students and the youth. RCIA is having a Rite of Acceptance on Dec. 13 at the 8 o'clock Mass. RCIA members will be dismissed at each Mass for the reading of the Word as a group. On January 20 and 31, the student portion of the Child Protection sessions will be presented.

The Camp Ondessonk Pack and Trail retreat went well. Nine people, (7 teens, 2 chaperones), attended NCCY this year. There was some discussion on whether the youth ministry program will underwrite this in future years. The Thanksgiving dinner was a success. The youth Christmas party is December 13. There will be a ski retreat on the weekend of January 22-24. The parent meeting for this event is Dec. 6. The Youth Commission decided not to go to Uganda. It has been decided that the mission trips will occur on a 4 year rotation, with 3 home trips and one out of the country. The youth will not be going to the next World Youth Day. They are hoping to expand their domestic options. Every other year, there will

be a trip to the Benedictine Monastery, and it is hoped that an international trip can be planned with the help of parishioners who are native to other countries, possibly Mexico or Columbia.

Financial Report

Tom Kadela gave a report on the finances of the youth ministry program. He reported that the youth program's money comes from fundraising and the students paying fees for events. Tom is proposing that the youth program be able to obtain a credit card/ charge account to pay fees. A member of the financial committee would then reconcile the monthly account statement. There was a unanimous agreement to provide a charge account for the youth.

Monthly Receipts- The parish is running approximately \$5000 short of the monthly bills. The Capital Campaign has about \$604,000 with most of it invested in CDs handled by the finance committee. A few parishioners have asked to know more about the parish expenses. It was suggested that this might be addressed through the bulletin. There will be a new format for the financial report beginning in 2010.

Other Business

Organizational chart, job descriptions, evaluation procedures:

Pay raises are based on diocesan policies, not merit raises. The council unanimously decided to approve the job descriptions, evaluation procedures and handbook. It was decided that the organizational chart is still a work in progress with more discussion needed on the issues of the Faith Formation Board, who will do evaluations etc. This will be voted on at a later time.

Church Renovations:

Father is interested in gathering more information on what people want regarding the church renovation proposal. There are two primary recommendations. These include no chapel and doing all renovations in one phase rather than two. These suggestions were well-received by the council. There was a discussion of the church floor plan with some consideration of the placement of the tabernacle, reconciliation room etc. Projected finances were considered in this discussion.

The steps that need to be taken now include:

- Getting approval from the diocesan Office of Worship
- Bringing together key committees and individuals to obtain agreement,
- Another town hall meeting for the parish.

Parish Council Candidates:

Information about the candidates will appear in the bulletin for 2 weeks with voting taking place in the pews on December 19 and 20. There was a discussion about whether the number of council members should be expanded. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

