

Church of Saints Peter and Paul

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

November 27th, 2007

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

Guests: Danny Doboszinski (Finance Council Chair), Lynn Scholtes (Parish Business Administrator), Ted Turnham, Tom Grinnell (Parish Trustee), Marty Weber

Guest Reports:

Lynn Scholtes: Work is underway on the next parish newsletter. This issue is primarily focused on promoting our school. It will come out before Catholic Schools Week at the end of January. We will be sending this issue to a different mailing area. Previously we have sent it to Loretto, Rockford, and Maple Plain zip codes. We are hoping to send the new issue to the Corcoran/Rogers, Maple Grove, Long Lake, Orono, and Hanover areas. // Lynn brought up the idea of having **Welcome Bags for visitors** to our community. They would serve as a good marketing tool. The idea is to give people something to walk out with - making our ministries known - giving a sense of who we are at Sts Peter and Paul. Lynn will look into specific costs of putting together these bags. // Each parish committee is asked to put together a brochure describing their ministry. The parish office can assist in the fine-tuning of these promotional materials. // We are currently remodeling the west school entrance and parish center foyer. This project will include new info racks.

Finance Council: (Danny Doboszinski) The Education Advisory Cmmt attended the November FC meeting. Questions were raised about parish finance issues, specifically the parish's support of the school. This is in preparation for the December 6th "All-School" meeting. // The fuel tank for the church needs to be filled. Our **fuel fund** is extremely low. We really need everyone to be generous in returning their fuel needs envelopes. // We have a good inventory of **scrip** in the parish office. We hope people will remember scrip in their holiday shopping. // Everyone is encouraged to remember our parish in their wills. To date, our parish does not have strong history of parishioner bequests to our church. Remember to include our parish in your estate planning.

Committee Reports:

Building and Maintenance Committee: (John Grenzer) There is a list of work that needs to be done on parish grounds. Dates need to be coordinated with everyone's schedules.

Liturgy Committee: (Judy Parmenter) LC is discussing ideas for next year's November memorial cards. Is it time to change our format? // New Seasonal Prayer Card for Advent/Christmas will be set out Nov. 30th. // Shelly Gulsvig attended the meeting as a representative of the Seasonal Planning Committee and gave a presentation on the SPC's insights on Lent/Easter. // Can the **weekly liturgical schedules** be printed in the bulletin? Too many ministers are missing their assigned dates. This would be a good reminder. The parish office will look into the cost of expanding the size of the bulletin.

Social Civic Committee: (Jean Turnham) There will be a Christmas card making class on Saturday morning, December 1st. Then from noon – 10:00pm there will be a crafting day. Bring your own crafts, snacks, etc. Free to all. // SCC is planning a **bingo night** after 5pm mass on Jan 12th. \$5 for bingo – bring your own beverages and a dish to share. // Turkey bingo was a great success. 92 people participated in the fun. // Game night went well also – a lot of fun for the whole family. // **Cana Dinner** will be held on February 9th during Winterfest this year. Preparations are underway!

Social Justice Committee: (Dorothy Haag) SJC served lunch on November 12th at Sharing and Caring Hands. 275 people served. // Appalachian Christmas Collection went well. // SJC is working on getting a speaker (possibly from Birthright) for Jan 12/13 masses. // **Holiday Train** will visit Loretto on Dec. 13th at 4:15 PM. Our church will continue to collect non-perishable food items until this date. Baskets are next to the altar.

Fundraising Committee: (Ryan Green) Harvest Moon Festival numbers are in. Total profits were ~\$19,600. This figure is up ~\$2,700 from last year. The target goal was \$24,000. Neither *Kiss the Pig* nor *Cowabunga Bingo* did as well as expected. Overall there was a good volunteer turnout. Fun was had by all! The FRC is looking at a new date for next year's celebration. // Winterfest (Feb 9/10) planning is underway. // If anyone would like to join the FRC, they will always welcome new members.

Faith Formation Committee: (Sharon Hafften) Harvest Moon Festival costume event went well. The children had great fun in showing off their Halloween costumes during Catholic Aid's Spooky Bingo. // On November 2nd some of our youth toured a local Jewish Temple. It was very informative for the students and the parents who attended. // The annual **Giving Tree fundraiser** has begun. Dec. 16th is the deadline for people to donate a gift to a needy family. Check the Advent trees located in the parish center foyer and north church entrance for ideas. // Teen Movie Night will be on Friday, November 30th. They will be watching "Elf". // We have received many positive comments about the proposed changes in the structure of the youth religious education program. This change will require volunteer teachers to be found for grades 1-6 religion education classes. A part-time youth minister will need to be found. Perhaps we can share a youth minister with a neighboring parish. Our current youth minister will be asked to investigate this possibility. For more info contact our directors of religious education. // A sledding/ski event is being planned for January.

Education Committee: (Mary Kaye Schneider) The EAC has established marketing goals for our school. // They are working on a comprehensive sports policy for the school. They will develop this with input from their athletic director (John Goodpaster), parents, as well as coaches at the Academy. // EAC will be hosting an "**All School**" meeting looking at the Academy's strengths and challenges for the present and future. This meeting will be held **on Dec 6th**. All school families and parishioners have been given an opportunity to give input before the gathering via a survey. The EAC is working to organize the responses in preparation for the December 6th meeting.

Chairperson: Pat Weber, Cub Scout Master, could not be here to request rechartering the group. The PPC recommended approving the charter for the **Cub Scouts** for another year. We would like to hear from the scouts as to what they have planned for this year. For example, how are they serving the parish? Shelly will ask Pat to respond to these questions at the December PPC meeting.

Trustees: (Tom Grinnell) Clearly there is a great deal going on within our parish. Let's keep a positive attitude! Thanks everyone for the good work.

Pastor: (Father Brian) The EAC has stepped up to do a lot of good work for the school. The December 6th "All School" meeting should be a good opportunity for everyone to share their thoughts. **What will our school look like in the future?** The challenge to maintain a Catholic school is only becoming more difficult. Archdiocesan support has decreased, and neighboring parish aid is virtually nonexistent. Clearly, we need to be open to new ideas. Everyone (school and parish families alike) needs to support and participate in this ministry. // A parish letter will be going out soon responding to concerns raised regarding parish finances this past Summer. There will be an "**All Parish**" meeting **on Jan. 17th, 2008**. All parishioners will be invited to gather to learn more about our present and future challenges. Input will be welcome ---☺ **What will our church look like in the future?** What programs do we want to offer?

Next Meeting: Tuesday December 18th, 2007.

Please remember, the PPC welcomes everyone to attend their meetings. Individual committees gather at 6:30 pm and the PPC meeting commences at 8pm. We encourage your feedback and participation!