

We the people of St. Joseph of the Lakes Catholic Church, as Christ's Body, Strive to be the heart, hands and feet of Jesus Christ

Parish Pastoral Council ("PPC") Meeting - Tuesday, March 2, 2021

Present: Fr. Bodin, Sheila Bianconi, Joshua Bohl, Cheri Brausen, George Burr, Don Hohn, Robert McMullan, Amy Moore, Keith Sjostrom, Ron Peterson, Kelly Summerville

Excused: Fr. Mike Anderson, Paul Siler, and LeAnn Zogg

Opening Prayer – The meeting was opened with prayer.

Committee Reports:

a. Liturgy

- Plan is to get Fr. Mike back sometime between March 13-20
 - Still schedule priests through Palm Sunday
- Want to have Archbishop Hebda is scheduled to preside at St. Joe's for a Mass on Sunday, April 11 since this is the year of St. Joe's
- Looking for more Eucharistic ministers
 - Want to bring Communion to people in the pews so people can kneel after Communion instead of immediately leaving the church
 - Due to COVID guidelines people currently don't come back to their seat after receiving Communion because people might come within 6 feet of each other when walking back to their pews
- New lector trained in, but still looking for servers as servers is greatest area of need
- Video issues were fixed
- New soundboard master

b. Faith Formation

- Working with Sheila Bianconi and Communications Commission to help promote big events
- Looking to get increased participation in adult faith formation
- Next meeting is March 18
- 17 kids participated in Feed My Starving Children event – good to see the high number of kids participate

c. Social Justice

- The Social Justice Commission is making some changes to their Advent form in order to better serve the local community and steer the correct resources to families that apply.
- Stepping Stones and Loaves and Fishes continue to be going strong. Numbers are still really high as can be expected in our current situation with the pandemic.
- Alexander House Gala coming up we are promoting and we'll also be having them out to speak about their organization at one of the Masses after Easter. We will have a display table to provide information on how to support them and what they do.
- We've had several outings with Middle and Sr. High teens to FMSC to pack meals together.
- The February 'Languages of Love' Mission Possible box went out to the elementary FF kids. The collaboration focused on cultures around the world and Valentine traditions, saints, some crafts, and awareness of other cultures – love your neighbor.
- In collaboration with FMSC we have begun a sewing co-op as a way to give strong support to the Dignity of Work -Catholic Social Teaching. It will provide jobs, fair wages, and community support to the women in the dump community as well as other poverty stricken areas. FMSC has approved some of the products and will be placing an order in March.

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- Food shipment sent to Guatemala this week – conditions are dire, and food can be difference between life and death
- We are hoping to work with the Knights or Men's Group or both on some replacement doors for the Assembly of God church on the White Earth Indian Reservation.
- d. Pastoral Care**
 - About 250 Valentines distributed to Lino Lakes Assisted Living and White Pine Assisted Living
 - Cards sent to homebound parishioners
 - Current homebound visits are less than 15 minutes
 - Deacon Tom and Barb Uschold Anderson are leading morning prayer and reflection on Friday, March 19 in celebration of St. Joseph's Feast day
- e. Community Life**
 - There are a couple of people Amy will reach out to in order to try to fill the open Community Life rep slot on the PPC
 - Recently had first Festival Meeting – planning for live music and fireworks
 - Original chicken dinner probably won't happen due to number of people that would gather indoors
 - St. Joe's will have fish dinners the next two Fridays – hosted by Knights of Columbus and Men's Group as fundraisers
- f. Facilities**
 - Chipping away on little projects
- g. Communications**
 - Want to get letter out to parishioners before 3/15/2021
 - As of now no new Easter Masses are planning to be added
 - Would like to get new phone system as current system is antiquated
 - New system would allow for messaging to households
 - One issue is we don't have high-speed internet to take advantage of all potential benefits of new phone system if we get it
 - Sheila will come up with list of priorities for April 20 finance budget meeting
- h. Finance**
 - Announcement a couple of weeks ago informing parishioners current state of finances and asking them to increase their giving if they are able to
 - We were projected to bring in \$100k less in collections for the fiscal year than budgeted, but as of end of Jan. the year-to-date collections were down \$20k compared to year-to-date budget
 - We saw increased gifts come in after announcement
 - Even though collections are down, expenses are also down compared to budget
 - Fiscal 2022 budget meeting is on April 20, 2021
- i. Synod**
 - Planning to hear from Judy Foster to set up a meeting for St. Joe's Synod ambassadors as Archdiocese is putting out a lot of Synod materials
 - Synod 'At Home' series that is put on by the Archdiocese is currently taking place during Lent – weekly video emailed to you if you sign up for series – first week was about building a faith plan and second week was about prayer

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Discussion:

- Ways to increase volunteerism at St. Joe's
 - Personally invite people to volunteer
 - Invite families to volunteer together
 - Start and end at time
 - Don't overwork volunteers
 - Show appreciation for volunteers
 - New member gathering
 - Start with one event, don't have to commit to long-term obligation right away
- Among Parish council members, common theme was personal invite to be part of council or volunteer with the church
- Thanks to Fr. Bodin to step in and assist our Parish while Fr. Mike has been out

Wrap-up:

- Next Meeting: April 6, 2021 at 7 pm. Meeting will be held on Zoom – no in-person option.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm
- Future Meetings: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 and Tuesday, June 1, 2021 – both at 7:00 pm.

Date= MARCH 2ND 2021

FACILITY COMMISSION CHURCH PROJECT'S

ITEM	BASE PRICE	DATE COMPLETED
#1) CEILING TILE REPLACEMENT IN ST. JOE'S HALLWAY'S AND LIGHTING	\$12,250.00	1/8/2021
#2) CEILING TILE AND LIGHTING REPLACEMENT IN HALLWAY AND ENTRANCE TO THE GREAT HALL	\$12,433.00	
#3) CEILING TILE AND LIGHTING REPLACEMENT IN ROOM #23	\$3,790.00	
ITEM #2 & #3 TOTAL	\$16,223.00	
#4) EDUCATION WING AND ST. JOE'S HALL DOOR REPLACEMENT 3 DOOR'S	\$10,558.00 (EACH)	
#5) ADDITIONAL HANICAP PARKING		
#6) WATER HEATERS REPLACEMENT (2)	\$5,189.00	
#7) WORSHIP SPACE A/C UNIT REPLACEMENT	\$60,000.00	

UPCOMEING PROJECT'S

- #1) INTERIOR LIGHTING UPGRADE EDUCATION WING6**
- #2) SECURITY**
- #3) FIVE (5) YEAR PLAN**
- #4} ST. JOE'S HALL BATHROOM UPGRADE "TILE"**
- #5} PAINT DOOR FRAMES (8)**

***-- Approved by the Finance Commission**

March 2, 2021 Social Justice Report

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*Alexandra House has a Gala we are promoting and we'll also be having them out to speak about their organization at one of the masses after Easter. We will have a display table to provide information on how to support them and what they do.

*Stepping Stones and Loaves and Fishes continue to be going strong. Numbers are still really high as can be expected in our current situation with the pandemic.

*We've had several outings with Middle and Sr. High teens to FMSC to pack meals together.

*The February 'Languages of Love' Mission Possible box went out to the elementary FF kids. The collaboration focused on cultures around the world and Valentine traditions, saints, some crafts, and awareness of other cultures – love your neighbor.

*In collaboration with FMSC we have begun a sewing co-op as a way to give strong support to the Dignity of Work -Catholic Social Teaching. It will provide jobs, fair wages, community support to the women in the dump community as well as other poverty stricken areas. FMSC has approved some of the products and will be placing an order in March.

*A food Shipment is being sent to Guatemala beginning March 2. The conditions are dire in some places – the food is the difference of life or death this time.

*We are hoping to work with the Knights or Mens Group or both on some replacement doors for the Assembly of God church on the White Earth.

22 Top Tips to Increase Volunteer Support and Retention

Be Prepared. If you ask for volunteers, be ready to put them to work when they arrive. They didn't come to twiddle their thumbs.

1. Make a volunteer's job description clear from the get-go. This means before he has even signed up.
2. **Don't** bring a volunteer in until you have everything **ready**. They **must** have the proper equipment to get the job done.
3. Lay out all tasks to be completed in outline form by priority. This will help volunteers concentrate on the high priority items first.

Communicate. The rule of thumb is that over-communication is better than under communication. You never know when that one final ask will be the one they say "yes" to. SignUpGenius is an excellent way to communicate and relay important information.

4. **List specific volunteer needs on an online sign up**, so people know exactly what is needed and when.
5. _____ for new volunteers and invite them to sign up online. Need to distribute important paperwork.
6. Make it clear there is something for everyone with **sign up slots for both more-involved and less-involved opportunities**.
7. Email reminders are helpful so that volunteers don't forget **what they've** signed up for!

Offer a Warm Welcome! A volunteer has taken time out of her day to be there, so start with a personal greeting and a smile.

8. Treat your volunteer as if she were a guest in your home.
9. Show her around and **introduce** her to other **workers**. **Help him/her make connections**.
10. Have the "boss" stop by and meet her to say thanks.

Provide Training. Although the job may seem easy to you, it is unknown territory for many volunteers. Take the time and effort to make them feel ready to do a good job.

11. Let a **new volunteer shadow someone** who's more experienced, at least for the first hour or so. Don't leave them to fend for themselves immediately after showing up for their first time on the job.
12. Always be sure there is a more experienced worker on the job who knows the ropes.
13. Be sure that instructions are clearly posted for volunteers, so they don't get frustrated with the lack of information.

Respect their Time. These days, everyone is busy. But when you show respect for someone's time, they will be more willing to help out.

14. **Don't over-use volunteers** or take advantage of their willingness to help. This is hard when you are short on volunteers and there are **some** who will **sacrifice** to get the job done. But **when** that happens, **they** are more likely to burn out and move on.
15. Be honest. Don't say it will only take an "hour or so" when you know it will actually probably take three or four.
16. **Start on time and end on time**.

Show Appreciation. Thank your volunteers frequently. Look for creative ways to express your gratitude.

17. Send volunteers a thank you card
18. **Take several of them to lunch**.
19. Give them a small present such as a **gift card**.
20. Recognize a volunteer that have gone beyond the call of duty **in** an email **newsletter** or on the wall of your establishment.
21. Plan a **Volunteer Appreciation event**.
22. See more creative ways to thank you volunteers