

**CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION
PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
October 30, 2017**

ATTENDANCE: Craig Rand, Gerry Gacioch, Jody DeBell, John Boroski, Karl Hamann, Lori Goorman, Mary Beth Sullivan, Mike Goonan, Shannon Kozarits, Sue Gangemi, Tim Smith, Fr. Michael Bausch and Martha Jodoin.

1. Opening prayer led by Fr. Mike. We reflected on our parish's mission statement.
2. Introductions were made.
3. The minutes of the September 11, 2017 meeting were approved.

4. CRAIG WELCOMED everyone. He spoke about the *trunk or treat* event that was held. It was a good turnout. Teens were involved. We have had more community events this year that let people see us as a loving community and encourage people to come.

5. Open Forum – No one was in attendance to address the council.

6. PASTOR'S REMARKS

- Fr. Mike distributed a conflict of interest form for members to sign.
- Building and Grounds – Drainage system is out for bid. Need 3 or 4 bigger downspouts. Fr. Mike distributed an accounting of the Restoration and Facilities Fund.
- Communications – people do go to our web page. People like our weekly email to see what is going on. It is nice and brief and it is nice to have links to get more information. The quarterly newsletter is a good tool to give recognition to people and programs. People like the pictures.
- CMA – return your CMA pledge cards.

7. PARISH ASSESSMENT – Survey ends Oct. 31. LPI will correlate responses. There will be small group meetings in January. At the December Pastoral Council meeting LPI will be training us to be facilitators. Hope to have meetings in homes, between Masses or at groups such as choir, Women's Group, Men's Fellowship or Destiny.

8. STAFF REPORT – Tim Smith reported that Trunk and Treat was well attended. Advent theme will be "Be Watchful". Men in the Spirit are discussing ways to get millennials involved. Funeral Pre-planning course included people from Anthony Funeral Home for the first night and Fr. Mike and Margie for the second night. Two young families are decorating the church for Christmas.

9. CLUSTER REPORTS

- ✓ **Liturgy** is continuing recruitment of liturgical ministers – greeters, hospitality, lector, acolyte and minister of communion. Yearly Remembrance mass will be Nov. 4. Signup sheets for liturgical ministers for Thanksgiving Mass will be available Nov. 11 and 12. Advent Evening Candlelight Prayer is scheduled for Monday evenings. Sign up for Christmas liturgical ministers will be Dec. 2 and 3. Weekend Mass schedule prior to Christmas is Saturday Dec. 23 at 4:30 and Sunday Dec. 24 at 9 am only. Christmas Masses are Dec. 24 at 3:30pm (doors open at 3 pm) and 5:30 pm, Midnight and Dec. 25 at 10 am.
- ✓ There is one RCIA candidate under the direction of Deacon Eric Bessette.
- ✓ Surviving the Holidays presentation will be offered in Nov.
- ✓ The Grief Share program has 5 participants. Plans are underway in organizing a January session beginning mid-month. An invitation will be extended to St. Catherine's and St. Louis.
- ✓ Women in the Spirit had a presentation on Walking the Camino by Colleen Fisher and Susan Wahl.
- ✓ Fifteen women registered for the Women's Bible Study offering "Discerning the Voice of God" with Priscilla Shirer.
- ✓ Oktoberfest had 169 guests. Delicious German food buffet was provided by Swan's, music by the Krazy Fireman Band and great homemade desserts by the committee. Thanks to Lisa and Tim Morris for coordinating. Many have asked for a "repeat performance" next fall.
- ✓ Christmas concert will be Dec. 3 from 4 to 5:30 pm with intermission light refreshments.
- **Peace and Justice Coordinating Committee** – Began in 2005. "Who we are and what we do" by John Boroski. 1. We serve the People of God by providing Transfiguration parish, the Pastoral Staff and our Pastor with a forum for discussion, evaluation and coordination of social ministries sponsored by the parish. 2. Our focus is concern for life, human dignity, care for our planet, justice, peace, and advocacy, and actions to change unjust or dysfunctional societal structures. 3. We have special concern for the poor, vulnerable, marginalized or excluded. 4. We affirm (with our

Church) that Catholic Social Teaching is integral to our faith, and that the Church has a vital social mission in the world. 5. We take guidance from: scripture, the words and life of Jesus; a long tradition of Church engagement in social action; Church tenets, principles, and values relative to Social Justice; and the wisdom, inspiration and example of Pope Francis. 6. We educate our parishioners on the faith-based social mission of the Church. 7. We encourage parishioners to work (independently or through Transfiguration) in society for peace, justice, and the Common Good, and to dedicate their passion, time, resources, or leadership to make our communities a better place. Such work is God's love in action. 8. At any given time, PJCC "coordination" might include (among other things): general oversight of existing ministry activities; providing advice, assistance or resources to existing ministries; assessing effectiveness of current ministries; evaluating proposals for new sponsored ministries; assessment of emerging peace and justice issues; education to the PJCC and parish on relevant issues and activities in our communities; partnering with other parishes or community organizations on selected issues or initiatives; communication; specific initiatives such as Diocesan Public Policy, JustFaith education; counsel and recommendations to our Pastor; and more. 9. We work as a small, collegial community committed to Peace, Justice, and the Common Good. 10. Committee members actively share in the work of the PJCC (including short-term tasks, projects, or initiatives). However, the PJCC generally does not operate or lead Transfiguration's ongoing social ministry activities. That responsibility lies with leadership of specific ministries. 11. We strive to reach decisions through discussion and consensus. 12. We enrich our faith through ongoing prayer reflection and formation exercises. 13. We are independent of political parties, organizations, platforms, or ideologies.

- **Christian Formation** – 135 teens are enrolled in Confirmation prep with 12 adult volunteers to lead the small groups. 27 children are beginning preparation for First Reconciliation. 25 will begin preparing for First Communion starting in January. Average attendance at both middle school and senior high youth groups is about 25 weekly at each group with 100 registered for each group. National Catholic Youth Conference is Nov. 15 to 19. 35 teens and chaperones from Transfiguration will attend, one of the largest parish groups in the diocese. Bridges of Faith has 63 children enrolled, last year we had 70, with an additional 4 children enrolled in catch up program which is for children coming forward to make First Communion who have not been enrolled in religious education in the past. Trunk or Treat had 180 people attend. Many adult and teen volunteers helped to make this event a great success. Discovering Christ will start in January. Thirty have registered already. There are also 20 leaders on the team. Keep this new outreach in prayer. Dr. Joe Kelly's discussion series on the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation had 30 plus participants.

10. Fr. Mike has had people express fear and anxiety relative to what has happened in our country and about North Korea. He asked for input as to whether this should be addressed from the pulpit. Council members shared that they felt emotionally torn. There is goodness in the world. Some often keep polarizing opinions and anger to themselves as they don't feel they can express it with others.

11. Next meeting will be the Dec. 11 training meeting.

12. The meeting ended with closing prayer at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Jodoin