

**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 Council Meeting

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

Present: Fr. Mike Anderson, Pastor; Bob McMullan Vice-Chair, Sheila Bianconi, Valerie Berwald, Ron Peterson, Amy Moore, Kelly Summerville, Joshua Bohl, Don Trudeau, Maggie Arnevik

Excused: Paul Siler, John Carney, LeAnn Zogg, George Burr

Prayer: Romero's Prayer "It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view....."

Business:

1. Minutes of the February 2019 meeting were approved as written.
2. Openness about Clergy Abuse and the ripple effect that touches 100% of people. Discussion in the shift of dialog that has taken place towards the victims seeking recognition and the desire that abuse not happen to someone else. Early on there was an attitude that victims were merely interested in monetary rewards. Now we see a shift and a genuine desire to create an environment where people feel that there is a safe place within the church for them to be heard. As a whole community, we have a desire to do more to reach out to those who have been affected and show support to survivors/families/friends. Is there a ritual that can take place? Importance of embracing those who have been victimized. Also talked about measuring "safe environment" at St. Joe's – good examples are having adult acolytes/servers with the youth in the sacristy, including safety officers on campus during Faith Formation. Fact that abuse is also happening in schools, sporting events, throughout society was brought up. We can ask, "what can we do for you NOW?"
3. Promotion of Cultural Diversity and Inclusion during Mass/outside of Mass/including alternative lifestyle groups/ and living the phrase "Everyone is Welcome". Discussed promoting this in publications outside of St. Joe's so that we're not preaching to the choir. Include a diversity of representatives in our commissions, councils and parish leadership. Address issues of exclusion directly and immediately. Consider additional opportunities to learn about a different culture – examples could be with food at Soup Suppers or during the Summer Festival; invite entertainment at the Festival from other cultures, along with the Mariachi band and German dancers. Idea of a multi-cultural pot-luck was brought up.
4. Do more to encourage telling our story – tell more people about our successes – our Why. Share with the broader community ways in which we have changed lives. Suggested having more visual reminders in the Gathering space / common spaces with photos such as: social justice activities, 5K winners, individuals receiving sacraments, etc. Discussed that people become involved when you compliment them, a fun-factor is involved, there is a personal touch and a personal ask. We have recently purchased a banner at the Lino Lakes YMCA, and had some articles in the Quad Press. Community recognition such as these has an impact. Also discussed promoting multi-generational/extended family events. Always think about how we

can get more youth to feel welcome in events – the personal ask/invitation continues to be huge.

5. Defining a Target Family – Successful organizations often target a representative group, and then build programs and solutions that enhance the overall experience for everyone. Discussed identifying small groups for specific demographics such as New Parents, families experiencing memory issues. The impact that small groups have on a community can be impactful.
6. Other: Kelly Summerville shared a Facility Commission update with current and pending projects. It was suggested that he share it with the Finance Commission for funding feasibility. Valerie Berwald shared the brochure introducing the Memory Café that will begin at St. Joe's March 8 and continue on the 2nd Friday of the month for people experiencing memory issues and their caregiver.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 Lenten Soup Supper hosted by Parish Council at 5 pm. Mass and Meeting to follow.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Moore