

# Church of Saints Peter and Paul

## Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

January 22nd, 2008

**Members Present:** Sharon Hafften, Dorothy Haag, Mary Kaye Schneider, Michelle (Shelly) Gulsvig, Ryan Green, Jean Turnham, Judy Parmenter, John Grenzer, Father Brian.

**Guests:** Danny Doboszinski (Finance Council Chair), Lynn Scholtes (Parish Business Administrator), Ann Menard (local Catholic Aid Association Council President), and Peter Ryan (local CAA Representative)

**CAA's annual report:** Peter Ryan and Ann Menard gave an overview of dollars raised through the Matching Grant program. Over the past 21 years the Sts Peter and Paul CAA has raised \$45,233 for our school. CAA has added \$20,320 for a total of \$65,553. Everything has been going well in that collaboration. This past year Spooky Bingo didn't go as well. There weren't the numbers that it has brought in previous years. CAA is considering having Spooky Bingo separate from the parish's Harvest Moon Festival. Has Spooky Bingo worn itself out? Maybe it is time for something new? CAA is open to ideas – remember, all proceeds go to the school.

**Parish Business Administrator's report:** We recently sent out over 8100 copies of the latest edition of the Parish Newsletter. We mailed to Long Lake, a large area of Corcoran and Rogers, and Hanover. // Pamphlets are being put together by the parish office promoting the various PPC committees. These would be available in the entryway of the Parish Center, the welcome packets for new parishioners, the vestibule of the church, and the Stewardship packets sent to all parishioners in the fall. // Welcome bags are still being developed.

**Finance Council:** (Danny Doboszinski) FC has had two meetings since last PPC meeting. FC sent out letters to the top givers in the parish seeking donations to help in our current financial crunch. Education Advisory Committee representatives came to the January 15<sup>th</sup> meeting to provide information on school enrollment. See EAC report below for more info. // The FC is hoping our upcoming WinterFest fundraiser goes well to help us through the current crunch. SELL those raffle tickets!! This will help tremendously.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Building and Maintenance Committee:** (John Grenzer) John did some pricing on materials to construct the missal holders for the pews as requested by the Liturgy Committee. It would be very expensive to match the white oak we have in the church. John estimates \$1200 just for materials. Are there other options, such as acrylic? Could missals go into the existing holders along with the blue books? We would like to send this back to the LC for them to discuss. // The power company was called to look into the lights in the parking lots.

**Liturgy Committee:** (Judy Parmenter) The LC thought that Advent and Christmas went well. LC decided that everything regarding environments should be elevated higher. People can't see what's there. We may not be able to do anything about it unless we have some platforms built. We shouldn't be using the steps. // Jan 27<sup>th</sup> Masses will be in gym due to Catholic Schools Week. Academy students will be participating in 10am mass. // Ash Wednesday is on Feb 6<sup>th</sup>. The Lenten focus is water. Easter focus is light. // **The Evangelization Initiative will start the first week of Lent, Feb 10<sup>th</sup>.** // LC decided to purchase The Little Black Book. This is a meditation and prayer book containing daily meditations for Lent. 250 will be ordered for the parish and 50 for the Adoration Chapel. The ushers will hand them out 1 per family beginning on Ash Wednesday.

**Social Civic Committee:** (Jean Turnham) The SCC is planning the **Cana Reception** (formerly Cana Dinner). This year it is open to all adults, not just couples. (Must be 21 to attend due to alcohol being served.) The Cana Reception is part of WinterFest this year. // There will be another **Bingo Fun Night** on April 5<sup>th</sup> after the 5pm mass. It will be all free, bring food to share and byo drinks. // Coffee and rolls will be offered only once a month starting in March, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month. // March 8<sup>th</sup> will be a **Craft Day** at the parish center. Free to all - come and go as you please. Bring your craft and enjoy the social gathering. Get the word out – this is a fun event.

**Social Justice Committee:** (Dorothy Haag) SJC received great feedback about Dr. Karen Karn's (of Birthright) talk at the January 12/13 Masses. // April 21<sup>st</sup> is the next meal for Sharing and Caring Hands. Volunteers welcome. // Love Inc. has their annual meeting on Monday, Jan 28<sup>th</sup>. Dorothy will try to make it to this meeting.

**Fundraising Committee:** (Ryan Green) **Feb 9/10 is our WinterFest celebration.** Sell those drawing tickets!! We really need this support. If all parish families sold their tickets we would raise \$38,000. Details are being worked out for the Academy's Carnival, the Cana Reception, and Knights of Columbus breakfast. Two voicemails will be going out as a marketing effort for WinterFest. Representatives of the FRC spoke at all Masses this past weekend. The flyer for WinterFest has just been completed. Everyone plan on attending WinterFest!!!!

**Faith Formation Committee:** (Sharon Hafften) The Youth Leadership Team is planning a snow tubing event at Elm Creek on Feb 17<sup>th</sup>. // Confirmation is Jan 26<sup>th</sup> at the Cathedral. // The RE survey results are in! Respondents supported the proposal to switch RE classes to Wednesday evenings and have all volunteer teachers – contact the Director of RE for more info. There was a comment questioning the cost of RE. The Finance Council would be happy to do a write up to show exactly where the money goes and what the parish subsidy provides. PPC voted to support the proposal. The FFC will work with the pastor and DRE to implement the proposed changes for next year.

**Education Advisory Committee:** (Mary Kaye Schneider) The EAC met on Jan.3<sup>rd</sup>. Bonnie Begin helped to educate the **Lunch Task Force** members to what the lunch program deals with as far as subsidies and state regulations. They are working together on ways to improve the program, including finding a volunteer dietician to help with menus. The **Marketing Task Force** will begin surveying the current preK families as to their intentions for next year. They will put together a master list of all marketing efforts for the school. // The **School Structure Task Force** presented a two-fold proposal to the Finance Council at their Jan 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. First, the EAC would like to have one tuition rate for both parishioners and non-parishioners starting in the 2008/2009 school year. The tuition amount has not been set yet. Second, the EAC asks that the parish maintain the current school program without cuts to the staff for the next two years. We want everyone to know that the school will be here. Even with changes in leadership, the parish and school have been here for over 100 years, and the both will continue in their fine tradition. // The **Home and School Coordinators** have been working hard planning the Carnival for Feb 9<sup>th</sup>. The professional face painter will be back again this year, and we will be selling buttons with the kids' pictures on them that say "Sts Peter and Paul, WinterFest Carnival, 2008".

**Chairperson:** Shelly commented that the trustees asked her to pass on their thanks for all the PPC members' hard work as part of this council.

**Pastor:** Fr. Brian referred to his recent parish letter and the Jan 17<sup>th</sup> All Parish meeting in which he discussed the current and future state of the parish. His resignation (after 11+ years as our pastor) invites everyone to look ahead with great anticipation. A **Transition Team** has been appointed, and in fact, they have already begun to work on what this transition will look like. Included in Fr. Brian's recent letter was information on what the transition involves. Transitions happen all the time in our church system and there is a process to follow. The TT needs to be a visible group so people can come to them with feedback, ideas, and questions. The TT will be asked to report at the PPC's monthly meetings. How will they communicate to the parish at large? Fr. Brian's announcement at this time provides the parish ample time to prepare for the coming change in leadership. Ideally, such changes take place in June; and yet, Archbishop Flynn will determine whether Fr. Brian stays another four weeks or four months. Until he departs, everyone is reminded that he is still the canonical administrator; thus, be sure to continue to work with and through Fr. Brian on all parish matters.// We thank the New Church Building Cmmt for all their hard work up to this point. Will we have to mothball their work? Can we continue forward? The NCBC will be addressing these questions at their next meeting. // The LC is asked to work on a prayer for a new pastor. // Fr. Brian, the trustees, and the FC are currently working to resolve the current challenges with our school. The success of the current fund drive to support the school/parish will go a long way in determining what our school program will look like for next year. All school families and interested parishioners are invited to attend the next **All School meeting on Feb 7<sup>th</sup>**. The guest speaker will be Ms. Deb King who is the principal of Pope John Paul II grade school in Minneapolis. She will share her experience with "Multi Age Classrooms."

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, February 26th, 2008.

**Please remember, the PPC welcomes all guests to attend these meetings and we encourage your feedback and participation!**