

St. Gerald Pastoral Council Meeting

Thursday, August 13, 2015

Opening Prayer: Kathy Yochum

Members Present: Kathy Yochum, Mark Munchrath, Rich Martin, Doug Donaldson, Tammy Kielian, Greg Mendick, Crystalynn Garnatz, Katie Digilio, Ralph Pulte, Father Korte, Joan Luebbert

Guest: Deacon Steve Luna.

Since this was the first regular meeting for the new Pastoral Council members, each PC member introduced themselves. Committee Liaison assignments were reviewed and agreed upon.

Deacon Steve Luna was present to discuss his facilitation of the planning meeting that will be held on August 29th. He began by asking, "How do we take parish leaders and form them into better disciples." Deacon Steve indicated the PC should be more involved with faith formation rather than being only task oriented. The Archdiocese overarching mission is focused on making disciples of Jesus Christ for the salvation of souls. What is our parish doing to make this happen? What can the PC and parish leaders do to make better disciples of ourselves and others.

Deacon Steve provided national statistics regarding mass attendance and indicated, on average, only 5% of parishioners have personally experienced Christ. He spoke of looking at what is valued in our parish? What do we want to be valued in our parish? What are the expectations of our parishioners.

Discussion continued with the PC, with many thoughts and ideas expressed. This will be the focus of the Leadership Planning Committee, keeping in mind St. Gerald's parish goals as Welcomers, Communicators, Evangelizer and Stewards. Father Korte asked for volunteers for a sub committee to work with Steve to plan the August 29th Meeting. Kathy Yochum, Ralph Pulte and Joan Luebbert will work with Father Korte and Deacon Steve to develop an agenda based on the discussion.

The minutes of the June meeting were moved to be approved by Katie Digilio, motion seconded by Greg Mendick. Unanimously approved as presented.

Committee Liaison Updates

School Advisory Committee - Katie Digilio – June minutes provided. Reported 381 students registered at this point. 4 of those students utilized the Grant program sponsored by the Archdiocese.

More information about will be provided in the minutes of the SaB's August meeting.

Social Committee – Doug Donaldson – No report

Stewardship Committee -Chrystalynn Garnatz– Written report provided. Committee has actively recruited new members and set goals at last week's meeting. A written report from the St. Gerald Rosary Makers was provided.

Parish Education – Rich Martin – No report

Finance Committee – Ralph Pulte – June FC Meeting Minutes Provided. Committee met immediately before the PC meeting. Minutes for August will be provided.

Maintenance Committee – Greg Mendick – No report

Liturgy Committee – Tammy Kielian – No report

Human Needs Committee – Mark Munchrath – Mark stated Tim Mundorf is again heading up the Habitat for Humanity project for St. Gerald's and still needs additional workers and helpers.

Pastor's Report – Father Korte provided a written report. Highlights of the report covered:

- Staff members will help with Hog Heaven. The GS Choir kids and Family formation kids who want to join in will provide the music for the outdoor mass.
- Jim Beckman, from Augustine Institute will lead the St. Gerald Mission February 21-23, 2016.
- Summer projects completed or nearing completion are:
 - School office improvements – donated.
 - Chapel improvements: Organ move, choir form, New PA...lots of donated talent
- Roof: Due to weather gutters are yet to be completed – planned installation next week.
- Painting at church at 96th & Q, new compressor, re-covering of chapel seats.
- Cleaning
- Various concrete fixes, sidewalk and rear of school – 96th & Q sidewalk repair in process.
- New copier for the school; better quality, same cost.
- Family Formation introduced into SG School – K-1.
- YDisciple: Mentoring Young Disciples: A great beginning...many leaders, a great kick off, lots of kids, now grow from here.
- School "Growings": Curriculum, MS modifications to student patterns to prevent bullying, Math, room changes, etc.
- YDisciple, Family Formation GS, Confirmation, Missionary Outreach, lead by Alan Vonnahme. Dan Wees will assist with YDisciple.
- Pastoral Ministry and Development are left off the table for now. Concerns in these areas will be handled by Fr. Harrison and Fr. Korte. Tim Hancock will serve on the Stewardship Committee.

Old Business: Ralston 4th of July parade was successful. Strong participation.

Kathy distributed the job description for the PC liaison to all PC members.

New Business:

All PC members received the draft copy of Committee Chairs and were requested to contact the leaders of the groups for whom they are the liaison and send any changes/updates to Joan Luebbert at Joanluebbert@yahoo.com. The August 29th planning meeting was discussed further. This is the second year that the planning meeting will include the Finance Committee, the School Advisory Board. The Stewardship Committee, the Parish Staff and the Deacons and their wives have also been invited to participate.

The meeting will be held at the Nebraska Childrens' Home Society at 4939 S 118th Street. The planning meeting will be held August 29th from 8am to 1:00pm. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Meeting was adjourned closed with a prayer.

Next meeting – Saturday, August 29, 2015 – Nebraska Children's Home Society – 4939 S 118th Street, Omaha NE 68127 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM (Continental Breakfast and a lunch will be served for participants.)

Next regular PC Meeting – Thursday, September 10, 2015 – School basement classroom.

PC goals will be further discussed and finalized after the joint meeting.

Joan Luebbert
Recording Secretary