

Parish Council Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2023 ~ 6:30 - 8:00pm | Fellowship Hall

Parish Council Members X=Present			
x	Deacon Jeff Prickette- Parish Administrator	x	Donell Bonetti- co chair/member at large
x	Doug Wichman- Secretary Trustee	x	Sara Shefchik- co chair/member at large
x	Jackie Goral- Discipleship	x	Deb Bos- Community Life
x	Jennifer Mahoney- member at large/Young Adult rep	x	Jenny Vandenlangenberg- Family and Youth Initiatives & PC secretary
x	Emily Myrda- Helping Hands	x	Barb Rueckl- Worship
x	Phyllis John- member at large (Welcoming)	xx	Kody Hansen and Neil Saindon, Staff

1. The Opening Prayer was provided by Jennifer M.
2. Kody updated the group on the status of the Event Form that committee and staff members have been using to submit events to the Parish Office. About 20 of them have been turned in since the form was created. Kody said that overall the form has been well received and appreciated by those submitting it. We need to look at making the form shorter so that while it is still submitted digitally, it can be saved and printed. Staff will have an event team that will meet once per week to make sure each area is communicating properly. They will be working on this beginning in January. Here is the proposed internal Event Process [Flowchart](#). Note that committees should be using the current form until it gets revised.
3. Women's Connect group update: Neil informed the group that the original idea was for small groups for women to get together to meet on what they need. They started with the "Blessed is She" program and met through the summer of 2022, then the leaders opted out because of job commitments. There has not been movement on this group since. However, a Christian Mommy Group has been started, and they are meeting regularly.
4. Youth and Young Adult Ministry update: Neil provided a written update to the group. (Please see attached) The need for more volunteers in the areas of Youth Group and Young Adult Committee Members has been identified. The council also encouraged Neil to consider more variety in times, dates, and activities for Youth Group and to incorporate service projects, collaboration with other committees and other parishes, and mission trips.
5. The council discussed an idea of forming a short term subcommittee to support YA, Youth, FYI, RE for the purpose of visioning our programs, finding ways to keep our students engaged once they confirm in 11th grade, recruit students to Youth Group, and to support the YYA Position. Jeff, Donell, and Sara will decide on when this group will be meeting.

Neil was encouraged at a meeting he attended on Dec. 12th to begin an East Side Ministry Planning Group. Of the 13 parishes, 6 of them were present. They looked at ways they can work together on events and mission trips. Kate Ruth at St. Bernards will be a great resource for this group. They are meeting again on January 24th.

6. Jennifer shared the latest draft of the document we will be using for the parishioners to vote on the names for 4 remaining rooms in the new build as well as the options for the Teen Room that the students will be voting on. (See attached.) Jeff and Donell will work with Red, Kody, Kathy and Jennifer on this.
7. We will be hosting an All Committee Workshop on January 20 @ 9am-noon.

A Save the Date will be going into the bulletin soon and a Flocknote has already been sent to all committee members. The focus of the workshop will be on Missionary Discipleship and how to engage our committees, parishioners, and ourselves to get them more active in our parish with the new building. What are we going to maintain, and how can we grow our events and offerings?

The Executive Committee will be meeting in January to discuss the parish vision. How do we envision ourselves and what we do with more space? How do we bring that back to our committees?

8. Meeting spaces available from January through the end of construction:

The Choir Room, Gathering Space, and the Bridal Room will be available for committees to hold meetings on site from January through April. If a meeting is held off site, please still let the Parish Office know so that it can be noted accurately on the Parish Calendar.

The office staff will be using Microsoft Outlook to reserve the rooms now and upon building completion. They are still working through how that will look on the website/public calendar with the addition of several more rooms.

Upcoming meeting: January 25 @ 6:30-8pm

2023-24 Liturgical Year Theme: Making Space for Jesus

Youth and Young Adult Ministries

Purpose:

1. The purpose of the Youth and Young Adult Ministries (hereafter YYA) is to prepare the youth and young adults of the Prince of Peace community to take ownership of their faith and their parish by generating strong, faith-filled, adults with a sense of community and a sense of responsibility to their parish.

Vision:

1. A parish filled with joyful disciples, intent upon caring for themselves and each other as we mutually progress on our journey to heaven.

Values:

1. Above all, every person involved in the Youth and Young Adult program should be convinced of their own value and worth and the value and worth of others around them. This value is intrinsic and not limited to possibility but rooted in our reality. **Personal Dignity.**
2. Jesus saves, not us. While our unique personhood is of utmost value to this program, we need to always know we are but conduits for the Holy Spirit in an effort to create, deepen, and prolong relationships between our youth and young adults and their Savior, Jesus Christ. **We don't have to save anyone.**
3. Our ministry will be the ministry of Jesus Christ. We will seek out disciples in small groups, even individually, build lasting and uplifting relationships in those groups, continually giving thanks and asking for help from Our Heavenly Father. **We can't do this alone.**

Method:

1. Create a series of small groups. Through these groups, which will come and go as needed, we will seek to build bonds between ministers and our Y and YA and between the Y and YA themselves.
2. Create, adopt, and implement programs that will lead to a greater sense of community, while also building up the sense that one is loved and valued.
3. Our focus will not be on activities, programs (as such), or material. Instead, we will focus on communicating as the early Christians did, the Kerygma which does not change but is always alive and new for those that have not heard it.
4. The Director and any volunteers or staff that assist, will attend most RE activities to build relationships with the kids that WILL become Y and YA someday.
5. We hold to 3 "nevers": 1. NEVER alienate anyone 2. NEVER lie to anyone (this takes many forms) 3. NEVER be the reason someone leaves the faith.

Past Activities:

1. Young Adult Game nights. We put on 18 such events and 2 special events with outside entertainment. Our largest group was for our First Trivia night at 23. Our smallest group was 1. After some consideration it was determined that this was not an effective method, and it was somewhat costly to the parish at an average of \$100 per event. After doing 18 of these events without managing to create any kind of community the Director chose to discontinue them for the time being, and instead, focus on creating a core group of YAs to run events etc. on their own.
2. Young Adult Committee. The committee was formed from the few YAs that consistently came to the YA nights. The committee was barely in its infancy when 3 of the members had to abruptly resign due to personal matters. This being the case, the committee postponed any short-term events and instead focused on building a calendar of events for after the build. This calendar has been created and our next meeting is to ratify this calendar and then book dates, etc. on the parish calendar. This committee is, while very small, still here and working and meets regularly. We are, unfortunately, without a chair for our committee so I have been acting in that capacity until someone accepts that nomination. On Oct. 27th the YA group held a successful event where the group watched a movie, discussed various topics, and made blankets to support a local charity.
3. The YYA ministry has created and executed a 5-week series on Mystagogy, a 4-week series on the practical concerns of adulthood, 3 connect groups (Men's, women's, Youth). YA has been a constant presence in Sacramental prep and RCIA for all ages. The YYA ministry has also been providing a voice for the YYA population during the recent building project, at Diocesan events and meetings, at parish events and meetings such as Plant with POP, Pumpkin Carving, a passion play, a music appreciation night, and 3 pilgrimages to the Shrine of Champion for the Confirmation Kids (format reworked). There have been uncounted individual meetings with parishioners to both minister as well as to coordinate ministry and invite persons into ministry. The Youth Group had its first off-site event at the Green Bay Blizzard Religious night where we were able to catch the game AND a concert by Christian music artist Micah Tyler. There were 15 kids and 4 Chaperones in attendance.
4. In the 2 years since the creation of the YYA department we have recruited and trained 15 catechists from grades 5 through 11. Evaluated and implemented a complete overhaul of the religious education curriculum to adapt to post COVID needs and to come more in line with the goals and ideals of relational ministry. There was a delegation sent to the LifeTeen conference in AZ, a group that went to Diocesan training in Oshkosh, and at least 4 in-house training sessions have been held during catechist in-service.

Status Quo:

The YA committee is stable but needs more members.

The East-Side Ministry planning group launched on Dec 12th. This is a joint initiative between St. Bernard's Faith formation and POP's YYA ministries and includes representatives from 13 parishes across the east side of Green Bay and surrounding areas. POP YYA has been working on this since 2021 however, St. Bernard's staffing challenges have led to this having to start over 3 separate times. Luckily, POP stayed with it and kept it afloat.

The Diocese does not have a YYA person on staff, so we are on our own there.

On the Horizon:

1. We are working to expand the small group discipleship model with more connect groups. These groups are organic so they require members to lead and cannot be dictated.
2. Once the building is complete there will be joint effort between YYA and RE to create and sustain programming for parents that will occur during religious education night while the kids are in class. The programming is educational and borrows heavily from FORMED and HALLOW because of the already extant subscriptions of the parish. Presenters will be mostly in house, but the Diocese has also offered to assist in securing outside speakers for these as well.
3. The Youth Group is expanding into multiple groups with different leaders to encourage greater participation by offering various times and activities. During the build, Youth Group will be meeting less frequently so as not to interrupt other ministries but we will be going off-site for some events after Christmas.
4. The YA committee has established relationships with Lourdes in De Pere as well as with St. Pius in Appleton and we are working to establish joint events which include things like group Door County trips, group retreats, group hikes, and other Holiday celebrations like FriendsGiving, YA Christmas party, and YA movie nights.
5. Planning is underway for a mission trip for highschoolers, a group retreat for catechists, a group retreat for teens (spiritual not mission) and Youth Masses.

Building Addition Room Names

As we move closer to completing the new addition to Prince of Peace, we want to involve our parishioners in the naming process for some of the new rooms. Voting for each room will take place next week. You will have the opportunity to vote either by paper ballot in the gathering space, or electronically with Flocknote.

Venerable (soon to be Blessed) Archbishop Fulton Sheen, host of the popular TV program "Life is Worth Living" which aired in the 1950s and 1960s, wrote in one of his sermons, "How are we going to live in these troubled times? There is really only one answer: We have to become saints."

Sainthood is often something we perceive as unattainable. It is for someone else, not something we can personally achieve. The fact of the matter is, we cannot enter heaven if we do not! As Catholics we are blessed with the Communion of Saints to inspire us and intercede for us on our journey to Heaven. Below are some options for naming the remaining rooms in the building addition for Prince of Peace. Our prayer is that these saints can also become our parish patrons and spiritual friends!

Some rooms have already been named by generous donors and are listed as follows:

1. Religious Ed/Teen room (Lower Level): To be named by the teens
2. Double Religious Ed/Meeting room (Lower Level): St. Gabriel the Archangel and St. Jude
3. Religious Ed/Meeting room (Lower Level): St. Lawrence
4. Religious Ed/Music room (Lower Level): St. Michael the Archangel
5. Community Room (Main Level): St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

The remaining rooms that will be on the ballot for voting are listed below. Each one has two saints listed as the possible name, and you may vote for one per room.

Religious Ed/Meeting Room (Lower Level): Since there are 3 archangels mentioned in the Bible, and two have been chosen for a couple of the rooms listed above, it makes sense to include another angel for one of the rooms to round things out.

1. The Guardian Angels: Did you know that faith teaches us that each one of us has our own guardian angel? Angels are pure spirits without bodies, who possess superior intelligence, gigantic strength and surpassing holiness. They offer continuous praise to God and serve Him as messengers and minister, and as guardians of people on Earth. They defend us against the assaults of demons, help us to rise again when we fall, encourage us to become more virtuous, suggest holy desires, offer our prayers to God, and assist us at the hour of death.
2. St. Raphael the Archangel: The name Raphael means "God has healed". St Raphael is one of 7 archangels, 3 of whom are mentioned in the bible (The others being St. Gabriel and St. Michael). Found in the book of Tobit, St. Raphael healed Tobit's blindness and guided his son Tobiah into marriage with Sarah after delivering her from the demon Asmodeus. He is known as the patron saint of travelers and the blind.

Money Counting Room/Meeting Room with extra technology for virtual meetings (Main Level)

1. St. Matthew: One of the twelve Apostles, Matthew is the author of the first gospel. You are likely familiar with Matthew 9:9, which reads "As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him". St. Matthew is known as the patron saint of accountants, bankers, bookkeepers, and tax collectors.
2. St. Anthony: He received the name Ferdinand at baptism but took the name Anthony upon entering the Franciscan order. He became an accomplished teacher and preacher, traveling extensively through France, Spain and Italy. Even during his lifetime, he was regarded as a legendary hero who worked many miracles. One of these was regarding a Psalter that was stolen and returned, which is why St Anthony is known as the patron of those who have experienced a loss.

Meeting Room with capacity for babysitting during events (Main Level)

1. Blessed Carlo Acutis: Born in 1991, as a young boy Carlo had a special love for God and the Eucharist even though his parents were not practicing Catholics. He went to mass as often as he could, made Holy Hours, and went to confession weekly. He loved computers and gaming, including PlayStation, Super Mario and Pokemon. He used his computer skills to build a website cataloging and promoting Eucharistic miracles. He died of leukemia at the age of 15 and was beatified in 2020. He is the first millennial to be beatified and is considered the patron saint of the Internet.
2. Blessed Solanus Casey: Fr. Solanus Casey was born in 1870 in Oak Grove, Wisconsin. He entered the Capuchin Franciscans in Detroit in 1897. He faithfully served the people of Detroit, MI, Huntington, IN and New York by providing soup for the hungry, kind words for the troubled, and a healing touch for the sick. People would seek out Fr. Solanus asking for "special favors" which lead to numerous miraculous healings and answered prayers. He died on July 31, 1957, and his body has been found to be incorrupt. Blessed Solanus Casey is the patron saint of apparent failure and setbacks.

Bride's Room/Family Room (Main Level)

1. St. Anne: Sts. Joachim and Anne, both of the tribe of Judah of the royal house of David, are venerated by the Church as the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary. St. Anne has been honored from early Christian times. She is often represented as teaching her young daughter to read the Scriptures. A favorite prayer of many young Catholic women looking for a husband goes, "Good Saint Anne, bring me a man as fast as you can!" St. Anne is the patroness of Christian Mothers
2. St. Gianna Molla: St. Gianna was an Italian pediatrician who also embraced her vocation of being a wife and mother. During her pregnancy with her fourth child, doctors discovered she had a uterine tumor. She was given three choices: an abortion, a complete hysterectomy, or removal of the tumor only, which posed risk of future complications. Gianna chose only to have the tumor removed. Throughout her pregnancy, she found strength in the Lord and asked him to take any pain away from the child. On April 21, 1962 her daughter was successfully delivered by Cesarean section. However, after complications Gianna passed away one week later. Her husband and children attended her canonization by Pope Saint John Paul II in 2004. She is known as the patroness of mothers, physicians, and unborn children.

Sources:

USCCB Website

Illustrated Lives of the Saints

Catholic News Agency

Jennifer Mahoney, Parish Council At Large Member