

**ST. JOSEPH PASTORAL COUNCIL**  
**SEPTEMBER 21, 2023**

**Members in Attendance:**

Ex. Off. Rev. Jeffrey Hennes  
2025 Mike Daniels  
2025 Tim Higgins  
2025 John Lutz  
2025 Ellen Miskowski  
2024 Kris Hansen  
2024 Dave Osier

**Absent/Excused Members:**

- I. Meeting began at 6:02 p.m.
- II. Welcome to Ellen Miskowski, followed by an opening prayer.
- III. Minutes were approved over email and posted.
- IV. Old Business:
  - A. Pastors' Plaque: This was picked up that afternoon and shared with all in attendance.
  - B. Catholic Schoolhouse:
    1. Meets weekly on Tuesdays, beginning after Mass until about 1 p.m.
    2. Approximately 26 children are receiving instruction, with younger siblings present.
    3. A one-year lease was signed, and the group secured insurance.
    4. All adults participating have completed Safe Environment training.
- V. New Business:
  - A. Welcome of a new member:
    1. Ellen Miskowski is our newest member, beginning her two-year term.
  - B. Elections:
    1. Ellen Miskowski graciously accepted the role of co-chair; Kristi will continue to serve as the Secretary for the council.
  - C. Projects:
    1. Flooring and Paint:
      - a) Due to the success of our Inspired by the Spirit Campaign, we revisited the thought to repaint and re-floor the family center and gather space. This would also allow us to place a tile/hard floor area that could be utilized for dancing space at the picnic.
      - b) After discussion and the knowledge of other priority projects that need to be completed, it was decided to reconsider this later.
    2. Sprinkler System:
      - a) A shared bid offered three zones; we could choose to do one or all. We would get a separate water meter.
      - b) All in attendance are recommended to proceed with the project.
    3. Parking Lot:
      - a) The biggest concern was the drains and their possible failure and injury to people.
      - b) All in attendance are recommended to get, at minimum, the drains completed before winter.
    4. Wyatt Street Entrance:
      - a) We continue to work with a contractor regarding options. There is a small hiccup regarding the scope of work.

5. Security System:

- a) Cameras have been installed and are functional. There are currently six cameras in the system, and we have space to add additional if needed.
- b) Keyless entry will be installed shortly. This will include re-keying all exterior doors and allowing us to issue key fobs to current key holders and others who might need limited event access.
- c) Questions were raised regarding sharing access with Police and/or Fire Departments.
- d) These systems were installed to help us provide better safety and security for the building, staff, and parishioners as well as better access for those who need to use the building. Due to recent times where the building was left unlocked or utilities on, it will help us to better know what is happening on site.

- (1) A Request for a checklist to be placed in the kitchen to help those who use the space ensure all appliances are off and space secure.

D. Basement Freezer:

1. Recently it failed, and all the food was discovered thawed, so it was discarded for safety. The freezer was initially acquired second-hand and has already been repaired once.
2. The recommendation was to hold on repairing and use other freezer space. Revisit needs in one year to reevaluate needs.

E. October Social:

1. Parish Council will host the October after-Mass social the weekend of October 28 & 29.
2. Members are asked to provide baked goods and help out.

VI. Committee Reports:

A. Education: The school year is starting well, and CCD has begun.

B. Parish Family Life:

1. They could not hold a women's retreat this fall and will look at future dates.
2. Elizabeth Ministry is on hold.
3. Monthly socials are going well, with good attendance.

C. Buildings and Grounds:

1. The lighting project is near completion except for a few small areas. They are working to find the right fixture for the application. The tower lighting is scheduled for the winter months so as not to disturb the inhabitants.
2. A tree must be removed in the parking lot later this fall, which should not cause concern. It is located close to the fencing, and removal will occur when the parking lot area is not in use.
3. Call to Justice:
  - a) The Rent Ready program is regrouping to begin to offer assistance again. A recent bulletin article was shared. John & Mary Droske are participating.
4. Sacred Worship:
  - a) The committee set their goals, which include recruiting new members, participating in evangelization, and growing in becoming a welcoming parish.
  - b) A group will be attending the Eucharistic Congress.
  - c) Thanksgiving Mass will be at St. Stephen this year.
  - d) In Advent we hope to begin to offer the Precious Blood again if we are able to get enough ministers. We will also offer a Prayer of Thanksgiving.
  - e) We will no longer be singing any David Hass music at Mass
  - f) We are in need of volunteers to help with the large Christmas trees in the alcove. Without assistance we not be able to display them.

5. St. Anne's:
  - a) Held a meeting in September. Updated funeral worker listing and Rosary tree. Members were asked to think about the Mission and Vision statements for discussion in October.
  - b) October meeting will be a Potluck dinner before the meeting.
  - c) November and December meetings will be held in the afternoon. The hope is that this will allow more to be in attendance.
  - d) A Bake sale is scheduled for the weekend of October 21 & 22.
  - e) A cookie walk will be held in December, and there is a need for raffle baskets.

**Joint Meeting with Finance Council:**

- I. Welcome to new staff:
  - A. Christine Sommers was welcomed as our new Director of Religious Education
  - B. Christine provided a brief introduction of herself.
- II. Diocesan Campaigns.
  - A. Inspired by the Spirit: Current numbers of pledges, received, and account holdings were shared.
  - B. 2023/2024 Annual Appeal: Goal was shared.
- III. Building Projects:
  - A. The HVAC bid from Badger was reviewed for discussion and recommendations.
  - B. All were in agreement that we should pursue the Carrier units and ask that installation be completed prior to the 2024 Picnic.
  - C. Will proceed with getting the electrical and concrete to proceed.
  - D. Will check into getting a programmable thermostat or other system to help with efficiency and needs.