

**Minutes, St. Dominic Pastoral Council,
June 22, 2015**

Present: Fr. Phil Reifenberg, Jeanne Bitkers, Mary Karls, Leo Schneider, Maureen Stoelb, Don Holmes, Steve Straus, Bill Linn, Sue Sellars, Pam Duessing, Eileen Diener, Bill Thiele, Steve Scharrer

Council-Elect Members Present: Ken Sedmak, Jane Kautzer, Roy Sellars

Unable to Attend: Peter Bergman, Beth Grebe

1. The Council recited the “Stewardship Prayer” as an opening prayer.
2. The Council discussed reflection items from the May, 2015 post-Synod newsletter; *How does daily prayer help me in living and growing in discipleship? What happens to me when I haven’t been “encountering Jesus in daily prayer”?* Points brought up during this discussion included:
 - ★ We need to “practice” prayer just as we would practice a sport or musical ability
 - ★ Prayer keeps us in contact with God/Jesus
 - ★ There are many types of prayer such as scripture, organized (the Rosary), and spontaneous
3. There was no parishioner input at this meeting.
4. In his pastor’s report, Fr. Phil stated that Fr. Matthew Widder is now the Pastor of Holy Name Parish: prior to this he was the Parish Administrator. Pope Francis has issued an Encyclical on Global Environment; Fr. Phil has ordered copies for all Council and Staff members.
5. Steve Straus gave the Finance Report. While envelope revenue was slightly above budgeted amounts and the net operating deficit was a bit lower than projected, total revenue was still lower than what was planned. Expenses also continue to fall below budgeted totals. Church attendance for the month of May was 5% higher than May, 2014. Steve noted that the Stewardship Committee is to engage in a quest to search for sources of additional income for our Parish.
6. Committee Reports:
 - Stewardship** – Plans are in progress to call all who did not respond to the Parish Census several months ago. These calls are to be completed by July 15 and members of the Pastoral Council and the Stewardship Committee will do the calling. Each person will call about 20 people and Vince Karls will generate name lists and send them to these group members. The Committee is also busy compiling the results of the Time and Talent Survey.
 - Worship** – Worship Committee is studying methods to entice new or fallen-away members to our Parish. They are also compiling the results of the Prayer Survey from last month.
 - Faith Formation** – Diane Marshall had been considering a job opening at her home Parish but has decided to continue her employment here. There were 120 participants at Vacation Bible School this year.
 - School** – Gina Brown is the new Principle at Seton School.

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7. Jeanne Bitkers and Beth Grebe will serve on the Cluster Planning subcommittee to finalize the details of our North-Side Cluster plan prior to the September 14 deadline. Jeanne has also asked Roy Sellars to serve on this subcommittee.
8. In implementing the Year-1 goals of the 2014 Synod, we are to Evangelize using the Sunday Mass through the use of teaching resources presented to us by the Archdiocese. We are to study the materials handed out by Jeanne and discuss this process further at our next meeting.
9. The Patronal Feast of St. Dominic falls on Saturday, August 8. Plans are being made to host a celebration after the 5:00 PM Saturday night Mass.
10. The annual “Town Hall” meeting will take place on Monday, August 24, at 7:00 PM. The Pastoral Council will hold a short business meeting prior to this at either 6:15 or 6:30. Included in the Town Hall meeting will be reports from Pastoral and Finance Councils, a report by Fr. Phil, and various Committee reports.
11. Our July Pastoral Council meeting agenda will include the liaison assignments to all committees, officer elections, meeting prayer assignments, and a listing of Council goals. Current liaison assignments are:
Faith Formation - Eileen Diener
Stewardship – Mary Karls, Pam Duessing, Maureen Stoelb
Worship – Don Holmes
School – Bill Thiele
Finance – Steve Straus, Peter Bergman
Evangelization – Beth Grebe
Human Concerns – Bill Linn

Pam Duessing, Bill Thiele, and Beth Grebe are leaving Council; we suspect that Beth will remain as our contact with the E-Team. This does not mean that others may not wish to change their liaison assignments.

12. In other business, A follow-up to the “Called and Gifted” Workshop for Council and Committee members is being planned in October, the date is not yet definite. We would attend this with similar members of Holy Name and St. Clement Parishes. Pam Duessing would like to bring back the “Wish On A Star” program at Christmas. Council members are to think about ideas appropriate to this program and submit them to Pam.

Our next Executive Committee meeting will be on Monday, July 20, at 6:30 PM.

Our next Council meeting will be on Monday, July 27, at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Leo Schneider