

**St. Catherine of Alexandria**  
**8661 North 76<sup>th</sup> Place, Milwaukee, WI 53223**

*St. Catherine of Alexandria, the church on the hill since 1855, joins together as a Catholic community to give praise and thanks to God by living and sharing our faith in Jesus Christ through our worship, formation and outreach.*

*With our cluster parishes, we strive to make Christ visible to our wider community.*



## **Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes**

November 21, 2017

**Attendees:** Council members Rick Korpela, Pat Lehman, Sue Niemi, Sue Armacost, Les Paulson, Ralph Boeckl, Barb Holt and Sue Wassenberg. Absent were Debra Hintz (excused), Marie Brushafer, Lyn Keever and Jeanette MacMurdo (excused). No other persons were present.

### **Opening Prayer**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. Barb Holt led the opening prayer.

### **Approval of the August 22, 2017 Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Pat Lehman, seconded by Barb Holt and approved; thanks to Jeanette MacMurdo for taking the minutes.

### **Committee Reports (questions/clarifications)**

Sue Niemi suggested that committee reports should for now be sent to Les Paulson.

Pat Lehman related that a tree trimming service will soon start its work; Rick Korpela reported that the siding/wood fascia project should be completed tomorrow.

\$75,000 has been contributed to the Restoration Fund; this is a segregated fund which that cannot be used for any other purpose.

Judy Dollhausen has resigned, after a long period of good and effective service, as head of the Human Concerns Committee; Clarice Geenen is the new chairperson.

### **Archdiocese Conference on Stewardship – November 3/4**

There was a distinct lack of enthusiasm about the gathering. Sue Armacost noted by that we have already been discussing most of the concerns raised there. Pat Lehman and Barb Holt observed that the data presentation was disappointing in that it gave no effective help in using the information available. Sue Niemi stated that the conference did not meet expectations.

### **Newsletter feedback**

It was agreed that the newsletter looks ahead and alerts people to opportunities to serve and to participate; another newsletter will be done for February, March and April. Parishioners could be asked to suggest a name for the newsletter and topics for the newsletter.

### **Cookbook Fundraiser Report ... and other matters**

Sue Armacost reported that only three cookbooks are left for sale; they should soon be sold. About \$2,500 has been raised. Sue, noting that a cookbook project could address hunger issues, wondered if \$250 of that amount could be donated to the Food Pantry and \$250 to the First Friday Breakfast. Rick Korpela and Pat Lehman, speaking for the Finance Council, gave a go ahead for those donations.

The Finance Committee is again to be invited to the Pastoral Council Christmas party.

Andy Kukec will be asked to respond to a parishioner suggesting that scripture readings be read from the pews (not really an appropriate practice).

Rick Korpela noted that would not be easy to make such changes to our worship space as moving the lectern to the floor level.

Barb Holt observed that it is too late to organize a Christmas cookie sale this year.

### **Becoming the Inviting Church**

How to stay in touch with people? Sue Armacost suggested that personal phone calls are the best way to contact people. Perhaps some kind of calendar, outlining schedules, occasions and events for the coming year, could be distributed at Christmas.

In moving beyond welcoming to inviting, a personal witness is important, such as personal witness from Council members as to how they were led to involvement. Several members related how service is greatly rewarding, a blessing to the one serving.

It was observed that one can see in the flow of the liturgy the active involvement of volunteers.

How to get youth involved? We are still searching for answers.

There are "seekers" around us, people with interest in and curiosity about the faith and the Church. It was noted that there are still obstacles in the Church which effectively limit participation, like restrictions on women's involvement, marriage rules, and teachings regarding sexuality.

### **What are you hearing?**

On this night there was nothing additional to report here.

### **Closing Prayer**

Barb Holt led a closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Les Paulson, Secretary