

**Church of Saints Peter and Paul**  
**Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes**  
January 23, 2007

**Members Present:** Eric Lloyd, Kristi Bongaarts, Ryan Green, Sharon Hafften, John Grenzer, Dorothy Haag, Mary Kaye Schneider, Michelle (Shelly) Gulsvig, Judy Parmenter, and Fr. Brian Fier

**Guests:** Danny Doboszinski (Finance Council Chair), Tom Grinnell (Parish Trustee), Randy Hatcher (New Building Committee Chair), Lark Ahlstrom (Social Justice Committee Member), Lynn Scholtes (Parish Business Administrator), Pat Murray (SERRA Club), Pastor Norm Olson and Terri Harris (Love Inc.)

**Guests: Pat Murray – NW Hennepin SERRA Club** would like to place a freestanding informational display on vocations in the parish center. It would house information from several of the different religious orders as well as our Archdiocesan Vocations Office. This display would be free and its contents monitored by Mr. Murray, although he would like someone from our parish to eventually be our Vocations representative. A motion was made to go ahead with this project. //

Lark Ahlstrom introduced **Pastor Norm Olson and Ms. Terri Harris of Love Inc.** This charitable organization which ministers to the poor has been active in the Delano area since 2005. Since the Buffalo branch of Catholic Charities is now closed, Love Inc. appears to be a great organization for our parish to affiliate with to provide us with a means to handle the needy of our community who come to our parish for assistance. There are some concerns about their political affiliations, thus the SJC was asked to check into this area. The SJC will connect with the Parish office to see which weekend would be best to have a Love Inc representative talk at the weekend Masses. For now, it was agreed to participate with them and decide on which ministry we will provide later. //

**Randy Hatcher** provided an update on the current work of the **New Church Building Committee**. They are getting surveys back from area churches on how they did their building process, and are beginning to tour other churches and assemble data to get good ideas on how we should proceed. These surveys are coming from churches that have built recently. Their next newsletter hopes to have a timeline including when they anticipate breaking ground. They are deciding on whom to use as the patron saint of the building project. They are also working to modify our new church building prayer. This will be placed in the hymnals.

**Finance Council:** The Offertory collections at Masses continue to be down from the parishioners' pledged amounts. The FC recently ran a bulletin article letting people know that thru December 17<sup>th</sup> the annual collections were down \$117,000. Over Christmas collections did pick up and we are now back in positive numbers ---Yeah! The PPC discussed how giving appeared to be down for all charities/churches; and, how we need to simplify information given out to parishioners to allow a better understanding of our financial picture (e.g., pledged amount vs. budgeted amount).

**Social Justice Committee:** Applauded the pro-life speaker from **Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life** at the January 20/21 Masses. All of us need to consider "End-of-life" issues. Info can be attained through MCCL or Fr. Brian. // **Sharing and Caring Hands** served over 300 in November. The next meal will be in April. // The SJC will continue to research Love Inc. before our parish officially becomes affiliated. // The SJC is planning a baby shower in April.

**Building and Maintenance Committee:** Talked about budget requests. A campus clean up day will be scheduled in April or May. // Continue to study needs of parish facilities; e.g., mud jacking of parish center.

**Liturgy Committee:** Discussed seasonal prayer cards including 6-10 different prayers to be placed in new hymnals. Should we laminate them? Need to finish hymnal fundraiser. Will set completion date for this project and then put dedication cards into hymnals. // Christmas decorations were beautiful. They are working on Lent/Easter. // The **Evangelization Initiative kickoff** will be at the February 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> Masses. // Area Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration is going well. // The LC is discussing changing our Christmas Mass schedule. Do we need two Christmas eve services and two Christmas day services?

**Social Civic Committee:** The family crafting night is set for January 25<sup>th</sup> from 4-10 PM. The SCC is looking at offering some fun family events every month. Possibly a family game night. // **CANA Dinner** is set for March 17<sup>th</sup>. All married couples are welcome!

**Fundraising Committee:** *Winterfest* will be February 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup>. The Saturday Carnival, Sunday Brunch and Parish Drawing are the highlights. Sponsor donations have been great. Many new events offered this year. Fun for the whole family! FC will be calling new folks who have expressed interest in participating on this committee via Stewardship forms last fall. Members of the committee will be speaking at masses on the upcoming festival. //The FRC will be working on coordinating our parish/school outreach to local businesses. Are we asking too much/too often for their assistance? The FRC will continue to discuss how best and most strategically to place the fundraising events throughout the year.

**Faith Formation Committee:** 21 of our high school juniors completed the Confirmation program and celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation on January 21<sup>st</sup> at the Cathedral with Archbishop Flynn. Congratulation Confirmands! Their Mystagogia dinner will take place on April 14<sup>th</sup>. // The youth will participate in a bake sale at the WinterFest. // The **Clothing Drive** for the homeless will run through Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>. // Individual Confessions will be scheduled for all our Academy and public school children during Lent.

**Education Committee:** The EC is discussing a mentoring program for new families. // Need to make Pre-Kindergarten program more of a stepping stone to Kindergarten, for desire to have children continue on with the Academy thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade. // Issues from the survey last fall are being addressed. // There will be an Academy Open House on January 28<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with **Catholic Schools Week**.

**Chairperson/ Vice Chair:** Discussed our first issue of our **new quarterly parish newsletter** that went out to 6,100 residences in our local community. Feedback was positive. The second issue will be out in early February. The PPC discussed possible advertising to decrease the cost of the newsletters.

**Trustees:** Tom talked about possibly coordinating the WinterFest with the Super Bowl next year.

**Pastor:** We need to continue to focus on **Stewardship** both within and outside the parish. Our new newsletter is a great effort to let the surrounding communities know who we are and what we have to offer. For example, we need to improve the marketing of our parish school. There is no reason that the Academy should not be “bursting at the seams” with students. We have a great school, thus let’s tell the world about it ---☺ // Parish committees need to call everyone who expressed an interest in their committee on the recent Stewardship forms. // How are we welcoming new families? This ministry needs improvement! // Glad to see the recent addition of a Vocations information display in the parish center. Yes, we need to promote vocation if we expect to attract future church leaders.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday February 27, 2007.

**The PPC welcomes all guests to attend these meetings. We encourage your feedback and participation!**