

Pastoral Council Meeting

April 21, 2009

6:30

St. Michael Gathering Space

Meeting called by:	Fr. Bill & Council Leaders	Type of meeting:	Monthly
Facilitator:	Steve Opatik	Note taker:	Judy Staszak/Laurie Bootz
Attendees:	Fr. Bill, Deacon Peter, Sean Bennett, Laurie Bootz, Bruce Chopp, Steve Crooks, Pat Kinney, John Neumueller, Steve Opatik, Sara Ryan, Jill Schlueter, Sue Soriano, Glen Sowinski, Judy Staszak, Denise Sullivan, and Jean Tehan. Absent: Mary Brotz, Fr. Hackel, Rose Kampschroer, Mike Maher, Ann Robison, and John Townshend. Staff/Guests: Pam Frary, Phil Menzner		

Minutes

Agenda item:	NCS Elementary Schools	Presenter:	Phil Menzner
Discussion:	Phil reported on a recent meeting of the commission regarding declining enrollment and plans for addressing the upcoming school year. The current economic situation was cited as the predominant reason for declining enrollment. Although the commission feels enrollment will continue to pick up during the summer, a staff reduction of 4 FTEs is planned to help reach the 2009-2010 school year budget. Planning sessions will continue throughout the summer and fall for the 2010 and future school years. One of the ideas being discussed involved shifting some grade classes between schools. This could result in a primary (pre-K through grade 2) center, an elementary center (grades 3-6), and a junior/senior high school (grades 7-12). This is similar to other school districts in the diocese. Some minor revisions would need to be made at Newman High School to keep the junior high students separate from the high school students while sharing resources. These changes were discussed among the executive committee, school principals, and teachers.		
Conclusions:	A proposed plan will be presented to all supporting parishes in the fall of 2009.		
Action items		Person responsible	Deadline
✓			

Agenda item:	Family Life Update	Presenter:	Judy Staszak
Discussion:	Judy gave an overview of the various programs currently offered by the committee and how those programs met the diocesan goals of stewardship, evangelization, and Catholic identity. She also presented future goals and challenges of the committee. The greatest challenge is getting more committee representation from Resurrection Parish. Fr. Bill mentioned explained the Anniversary celebration to those who were unfamiliar with it. This year there will be celebrations at both churches on the first Sunday in June. A coordinator is needed for the Resurrection site. John Neumueller distributed a survey regarding materials for the new membership packets to council members asking them to rank suggested items and return their rankings by Friday, April 24. The committee will use that information to assemble a packet for approval at a future meeting of the council. Various ways to getting new parishioners to read the information were discussed.		
Conclusions:	The committee is busy with current programs but needs to develop a plan to improve representation from Resurrection on the committee.		
Action items		Person responsible	Deadline
✓	Call Fr. Bill to discuss the anniversary celebration at Resurrection	Judy Staszak	5/1/09
✓	Prepare sample new parishioner packet	John Neumueller	5/19/09

Agenda item: Elections for Pastoral Council **Presenter:** Fr. Bill

Discussion: Mike Maher from Resurrection will not be continuing on council. Judy Staszak and John Townshend from St. Michael's are at the end of their third terms and cannot continue. Terms are for two years and may be renewed twice (total of 6 years of continuous service).

Council members who wish to nominate new representatives should get the names to Fr. Bill as soon as possible. Elections will be held in May with the new term beginning in September.

Conclusions:

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓		
✓		

Agenda item: Council and Committee Minute Review/Discussion **Presenter:** Committee chairpersons

Discussion: Family Life – new minute format is clear and easy to follow.

Social Justice – Bruce Chopp reported on WISDOM, an interfaith program that works to foster change in communities through learning, education and advocacy of various causes. A group is starting to form in the Wausau area and the Social Justice committee thought it could be a good fit for them. It fills a void in the Social Justice area as it promotes change in structure, political change, rather than charity. St. Anne's & St. Stephen's have committed to the program. Names of interested persons should be given to Bruce Chopp. There will be an informational session in June at Resurrection. The dioceses of Green Bay and Milwaukee support the program – unsure of Bishop Listeck's feelings. Discussion centered on how to maintain Catholic identity if the group advocates a change that goes against our teachings.

There were no reports from Sacred Worship or Education.

The two parish websites have been combined into one, eastsideparishes.org. Sherri Kieffer created and is maintaining the website; those who have visited it commented favorably. It was noted that those looking for information on Family Life and Sacred Worship have to search for the link to those areas. The website will be promoted in bulletin and pulpit announcements when it is proven. A question was asked regarding the number of hits, but that information was not readily available.

Conclusions: More information is needed regarding the WISDOM program before the council can make a recommendation. The topic will be tabled until the May meeting.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Check for Diocesan approval of WISDOM program	Deacon Peter Burek	5/8/2009
✓ Find out how issues are chosen by the local group	Bruce Chopp	5/19/2009

Agenda item: Finance Council **Presenter:** Pat Kinney (St. Michaels)

Discussion: Finance – Pat Kinney commented on the updates that were done by members of the Finance Council on April 19. They were positive but cautionary. The interest payments that had been forgiven for two years will start again this year and will be approximately \$5,000 month. The Diocesan appeal was not mentioned at St. Michael's, which is unfortunate because the shortfall will have to come from the operations budget.

The council has finalized the vacation/time off policy. They have also started the budget process for next year. Fascia on the south side of St. Michael's needs to be replaced. Some bids have been received and reviewed – a revised call for bids may be sent.

Fr. Bill reported that Resurrection is behind in their operating budget and noted that gifts from wills are helping bridge the gap.

Conclusions:

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓		

Agenda item: Pastor's Report

Presenter: Fr. Bill

Discussion:

Confirmation is on Saturday, April 25 at 11:00. First Communion will be at all masses at St. Michael's on May 2 & 3 and at Resurrection on May 9 & 10.

May 9 & 10 is a Youth Rally at the Rothschild Pavilion for grades 7-12. There is a bulletin insert describing the event, which is being presented by the youth ministers from area parishes. There will be speakers and a band from Eau Claire. The rally is partially funded by the Diocese.

The DVD rack is here and is currently at St. Michael's. It will be moved between the two parishes so each has opportunities to purchase the DVDs. The suggested donation is \$3.00. The rack was made possible through parishioner donations.

Conclusions:

Action items

Person responsible

Deadline

✓

Information

Special notes:

Next meeting is May 19. The Stewardship Committee will be giving an update.