

Church of Saints Peter and Paul

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

October 23rd, 2007

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

Guests: Danny Doboszinski (Finance Council Chair), Lynn Scholtes (Parish Business Administrator), Randy Hatcher (New Church Building Committee Chair), Allie Spaulding (Youth Minister and DRE grades 7-12), Angie Mahoney (Education Advisory Committee Chair), Doug Doboszinski (Parish Trustee), and Ted Turnham

Guest Reports:

Randy Hatcher: New Church Building Committee report. Proposals were requested of five architects. Four of these submitted proposals. The committee has selected three of these architects for the final interview process. These interviews will take place on November 13th, at which time each architect will make their presentation. The committee hopes to make a selection that evening or the next day. The next step would be to notify the parish that we've hired an architect. Then we need to notify the Archdiocese that we have completed the step of hiring an architect. The NCBC will hold a town-hall style meeting in early December to announce the hiring. The architect will be present to make a presentation. The NCBC has completed all ministry meetings to determine the needs of the parish community. The architect will revisit ministries to get closer to actual needs.

Lynn Scholtes: The custodians have replaced the railing on the stairs going into church (main entrance). They are working on getting them painted. The railings needed replacing due to rotting wood.

Allie Spaulding: Presented a proposal for **"Restructuring the Faith Formation Program."** In brief --- Allie proposes that we have one director for Religious Education grades 1-12, a part-time administrative assistant, and a part-time Youth Minister. Our present organization includes a part-time employee who handles both Youth Ministry and RE grades 7-12, a part-time administrative assistant, and the Academy principal who also handles RE grades 1-6. She believes that now is the time to make this change. We need a strong curriculum that is consistent throughout grades 1-12. Our grades 1-6 program is having a decline in enrollment, while our grades 7-12 program is showing an increase in enrollment. There is a problem with parents trying to get their grades 1-6 kids here after school for the 4:00 start time. There is a problem for families with kids in both younger and older RE groups (grades 7-11 starts at 7:00) -- having to come twice in an evening. With the new proposal all grades will be at in the evening. Also there is concern about the different curriculum utilized by the 1-6 program. There is a lack of continuity between the 1-6 and 7-11 programs. When kids come together for the Confirmation class starting in 9th grade they are at so many different levels that it is hard to bring them together. Parental education is an issue with students coming to receive the sacraments of First Communion and Reconciliation and then not coming again until Confirmation class. PPC voted to approve Allie's proposal. Further discussion and refinement will take place at future Faith Formation Committee and Parish Pastoral Council meetings. Feedback is welcome! All are encouraged to contact Allie for a copy of the proposal.

Finance Council: (Danny Doboszinski) Meeting postponed because of Father Brian's absence. Scrip is now available in the Parish Office. It was moved from bank because our accountants want it kept in house. Weekly collections are down and the finance council is concerned about this.

Social Justice Committee: (Dorothy Haag) SJC will be working at Sharing and Caring Hands on Nov 12th. // Holiday Train will be stopping in Loretto on Dec 13 at 4:15pm. // SJC is working on getting a speaker for a January Mass. // Baskets will be in the front of church to collect food donations for the month of November.

Building and Maintenance Committee: No report.

Faith Formation Committee: (Sharon Hafften) 10 people attended Sept 30th St Maron's Mass. // "Bagging for Tips" at Cub was a huge success. Made \$660 to be used for youth events. // Nov. 16th there will be a work night making ornaments for the Giving Tree. All youth are welcome!

Liturgy Committee: (Judy Parmenter) There will be a candle display in the front of church (to the right of the altar) for the month of November. There will be smaller individual candles representing each of the deceased of our parish from the past year. There will also be a larger candle representing the deceased family members of parishioners. There will also be **Memorial Prayer cards (courtesy of Iten's Funeral Home in Delano)** with names of deceased parish members from this past year. // We will be celebrating the anniversary of Area Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Nov 3rd and 4th. Each participating parish will be having their own celebration and will be putting out an invitation for new adorers. // A parishioner recently gave a monetary donation towards the **Prayer Shawl Ministry** (Thank you! Additional donations are always welcome ---☺). The PSM involves the creation of a wide scarf which can be used as a lap blanket. In the process of knitting or crocheting the shawl the person making it prays for the person who will be receiving it. The recipient is then given a card explaining the prayers that went into the shawl – with the intent that the recipient is wrapped in prayer while using the shawl. This is part of the Befrienders Ministry. We are in need of more prayer shawls – need more knitters. Contact Ruth Boehland if interested in helping out. // New Seasonal Prayer Cards (laminated to go into the hymnals) will be coming out for Advent/Christmas season. // We will be participating in the area **Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service on November 21st at 7pm**. This year it will be held at Our Father's Lutheran Church in Rockford. Our participation will be to market the event. All are welcome!

Social Civic Committee: (Jean Turnham) Lenten Soup Suppers assignments were given out. Marcy Kulzer heads up this ministry. // Nov 10th the SCC will host a **Game Night** after the 5pm mass. This is a free event. (Bring your own refreshments.) // Jan 13th there will be a **Bingo Party** at 2pm. Five dollars purchases 20 games and lunch. // Oct 13th **Crafting Day** was a success. Good time had by all. Another Crafting Day will be scheduled in the coming months.

Fundraising Committee: (Ryan Green) **Harvest Moon Festival** is this weekend (Oct 27th/28th) Setup starts on Thursday. Bingo capacity will be more than last year. A children's Halloween Costume parade will be included. Gonzo the Clown will be here again. There will be an outdoor 5:00 Mass, Silent Auction, Spaghetti Dinner, Live Auction, a Kiss the Pig contest [i.e., bidding on whom you want to kiss the pig -- options are: Father Brian, Doug Doboszanski, Allie Spaulding, Heidi Rosati from Retro, and John Reynolds the Mayor of Loretto], Cow-a-Bunga Bingo, a quilt sale, and Sunday Brunch by Dobos. HMF t-shirts have been created and will be for sale. Thanks to everyone who will participate, especially the Catholic Aid Association and the Knights of Columbus. More volunteers are always needed.

Education Committee: (Mary Kaye Schneider) EC was recently brought the issue of students crossing County Road19 safely (between the post office and Retro). Cars are not stopping as required by law when someone is in the crosswalk. The Medina Police have been notified. We will be doing some community/school awareness efforts to improve the situation. // EC discussed the results of the Adopt-a-Highway survey. Most responses were very positive. The issue of safety on County Road11 was raised. We are working on the possibility of finding a different stretch of road. // EC had some parents at the meeting who brought up concerns about the school; mostly regarding how the teachers are being asked to stretch their time in teaching more classes than in the past. Also the issue of the fourth grade class not having a full time teacher was brought up. These issues will be on the agenda for the November 1st meeting. // PPC voted to change the name of Education Committee to Education Advisory Committee.

Chairperson/ Vice Chair: No report.

Trustees: (Doug Doboszanski) Thanks to everyone for their hard work --- a special thanks to the New Church Building Committee for all their efforts!

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 27th, 2007.

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