

Pastoral Council Meeting
Monday, January 22, 2007

Meeting called to order at 7:13 p.m. with opening prayer and meditation.

Present were: John, Jim, Deanna, Fr. Tom and Mary Lou.

Excused were: Lynn and Bill

Minutes from the previous meeting were amended to accept the minutes from the Faith Formation committee because of items that were now outlined in the minutes from the Pastoral Council meeting. Deanna wanted to ensure that all the information discussed at the Faith Formation meetings were identified. After this addition the minutes were accepted.

Committee Reports

As yet, Bill has not been formally assigned to a committee. We will discuss this further when Bill is in attendance.

Faith Formation:

Discussion of merging the Faith Formation and Youth committee was reviewed.

Father Tom does not want to merge both Faith Formation and the Youth Ministry.

He feels that we need to continue to work on this Ministry as there will be people who will come forward.

The original idea for Youth Ministry was to be an outreach to all kids in our parish community. The parish hall meeting didn't bring a point person out. The Bon Fire, sponsored by the Pastoral Council did not initiate interest either. Father Tom feels that he knows a few people who are interested in helping get this ministry started.

Deanna mentioned that Faith Formation will collaborate efforts with the Youth Ministry to help get it started but will not be responsible for this activities of the Youth Ministry committee.

The Elementary - National Program "Safety & Sexuality Program" begins February 7th to introduce the program to parents. Classes start 2/28 and will be completed by 3/14.

PreSchool through 4th grade will have one night training. Graded 5-8th will have two nights training. All older kids will take part in "All in God's Plan", which was the parish choice, part II. The 13-16 year olds will have a co-ed & parent training session on March 4. This will help parents teach human sexuality and the sanctity of life.

Drivers are needed for a meeting on Summer Blast in Snow for 6-8th grades at St. Mary of the Lake in White Bear. This is February 3.

The 6 grade plus need drivers for the Hunger program on March 2. The Generations of Faith program March 28 will feature Easter to Pentecost, "Tomb to Upper Room".

Lisa our Elementary Coordinator is resigning and a tentative date of April 25. The Faith Formation Program coordinators would like to have a replacement for Lisa before August 2007. Training for this new person is very important before the new school year begins.

Social Justice Committee Laura Alberg, Lynn Weir, Dianne Kirchofner, Dave Kirchner (food shelf) met and discussed the mission statement for the committee and approved it for another year.

The Flow chart of committees and subcommittees needs to be updated.

The Jingle Bell for Change was very successful and will continue to do this program again. The idea for improvement would be to have the program run for two weekends for collection.

The second weekend of the month is for Food Shelf and the next collection will be February 11 at all Masses. The 2nd Grade is doing "Live It" and that is part of the increased activity for food shelf items.

Food Shelf Sunday needs to have better advertisement. We should make the area for collection more visible and it would be good to identify items needed the previous week as a reminder to people to participate. Such as we are collecting personal products which would include deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste, etc. Or another week would be paper products, or canned goods etc. Diane Kirchoffner will continue to work with the Social Justice Committee and will split her time with Eucharistic Ministers Committee.

The Communications Committee is a work in progress. Since the meeting in November the website has not been updated. Rob Montgomery has not had an opportunity to work on new web pages. Jim and Mary Lou will work with Rob to see what can be done to get this back up and running.

Liturgy Committee - Discussion of Eucharistic Ministers distributing communion at the parish center determined that we must have three people but their positioning must be changed. There should be a smoother process for receiving communion and the position of the ministers will resolve the current problem. Having ministers both forward or back a few steps from the ones giving the host could keep the lines from getting backed up. Father will give this a try and see what comes of it.

Music Committee- The Music committee would like to purchase paper back hymnals for the parish center. With Father Tom's permission the order will go in. These books will be soft cover and will contain just the music. The committee's intent is to purchase 200 books initially.

Parish & Community Activities - Continue to hold their monthly Cards and Cuisine event and they numbers have been increasing. It is becoming a real community of everyone that attends.

Other Business

Our parish is due for a new pictorial directory and Father has called a meeting of all those interested parishioners. There are three companies for consideration.

The Evangelization committee will be meeting and discuss plans for making this program a year long program rather than just a 4-5 week Lenten program. More information to come after this meeting.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting closed with a prayer.

Our next meeting will be February 26 at 7 p.m. in the Rectory.

