

PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

MEETING INFORMATION

Date: February 22, 2017 – 19:00

Location: Church of the Redeemer, Mechanicsville, VA

ATTENDANCE

Pastoral Council Members

- Ellen Spain, Chairperson – Excused
- Marilyn Alfaro - Present
- Peggy Anderton - Present
- Carolyn Brand - Present
- Donnie Gladfelter - Present
- Maria Harris - Present
- Dave Hopper - Present
- John Kadukammakal - Present
- Jackie Linklater - Present
- Jesse Lopez - Present
- Jane Nucup – Present

Clergy

- Father Jay Wagner – Present
- Deacon Chris Colville – Present

MEETING MINUTES

I. Opening Prayer

Councilman Brian Goulet opened the meeting in prayer at 19:00.

II. Faith Formation – Chris Colville

Deacon Colville shared excerpts from *No Man Is an Island* by Thomas Merton. After reading select excerpts from the first chapter, each councilperson was asked which resonated with them.

III. Reports

Finance Council Report – Tom Grasberger

- Collections: Collections were strong in January, and slightly above budget for the year.
- Expenses: Though collections are slightly above budget, so too are expenditures; mostly building and maintenance.
- Future Needs: The rectory is in need of several repairs over the coming year.
- Budget meeting scheduled for March 9th at 6:00 pm.

Pastor Report – Father Jay Wagner

- Doors: Proposal for doors was sent to diocesan building committee. It was promptly approved by the committee, and is now being reviewed by the responsible deacon at the Diocese. Hopefully they will be installed in late April or May. The doors will be green.
- Saint John Neumann Relic: Event is currently planned for September 21st. Priest will bring relics of Saint John Neumann, not his body. Relics will be in worship space, not Genesis Hall, and normal church life will be uninterrupted. The diocese has been contacted to assist with the promotion. No budget is needed for the event, and a special collection will be held during healing mass on Friday. A temporary committee proposed to assist in promotion.

- Diocesan Appeal: Event is coming very soon. Mailings are being sent now. Masses over the coming weeks will be dominated by the appeal. In lieu of being displayed during mass, the promotional video will be displayed on the new kiosk.
- Columbarium: Response from parish has been very positive. This response has been shared with the diocese, and we are in the early exploratory stages with the diocese.

Deacon Report – Deacon Chris Colville

- Nothing further.
- Happy Ordination Anniversary to Deacon Colville.

IV. Review of Committee Reports

Art and Environment - Carolyn Brand

- Letter submitted to Finance Council requesting \$16,000 for professional services agreement with selected architect.

Evangelization – Marilyn Alfaro

- Kiosk: Kiosk is going live this weekend at Easter.
- Mailing: Cards for upcoming mailing have been received and will be mailed in the coming weeks.

Stewardship

- Database Update: Working to update the church database in preparation for forthcoming software update, and for the upcoming ministry fair.
- Ministry Fair: Planning had begun and is on schedule per the established timeline.
- E-Giving: Committee is working to establish a goal for the number of families utilizing e-giving programs. To accomplish this a training weekend to help interested families sign up is planned.

- Financial Report: Planning a presentation of financial report to highlight parish goals and where contributions are being used.

RE and Youth

- Vacation Bible School: Actively seeking adult coordinators for June 26-30.
- Confirmation: Scheduled for May 18th.
- First Communion: Preparation has begun, and the parish has approximately 35 children preparing. First communions will occur during regular Masses on the weekend of April 29-30.
- Family Spirit Day: Third and final spirit day of the school year is planned for March 5th and 6th. Theme for program is living Lent at home.
- Diocesan Youth Convention: Several Redeemer youth attended the annual youth convention in Richmond, VA.
- Youth Council Promotion: Several council members are graduating, and there is an effort of promoting the council to draw new members to join the council.
- RAOFFY planning continued with discussion of a benefit to aid outreach to parishioners struggling with difficult situations and shut-ins.

Human Concerns

- BeFrienders: New members will be recruited at the next Stewardship Fair.
- Faith Build: Cold Harbor home is almost complete, and celebration plans are underway for those who participated in the build.
- Food Pantry: Pantry needs canned tuna/chicken, canned fruit, and boxed meals. MCEF is seeking financial support/pledges from the community. Several Redeemer parishioners made pledges after the program was advertised to the parish for several weeks.
- Noah's Children: Meals for 10 families are planned for February.

- No Room at the Inn: The ninth annual event was a great success, raising \$33,187.

Liturgy and Worship

- Ash Wednesday: Services to be held at 9:30am and 7:00 pm. A short family service will be held at 5:30. Ashes will also be available after the noon Rosary service.
- Station of the Cross: Service will be held at 7:00pm every Friday during Lent. Youth will lead services every other week.
- Worship Space Sound System: Evaluation is pending. Parish has consulted the same company who provided the digital kiosk.
- Mold in Worship Space: The mold has returned to the worship space. Arrangements need to be made to remediate the mold, and install a new ventilation system to prevent future occurrences.
- Accent Ministry: The ministry has numerous parishioners to help decorate during the Lent season, but no one to lead the effort. Those interested in leading the program are asked to contact Erin.

V. Chair Report

- Areas of Assistance: Council asked if there were specific budgetary areas needing additional assistance. The council unanimously agreed Youth was a top priority, and should become a key cause of Pastoral Council.

VI. Old Business

None for the month of January.

VII. New Business

- Youth Budget: The council discussed at length percentage of the budget allocated to youth activities. Although the amount officially budgeted to youth represents a small percentage of the overall budget, Redeemer's youth programs receive all proceeds from gift card purchases. Several council members expressed concern regarding the potentially negative message this sends our youth; citing it is the only ministry whose budget is almost exclusively funded by fundraising.
- Coffee with Father Jay: Idea was offered to host a stewardship event between Mass monthly. This would provide an opportunity for parishioners to get faith-based questions answered.
- Mini-Homily Videos: As a way of outreach, the idea of filming mini-homily videos and posting online was offered. These videos could highlight a clergy member of Redeemer.

VIII. Closing Prayer

- Meeting concluded in prayer led by Councilman Brian Goulet at 20:23.