

ST. JOSEPH PASTORAL COUNCIL
MAY 16, 2023

Members in Attendance:

Ex. Off. Rev. Jeffrey Hennes
2024 Chuck Clark
2024 Tim Higgins
2024 Dave Osier
2023 Mike Daniels
2023 John Lutz
2023 Kris Strigel

Absent/Excused Members:

2024 Kris Hansen

- I. Meeting began at 6 p.m. with prayer.
- II. Minutes were approved over email and posted.
- III. Old Business
 - A. Elections:
 1. John, Tim, and Mike have agreed to be nominated again. Kris has completed her time and will take a break.
 2. Parish-wide nominations will be done the weekend of May 20 & 21.
 3. Hoping to be able to find 4 to continue or join the group.
 - B. Pastors' Plaque:
 1. Has been in the works; we are waiting for a proof.
 - C. Picnic:
 1. Everything is aligning. Posters are out.
 2. Sweepstakes tickets are being returned.
 - D. Census Update:
 1. We are still in the process of contacting those that we did not hear back from via paper form. A phone call with a message is being made. If the phone number is not working or we cannot leave a message, a postcard is sent.
- IV. New Business
 - A. Catholic Schoolhouse
 1. Father was approached by a member of an Amherst parish that homeschools her children who is looking to start a Catholic Schoolhouse homeschool program. They are looking for a location where area families can meet for Mass, share lessons, and have lunch. Initially, thinking that this would be approximately 7-8 families from Wausau/Waupaca/Amherst, etc.
 2. If welcomed, they must provide insurance, and all adults would complete Safe Environment.
 3. The council's consensus was that this would be an excellent opportunity to offer the use of space with contingencies of insurance and meet the guidelines of the diocesan safe environment program.
 - B. Tithing
 1. Last year our tithing went to purchase a bench for Emerson Park
 2. The discussion was opened for suggested charities we may wish to support. The list from 2021-2022 was shared; and all were asked to reach out with any other groups they would like to consider supporting.
 - C. Vision Statement: Embracing the Gospel, St. Joseph Catholic Parish aspires to be a vibrant, welcoming community who engage all we encounter as we build up the family of God.
 1. The Council suggested that we continue to use this Vision Statement for next year.
- V. Committee Reports
 - A. Education (Father):
 1. Interviews for the President opening at Pacelli were occurring. We hope to have an announcement soon.
 2. DRE Position. A candidate will spend time with the staff for a partial day to see if it would be a good fit for both parties. We do still have information available on various sites for those who may be interested in applying.
 - B. Parish Family Life (Tim):

1. Discussing starting a chapter of Elizabeth Ministry. A bulletin announcement has run asking for interested people to reach out. Elizabeth Ministry is based on the scriptural story of the Blessed Mother's visit to Elizabeth when they were both pregnant. This ministry will support parish members attempting to become pregnant, those who are pregnant, or in the adoption process. Elizabeth Ministry's coordinators will provide training.
2. Mother's Day rose sale the weekend of May 13 & 14. Roses will sell for \$2 each.
3. The group is planning to sponsor a Fall Women's Retreat. Currently looking at September 23 or September 30. Sandy Setterlund will be the presenter.

C. Buildings & Grounds (John):

1. Walter with help from Tom Schneeberg and Tim Kaczmarek have a lot of the building lights replaced with LEDs. Their next goal is the section in the family center. They will wait until after the picnic to do that. They will then finish up with the lights in Ehr Hall.
2. Walter has the mower deck back on the John Deer and put new blades on all mowers.
3. Father brought up concerns with the parking lot and the need for replacement. Both councils agreed to move forward with collecting bids for this project.

D. Call to Justice (Tim):

1. The group is reading Laudato Si.
2. Meal of Hope, the number of meals served: January - 22 eat-in, 18 carry-outs; February - 25 eat-in, 18 carry-outs; March 31 eat-in (3 had "seconds"), 18 carry-outs; April - 27 eat-in, 16 carry-outs; May - 28 eat-in, 16 carry-out. The pantry also provided food to take home.
3. The group received a grant from the Hunger and Poverty Prevention Partnership of \$1,000 to help with the pantry and Meal of Hope.
4. Thrivent and St. Joseph has been financially supportive of the Meal of Hope.
5. Earth Week Activities:
 - a) Joined with Holy Spirit for a viewing of "The Letter."
 - b) Participated with churches in the area in ringing bells on Earth Day.

E. Sacred Worship Committee (Kris H.):

1. St. Joseph's Day celebration was Monday, March 20th. We had Mass and reception with, coffeecake, donuts, juice, and coffee. We had a good turnout and gave away the rest of the statues of St. Joseph.
2. Seder Meal was well attended. Everyone was glad we were able to celebrate our Jewish roots again.
3. May Crowning was scheduled for May 6-7. The ladies of St. Anne's participated in the 4:00 mass and the children participated in the 10:30 mass. I was very happy to see how many children participated in the procession and prayer.
4. Will wait until Fall to re-introduce the chalice on a regular basis at Mass.
5. Thank you for your contributions to the Parish Council basket for the picnic. This is what we will have in our basket: (2) \$25 gift certificates for Michele's; a \$25 gift card for Panera; a \$25 gift card for El Mezcal; a \$25 gift card for Pizza Ranch; \$25 gift card for Chili's and \$10 gift card for Dairy Queen.

F. St. Anne's (Kris S.):

1. May crowning was held on May 6.
2. The Cookie Walk discussion began.
3. Will make an offering towards the cost of the new convection oven.
4. Donation funds towards the picnic; and a basket for the raffle.
5. They are looking for new officers.
6. They helped with the Knights of Columbus gathering and provided the meal.

G. Holy Name (Mike):

1. The last prayer group of the year is Wednesday, May 17, for an evening gathering.
2. Donating a basket for the picnic raffle.
3. Hosted May Meal of Hope.

VI. Fond Farewell

- A. This was Kris Strigel's last meeting. Father Hennes and the council offered her gratitude for her time serving on the council.

JOINT MEETING WITH FINANCE COUNCIL

Joined by Jacob Stiemann, Mike Bialas, Kevin Shibilski, Bill Wallner

- I. Emerson Park
 - A. Last year the tithing was to purchase a bench for the new park. An image of the bench inscription was shared.
- II. Capital Campaign
 - A. Our current pledges are just over \$110,000, almost 25% of our goal. 20 families made these offerings.
 - B. Two letters of concern were received. Father has replied as necessary.
 - C. A few parishioners shared that their envelopes to include the brochure were blank.
 - D. Marawood Construction has shared a bid for the front steps, and it was \$110,000-\$130,000 to rebuild the current. This is half of the amount of a prior bid. With the recommendation of the Councils, we will reach out to get on their schedule, moving towards final pricing and drawings.
 - E. The suggestion was made to see what the costs would be to cover the steps, not a full enclosure. We will share this with Marawood.
- III. Tithing
 - A. Was shared with Finance Council
 - B. A suggestion was made to support young mothers.
- IV. Next Meeting:
 - A. We will not hold a meeting in July, but watch for emails regarding projects. We would hold a meeting if necessary.
 - B. Benefit of joint meetings was discussed and the group agreed that it would be nice to continue to have meeting time together.
 - C. The next meeting will be September 21. Parish Council will gather at 6 p.m. and Finance Council will join 6:45 p.m.

Annual Agenda Items: Picnic Basket (March); Tithing/Vision Statement (May); Christmas Basket (November)