# Pastoral Council Minutes 4/27/2022

# **Church of the Redeemer - Pastoral Council Minutes**

7:00 p.m. - 8:40 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:**, Larry Cunningham, John Swierczewski, Dennis Fiore, Don Piacentini, Jennifer Kocik, Tom Grasberger (Finance Council), Fr. Jim Cowles, Dan Corso, Norm Carter, Bill Adams, Deacon Chris Coville, Laura Woodle, Shirley Husz

**Absent:**, Reagan Penny (Stewardship Committee), , Renee Reisenweaver (PC and Youth & Young Adult Ministry), Jessica Keck

* **Opening Prayer: Opening Prayer for Ukraine**   
  God of love, our world is wrought with war and violence, as brother turns on brother, and the innocent awake to gunfire and bombs. May Your compassion and healing move hearts and bring a new day to Ukraine. Fortify your children to resist aggression and instead become instruments of peace. We ask this in the name of the One who is the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ.
* Faith Formation (Chris Colville)
  + Chris provided an interesting discussion on the Resurrection. After he read: How the West Lost and the East Kept the Original Easter Vision, by John and Sahar Crossan, several Gospel passages, and the Catechism of the Catholic Church, he explained the differences between the Eastern and Western Church when it comes to the resurrection. In the Western Church we think of only Jesus being resurrected from the dead and ascending into heaven. The Eastern Church believes that when Jesus was resurrected, he was resurrected with those who had died before Him and rose with them into heaven, so it wasn’t just Jesus who was resurrected on the third day.
* March 24th minutes approved and posted on Parish web site
* Finance Council Report (Tom Grasberger)
  + Reviewed the Monthly Finance Council Minutes which included discussions of replacing all roofing in the church/facilities, replacement of carpeting, replacing the phone system since the old one went down and was too old to upgrade. Cost of replacing the sign on Meadowbridge Road and funding were also discussed.
  + The Finance Council has set up an Investment Subcommittee to look an investment portfolio that would be managed according to Catholic values. Atlantic Union Bank provided a presentation and recommended a portfolio.
  + Finance Council will continue to provide a brief review of finances at PCs monthly meeting. A more detailed financial report will be provided quarterly.
  + Finance Council and Pastoral Council will share draft minutes before each of their meetings.
* Stewardship Report (Reagan Penny)
  + No report
* Pastor’s Report (Fr. Jim)
  + Bids to replace the facilities roofing are being solicited and once we know the cost Father will ask for a capital campaign to pay for the replacement.
  + The parish staff will start looking at the Synod report and identify opportunities from the report for the parish to pursue
* 2022/23 Pastoral Council Election
  + There was a lengthy discussion of the upcoming PC election and timing. Since Easter was late this year the solicitation of nominees and the election was squeezed into fewer weeks than normal.
  + Articles will be posted in the week of May 1st and May 8th in Weekly Bulletin and Redeemer Reminders asking parishioners to think about individuals or themselves to nominate for the Council. Nominations will be accepted between May 11-18th. Parishioners will be able to make nominations online through the link in Redeemer Reminder or filling out forms that will be available outside the parish office or at masses on May 14/15.
  + Parishioners will be asked to discuss with individuals they are nominating to see if they are interested serving on PC before they nominate them. PC is also asking for contact information for anyone nominated.
  + A short presentation on PC elections will be given at masses on May 14/15.
    - 5:30 PM Saturday –Don Piacentini
    - 8:00 AM Sunday –Dennis Fiori
    - 10:00 AM Sunday –Bill Adams
  + May 18-20 Contact nominees about interest in serving on PC.
  + May 22+- meet with candidates after 8AM mass or Monday evening May 23. Request position statements and pictures from those interested in running.
  + June 4-5 Post pictures and statements of candidates in the church, Sooner if they are available
  + June 8-15 Election- Voting during masses June 11/12 and outside office during the week. It should also be possible to vote for candidates on-line.
  + Announce new members of the election at mass either the weekend of June 17/18 or 24/25. Post in the July Good News
* Other PC items
  + Adding a youth member to PC. (one year appointment)
  + Renee will drop off PC and will participate as Youth/Young Adult Minister
* Synod Update
  + Copies of the Synod report was provided to PC members. Due to the length of this meeting only brief a brief review of the Synod report. A more detailed discussion and planning related to the report will be covered in future meetings.
* Staff and Liaison Reports
  + Instead of individual reports from the staff and ministry, PC will be provided written reports from the parish staff before the PC meetings. This month’s report is attached at the end of these minutes.
* Other Topics – PC social gathering will be held at Fr. Jim’s on May 25th 
  + We may need to discuss the results of the election at this gathering.

Our next regular meeting will be June 23rd. John Swierczewski, Vice Chair will conduct the meeting

**Staff Report to Pastoral Council: April 2022**

**Liturgy:** Preparation for Easter,

**Secretarial**:

I have been busy working on the April Good News and recently I have registered several new parishioners, which is always exciting seeing our church family grow.

**Outreach/Pastoral Care:**

Several parishioners attended the local interfaith Nehemiah Action on April 5tth. RISC is working on gun violence, lack of affordable housing, and unhealthy mobile homes. Our April Blood drive was successful – collecting 31 units which can save 93 lives! Our Holy Thursday service beneficiary will be Moments of Hope – a local organization working with those living outdoors. Taizé service was well attended and was also livestreamed. 30 Lilies were delivered to our homebound parishioners in the week before Easter.

**Elementary RE:**

Our last RE session on Monday will include a Mary Crowning. We will be doing things a bit differently than CDA to not step on any toes. We will also be having and ice cream party to celebrate the end of a great year of things close to back to normal. The Sunday session will do the Mary service but with donuts instead. We have had a great year and the catechists have been wonderful. A lot of people offered to help with First Communion receptions and I am looking forward to a great turn out for those Masses on April 30/May 1 and May 7/8. The middle of May we will start talking about and advertising for VBS which will take place July 18-22 from 9am-noon.

**Youth RE:**

One goal that we had in mind for our youth this year was to get them involved with things already taking place in the parish especially in the Mass. Our youth have been actively involved as described below.

* Hosted 3-youth stations of the cross with an average of 35 people attending each
* After the first station a “mini” lock-in was held at the church. The youth enjoyed having the church all to themselves, played a corn-hole tournament and built a bon-fire in the back
* Prior to stations, the youth assisted in landscaping service. They cleared an area in between the church parking lot and a neighbor’s yard, they cleaned the Mary garden to prepare for the May crowning and picked up trash and sticks around the church.
* A youth Mass was held in March with ALL liturgical ministries covered.
* The youth participated in Holy Thursday liturgy by starting one of the foot washing stations and leading the procession into Genesis Hall.

For some fun, we had a dance lesson from friends of Norm Carter’s (Steven Boothe and Janice Grimes). It was well attended and exciting with more than 40 youth.