

Joint Pastoral Council and Finance Council Meeting Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2024 - 6:30p.m.

In attendance: Rob Rivera, Amy Perrault, Phyllis John, Deb Bos, Becky Krueger, Carl Juza, Deacon Jeff Prickette, Gregg Froelich, Kim Hermans, Jennifer Mahoney, Danae Srnka, Jenny VandenLangenberg, Bob Conway, Donell Bonetti, and Barb Rueckl

1. Opening prayer was provided by Deacon Jeff

2. Pastoral Council Update

Barb gave updates from Kathy Pelnar in regards to the storage areas downstairs and the formation of a small group that will work on decorating the rooms in the new building.

3. One by One Campaign Update

Jeff informed the group that the original fundraising campaign for the new building addition fell short of the goal by \$600,000. Efforts to bridge this gap will begin again and all parishioners including those who have already donated will be receiving a letter to consider adding to their donation, or donate for the first time if they have not yet done so. Currently we are spending about \$82,000 per year in interest on the loan, so ideally we would like to decrease the debt.

4. Finance Report

Gregg Froelich shared a variety of data that has been collected from the parish's database, Gabriel. Mass attendance is continuing to grow and the average attendance is 273 for each Mass. The amount of Sacraments performed is similar to the numbers from 2023. New family registrations have been about 8 per month for the past three years and continues strong. \$14,785 was raised in Scrip over the past year. As of June 2024 stewardship giving through ACH giving is up by 8.7%.

5. QR Code/Venmo explanation and discussion

Requests for electronic on demand giving have been received. The Finance Council investigated an option through Flocknote Fund It a while back and decided it was not the route to go. Security is of the highest priority and extra time would be required on the bookkeeping end of things. It was decided that a small task group would be needed to look into the best platform and determine risk vs. reward before it can be implemented. Danae has the list of questions that need to be answered on different platforms that need to be vetted. A well rounded view of opinions (younger people,

people who use apps like Venmo, and people who don't use online banking) on a task group would be very beneficial. Anyone willing to head this task group up would be welcome to do so and should contact Danae.

6. Organizational Structure ([update/ideas](#))

Donell shared the current image that is reflected in the Annual Report. She then shared some updated designs that include The Deacons, Priest Celebrant, and Staff in the Center, with Religious Education and Pastoral Care in the next circle, all Committees in the next circle and the Finance Council and Pastoral Council around the outside of the circle helping to guide the direction of all the efforts of the parish. The new design will be reflected in the 2024-25 Annual Report. Danae suggested that the final design gets displayed somewhere prominent in the building to create more awareness among the parishioners. Donell will revise and share a draft with the Pastoral and Finance Councils for their final approval.

7. Vision for the Parish

Donell talked about the need to increase activities for more age groups and faith levels through our councils and committees now that we have more space to accommodate them. We also need to start holding ourselves accountable to the Parish Mission Plan. A large objective of the Pastoral Council is to make sure the committees are able to maximize the new space. This, along with a review of the Parish Mission Plan, will be worked on more in the upcoming months.

8. Liturgical Year theme

The councils looked at the suggestions for a new theme that will go into effect in Advent. It was decided that for Liturgical Year 2024 the theme will be "Do this in remembrance of Me", highlighting the Eucharist. It was also decided that the theme for 2025 will be "Taste and See". The theme will be incorporated into programming throughout the year.

9. Consolidation of meeting nights

Committees are now highly encouraged to meet on either the first or second Thursdays of the month so that Deacon Jeff can attend as many of them as possible. If these dates cannot be accommodated, please keep Jeff informed with updates from your meetings. Jeff also stressed the importance of keeping the church open as often as possible for people to come in and spend time with Jesus.

Upcoming Dates:

October 17th - Annual Parish Meeting at 6:00.

October 24th-Pastoral Council Meeting at 6:30.

We ended the meeting with a closing prayer of the Lord's Prayer at 8:10 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jenny VandenLangenberg.