# 9/22/2021

**Church of the Redeemer - Pastoral Council**

7:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m*. In person*

**Mission statement:** Everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another. John 13:35

**Vision statement:** Through worship, service, community, and Word we strive to bring all people close together and closer to God.

**Present:** Fr. Jim Cowles, Larry Cunningham, Don Piacentini, Tom Grasberger (Finance Council), Shirley Husz, Dan Corso, Bill Adams, John Swierczewski, Norm Carter, Jessica Keck, Jennifer Kocik

**Absent:** Laura Woodle, Dennis Fiore, Reagan Penny (Stewardship Committee), Renee Reisenweaver (PC and Youth & Young Adult Ministry)

**Opening Prayer:** Almighty and everlasting God, let your Holy Spirit, Source of wisdom and understanding, be present with us as we begin this work, and in the months ahead. Bless us Lord, enlighten our minds. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive Your will in our efforts, grant us the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, in unity with the Holy Spirit.

**Discernment of Vice Chair and Appointment of Secretary:** Most of thismeeting was dedicated to the discernment of the Pastoral Council Vic-Chair and the selection of Pastoral Council Secretary. The Vice-Chair for 2021-2022 was discerned to be *John Swierczewski* and *Jessica Keck* volunteered to be Secretary. We thank them for being *called to serve* our parish in these capacities.

**Approval of minutes**

Approval of July minutes was given. Minutes of the September meeting will be sent to Pastoral Council Members and those attending the meeting for approval before the next meeting. Once approved they will be posted on the website.

**Committee Reports**:

**Finance Council Report:**

Tom Grasberger provided and update on Redeemer’s finances. We are slightly above budget, but expect increases in expenses (utilities, etc.) in the coming months. FC will keep a close eye on these increases. They also will monitor income verses expenses on a monthly and six-month bases to make sure we remain close to our budget. Currently or income comes roughly 50% E-Giving and 50% envelops.

**Youth and Young Adult Report:**

Renee Reisenweaver was not present but provided this report.

YOUTH:

* The youth program began with the first session held on Wednesday, September 8th.
* 72 youth registered for RE which represents 51 different families involved in the program.
* 13 are registered for confirmation with registrations coming in daily.
* Sessions this year will be offered on Wednesday evenings. This will allow for more opportunity to incorporate church activities, worship, and volunteer experiences to be tied to the youth program. For example, last week, after learning about the corporal works of mercy, the youth could immediately volunteer to help organize for the Haiti yard-sale.

ELEMENTARY:

* First sessions were held this past weekend with sessions offered between Sunday Masses and two sessions Monday afternoon/evenings.
* Total numbers are about 23% below 2019 (pre-covid) numbers. Calls come in daily inquiring about getting children back into RE. Once things feel “normal” with schools having success in opening, we may see additional kids

All RE sessions are being held live. Presently, no zoom classes are being offered. Parents are given the option to homeschool for grades K-8 with materials provided.

**Stewardship Committee:**

Reagan Penny was not present but provided this report

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| **Current Activities:**   * Bishops Appeal – Bishops Appeal 109% of Goal * Legacy Program - Maggie Keenan reviewed the Legacy Program.  The program is designed to educate the parish on Legacy options.  There is no “sell” and no cost to participate. |
| Concerns or needs: Continuing the search for new members - Mary Anne has agreed to continue on the commitee when her term on PC comes to an end.  I will reach out to the other members who will be rolling off |
| Future Plans and Goals:   * Legacy Program review with PC * Thank you event for staff/volunteers who stepped up during the pandemic * Prep for additional volunteers that will be needed as we continue to open up |

**Staff Report:** None

**Fr. Jim’s Report:**

* Regina and the Facilities Preservation Committee will look at capital expenditure needs for the coming year.
* The diocese is looking into long term investment policies for churches.
* Fr. Jim will hold a retreat for PC members October 30th.

**Feedback from parishioners**:

* None were brought to the council at this meeting.

**New / Other Business**

* Concern over the sound system in the church was raised and will be addressed

**Closing Prayer:**  Closed with the Our Father

**Next Meeting Date**: October 27, 2021