

## **Pastoral Council Minutes for January 7, 2010**

Members Present: Ed Davis, Father Thomas Flach, Bill Harper, Bill Hess, Mike Humphrey, Renee Kirschbaum, Adam Lawler

Members Absent: Sandy Blankenship, Tom Kadela

The meeting opened at 7:00 pm. The minutes from the December meeting were approved.

### **Update on the Church Survey**

A summary of the survey was handed out to the council for their review. It was originally proposed that there be a report ready for the parish by January 18, however, it was suggested at this meeting that the date for a parish report on the survey be moved to the end of February. There were approximately 139 completed surveys received. Tom Kadela plans to pull the results together to make it more understandable to the parishioners. The council will then have enough information to draw some conclusions and work on setting goals.

### **Cluster Committee/Reflection Group**

This group meets here at St. Joseph Church on Feb. 9. They are looking for a person from each parish to attend the Deanery Reflection Group. Bill Harper will attend the January 20<sup>th</sup> meeting but is actively looking for someone else from the parish to attend on a regular basis.

### **Welcoming Committee**

There have not been any new people registering for parish membership in the last month. Ed Davis will continue this ministry since Mike Humphrey is no longer on the council.

### **Religious Education**

We are hosting an ecumenical service on January 17 with other Christian churches in Marion. On January 24, Bill and others from the RCIA team are going to a White House retreat on the topic of mystagogy. The Vacation Bible School program will take place in Herrin this year during the week of June 7. Our parish is planning to do ACRE (Assessment of Catechesis and Religious Education) testing this year to assess the PSR students' religious knowledge and spirituality. This will be sent to the diocese for analysis. We are still working on the idea of putting together an education board. On January 6 and 31 the K-6 and 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders respectively will be experiencing the student portion of the Child Protection Program. This will be presented by Catholic Social Services. January 23 is Catechetical Regional Day. There are no responses yet. Pre-Cana will be on August 14<sup>th</sup>. They are trying to put together presentation teams to rotate presentations in the south deanery.

## **Liturgical Ministers Training**

There will be a training for liturgical ministers at 6:30 pm on January 12<sup>th</sup>. This includes sacristans, lectors, hospitality ministers and Eucharistic ministers. The scheduling for these ministries will soon no longer be Laverne's responsibility. We are trying to put in place some software that will help with the scheduling.

## **Organizational Flow Chart**

There was some discussion of whether to present this to the parish and ways to make it more understandable. There was also discussion about who the youth minister and youth commission report to. It was felt that possibly the youth commission should have a separate voice. It was also discussed that we might want a representative from each committee to give a report to the council on a monthly basis.

## **2010-2011 Budget Process**

It was discussed that we want committees who use money out of the general fund to put together a budget that will meet their needs. The pastoral council could also set goals to give to the finance council.

## **Church Renovations Update**

There is a meeting on January 13<sup>th</sup> which will be chaired by John Rains, for the pastoral council and building committee to discuss church renovation and agree on a direction. There has generally been overall agreement on doing the renovations in one phase, and not having a chapel. The issue of having enough seating was discussed. It was decided that the meeting should address several issues including the redefining of objectives, and discussing the current proposal. It should be made clear that the Pastoral Council will make the final decisions.

**Constitution-** The constitution will be discussed further at a later point.

## **New Pastoral Council Officers**

President- Adam Lawler

Vice President- Sandy Blankenship

Secretary- Renee Kirschbaum (continuing)

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

