

St. Mark Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: September 26, 2013	Prayer Leader: Lindsey Fischer
Time: 7:00 pm	Refreshments: Lindsey Fischer/ Carolyn Bundy
Location: Boardroom, Parish Center	

Scripture/Shared Prayer

Lindsey Fischer

Roll Call/Approval of Minutes

Dawn Collier

Minutes from 08/01/13 were read, accepted, and seconded. In attendance were: Fr. Todd Riebe; Ann Berkemeier; Carolyn Bundy; Harold Bowling; Dawn Collier; Lindsey Fischer; Darrell Gossett; Mary Ann Jacobs; Chris LaFollette; Mickey Lentz; and Kathy Pierce.

Pastor Comments

Fr. Todd Riebe

Connected in the Spirit information has been completed and has been sent back from the Archdiocese. Multiple ways to share ministries with St. Roch and St. Barnabas have been identified. The end of the Year of Faith will be celebrated at individual parishes on the feast day of Christ the King which is 11/24/13.

Committee Reports

A. Social Life

Harold Bowling

The golf outing netted about \$6000; \$3000 for the Men's Club and \$3000 for the parish. The Men's Club clean-up day was a couple of weeks ago to clean the church grounds. The newly formed Sister's Circle met in September with about 20 women attending. The Sister's Circle is planning an evening in October to pray the Rosary. The Hope Ride in which the Sister's Circle participated raised \$250 to be donated to St. Vincent DePaul. The Bingo Bash will be held on 11/16/13. A men's evening out is being planned for 01/24/14 with Bob Tulley as the speaker. The parish dinner dance will be held at Valle Vista on Friday 1/31/14.

B. School Commission

Mickey Lentz

The School Commission met on 9/4/13. The spirit of the school is great! The current 8th graders are the school leaders. The 6th grade will be taking their trip to Camp Techumseh 10/3 and 10/4/13. A review of I-Step scores is planned for the November School Commission meeting. The commission is also working on identifying goals for the school to focus on going forward.

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C. Finance Council

Harold Bowling

Finances are doing well. The purchase of the O'Riley house is complete. The project to improve lighting in the church is still being considered. It appears that the expenses for the new HVAC system are about ½ to ¼ of what they were with the old system.

D. Liturgy

Fr. Todd

The Art and Environment committee has done a great job of beautifying the church for the various seasons and celebrations. All the brass in the church was recently cleaned and lacquered. There is a new rug on the altar.

Agenda Items

A. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Angie Swiezy

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a Montessori-based religious formation program for children. There are 3 levels. St. Mark currently offers Levels 1 and 2. Level 1 is for children age 3 – 6. It was established in 2003 under the direction of Mary Lynn Cavanaugh and Ann Corcoran. Level 2 is for children aged 6 – 12 (1st – 3rd grades) and was established in 2008. There are about 35 to 45 children enrolled across the 2 levels. Catechists include Angie Swiezy (lead Catechist level1), Donna Rudolph (lead Catechist level 2); and Kathy Smith and Billy Cross as assistant catechists. Training for a lead catechist takes about one weekend a month for a year. There are several student helpers as well. The aim of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is to create and facilitate a sacred, hands-on space for children called the atrium in which both the children and their catechists can hear, ponder, and celebrate the most essential mysteries of the Christian faith as revealed in the Scriptures and the Liturgy. The children's response is tremendous, and the catechists get as much or more out of the experience as the children. St. Mark is very fortunate to have the Catechesis of the Good Shepard and the children of the parish are encouraged to participate.

B. Parish Picnic Wrap Up

Fr. Todd

Attendance was excellent; so much so that a bigger or additional tent is being considered for next year's picnic. There were no negative comments about the picnic being held on the St. Mark campus.

C. Year of Faith: 20 Year Anniversary Celebration Wrap Up

Fr. Todd

The 20 year anniversary celebration was simple but joyful. The spirit of the event was great. A plaque was dedicated to Mary Lynn Cavanaugh. The welcome desk is now "The Mary Lynn Cavanaugh Welcome Desk." Some of Mary Lynn's family was able to be there to celebrate. Harold Matthews was honored for his many contributions in building many of the wooden objects in

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St. Mark such as the altar, the celebrants' chairs, etc. He was honored with a statue of St. Joseph encased in a wood case made by Dave Jackson and which mimics Harold's work. Sister Marilyn attended the celebration as well. After 5:30 Mass a reception was celebrated in Schafer Hall. Thanks to Donna and Chuck Kern of Valle Vista for supplying the food; Julie Albertson and the youth for serving the food; Art Berkemeier for leading the celebration itself; and Beth and Joel Groves for chairing the celebration; and any others who were part of making the celebration so wonderful.

D. Pictorial Directory Update Ann Berkemeier

Due to an error, the roster had to be submitted again.

E. Discernment: Council Executive Officers All

Lindsey Fischer was discerned as chair; Darrell Gossett as vice-chair; and Dawn Collier as secretary for 2013 – 2014.

F. Discernment: Commission Liaisons All

Will be placed on a future agenda.

G. Thank You Cards All

Card was signed for Rusty Albertson for his leadership and all the good he has done for the school. Thank you Rusty! Future cards will be supplied by Ann Berkemeier.

H. For the Good of the Parish All

Sharing by all on:

1. Good things happening

So many good things are happening. St. Mark is such a vibrant community!

2. Needs in the parish

A parish wide survey will be taken to identify accessibility needs.

Reminders

A. Sign-ups for Prayer Leader and Refreshments All

B. Next Meeting is 10/24. Mickey Lentz is the prayer leader. Kathy Pierce will supply snacks.

Closing Prayer

Lindsey Fischer