

NATIVITY PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday – February 27, 2007

6:30 P.M. – Middle Room

Church Of The Nativity

Vice Chair Leon Senn called the meeting of the Pastoral Council to order at 6:30 p.m. pursuant to notice and the Council opened with prayer. New council member Bonnie Faller was introduced and welcomed to the Parish Council.

Present: Fr. Dale Kinzler, Duane Koble, Brenda Lang, Terri Dahl, Bonnie Faller, Betty Hund, Cindy Hutchins, Ken Jablonsky, Bev Nesler, Sarah Schlicht, Greg Schmalz, Leon Senn, Joel Simons, and Kevin Wolf.

Absent: Fr. Bill Gerlach, Al Peach and Marilyn Bjoralt.

Minutes from the 01/16/2007 Parish Council meeting were accepted as written.

Director of Administration's Report

Duane Koble handed out his report and covered the following topics:

1. A copy of Angie Olson's and Bill Bosch's evaluation of the annual Nativity/Olivet Christmas Party was attached to the report. The purpose of the Christmas party will be reviewed for future planning. An income & expense accounting of the party reflected a net income of \$6,208.61 due to the generosity of our parishioners.
2. Sr. Juliana Wisnewski will chair the Easter party to be held on April 8, 2007. Nativity will invite another parish to assist with the party. Income from the Christmas party will be applied towards the Easter party.
3. God's Gift of Appeal continues to move towards its goal of \$120,000 for 2007. Joe Buchl's work as chairperson is appreciated.
4. Nativity has started the process of assessing the many current and future ministry needs. All are welcome to serve on this task force.
5. The Fargo Fire Department conducted an inspection of the church and kitchen. The new meeting rooms and kitchen met the minimum Uniform Fire Code Requirements.
6. The parish now has a "Nativity Church Incident Report" form in place in the event of any accidents at the church. Copy was attached to Duane's report.
7. Construction of the new meeting rooms are moving forward. City codes have been met, budget is in line, and furnishings to be added soon.
8. Staff job descriptions are in the process of being reviewed and performance appraisals are being completed.
9. Nativity's Funeral and Memorial Policy and procedures are under revision.
10. The lighting project is moving ahead in the worship space. Some of the equipment has finally arrived and installation will begin soon.
11. The goal of the Parish Home Visitation Ministry under the direction of Dave Opsahl will focus on making our parish more welcoming and work towards visiting every household in the parish.
12. The Nativity School staff and students extend their gratitude for the new library which will be blessed on April 18, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.
13. Duane's report also included the monthly financials for January 2007. Income and expenses are on track for the new year.

Pastor's Report

Fr. Dale reported that he is working with David Opsahl in an advisory capacity while David Opsahl works toward completion of his formation program and deacon ordination in May of 2008. Goals for this program were noted in Duane Koble's Administration's Report. Each priest was encouraged at the last deanery meeting to invite men to consider the diaconate. Fr. Dale noted that he has extended several invitations to parish community members.

The Scripture Study called "Great Adventure Bible Timeline" is going very well. Three sessions are being held on Sundays at 1:15 and 3:30 & Mondays at 7:00 p.m. Facilitators Bruce Dahl and Chris Steffan and Jack Carson's organizational and recruitment efforts are appreciated.

Fr. Dale will offer liturgies at a 3-day retreat with the SMP Health Systems (Maryvale Presentation) facilities leadership during his vacation from March 6-15. He will also visit parish members while in Arizona. Although he will be absent during Nativity's March 6th Leadership reflection, he extends his thanks for the leadership of others during this Lenten retreat.

Chairman Ken Jablonsky joined the meeting as the Council took a break to attend the 7:00 p.m. Lenten Evening Service. Reflection questions:

1. How does my faith in the Lord strengthen when I am faced with difficult choices to live my baptism?
2. What difficult things do I do that show my love for God and for my family?

After the Lenten Evening Service, Duane Koble introduced Peter Vandenburg, architect for the new meeting rooms. Mr. Vandenburg took the council on a tour of the meeting rooms and addition to the kitchen.

After the tour, Duane Koble introduced Karl Nesler and David Wilhelmi from the Knights of Columbus. They gave a detailed powerpoint presentation on "How Mission Statement as a Support Organization to the Parish fits with the New Meeting Space." The KC's calendar raffle last year raised \$12,500 towards the new meeting rooms and this year's proceeds will go towards the audio/visual system for both rooms. Karl and David expressed how excited the KC's are to move back on campus for their meetings on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month. They outlined the Catholic symbols and items the Knights use at their meetings and requested the Parish Council's approval to utilize one of the meeting rooms as outlined in their presentation. Karl and David answered questions from the council members and thanked the council for their time.

This led into discussion of names for the new meeting rooms. Fr. Dale shared several suggestions and the council made additional recommendations. Fr. Dale asked that comments and suggestions be e-mailed to him prior to March 14th as the new space will be blessed soon.

Chairman Ken Jablonsky then led discussion regarding the Knights of Columbus' presentation. Joel Simons made a motion to allow the Knights of Columbus to occupy the "Brother's Room" with the recommendation to not affix anything permanently to the walls. Motion passed with unanimous consensus. Duane Koble will notify Karl Nesler of the Pastoral Council's motion.

Associate Pastor's Report

Fr. Bill Gerlach was absent and no report provided this month.

Old Business

Recording Secretary Brenda Lang noted that she had found written confirmation of the minimum number of members of 11 to be on the Pastoral Council in the Constitution. This minimum has been attained with

the addition of Bonnie Faller to the Council. She also recommended that the Constitution be reviewed and amended, if needed. Administrator Duane Koble will follow up and review the Constitution.

Leon Senn questioned the issue of archiving data that was discussed last month. He knows someone who can archive on a searchable CD format for 7 cents/sheet. Duane Koble stated that he would be open to visiting with Leon's contact regarding this issue.

New Business

Terri Dahl reviewed the Liturgical Committee's issues regarding the large attendance at the 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Liturgy. There are problems with seating everyone, people saving pew space, and difficulty finding liturgists, greeters and ushers. The committee had extensive discussion and made several recommendations to educate the parish through the Voice about the issues, revise overflow seating & viewing of Mass as needed, and recommendation to start Midnight Mass at 10:30 p.m. The Council provided additional ideas and feedback for Terri Dahl to take back to the Liturgical Committee.

Chairman Ken Jablonsky mentioned the updated Parish Council Member List and Meeting Schedule Brenda Lang had mailed to the council. She will update the member list with Bonnie Faller's contact information by the next meeting.

The Chairman then requested each liaison to report any additional information they might have to their written reports.

Council Committee Reports

- **FCSN**: Kevin Wolf handed out the report and noted that FCSN is going through strategic planning for the Catholic Schools system. Call him anytime if questions. Kevin also stated that he will take on a more active role as liaison to raise more presence and interest in the parish for Catholic schools.
- **Liturgy Commission**: Terri Dahl had no additional information after the earlier discussion; except that Fr. Jerry Rogers presentations last month were well received and that no one was in need of the child care that was provided.
- **Buildings and Grounds**: Betty Hund reported that the committee will finish landscaping this spring. She is also co-chairing a Process & Planning Committee that will assess how the Hoffart's Million Dollar Gift will be expended. The 5-year strategic plan will first assess the current strengths, weaknesses, and where the parish is at right now before moving forward with Nativity Anew II. An invitation was extended to all to be active on this committee, as well as to let Betty know of any ideas or concerns you may have.
- **Parish Faith Life Commission**: Greg Schmalz had e-mailed his report prior to the meeting. Duane Koble commented on the new suggestion of a "Mentoring Program" where a family will mentor a new family coming into the parish. Greg stated that the commission will be re-visiting the Courtyard Party and fundraising for the youth.
- **Youth Representative**: Sarah Schlicht reported that LinC members were given an assignment by Matt Fischer to raise dollars for Fr. Jack Davis' mission. LinC members will also start working on pulpit talks within the next few weeks.
- **Health Advisory/Parish Nurse Committee**: Although no report was provided, Joel Simons reported that they have a very dynamic committee that is quite active. They have more educational topics and speakers planned for the future. Greeters were educated on safety and how to use the defibrillator. Although this is only a part-time position for Judy Schwinghammer, she could easily be utilized full time. Joel extended an invitation for all to attend their meetings held on the first Monday of the month.
- **Social Justice**: Duane Koble e-mailed a report since there is no liaison from the council for this position as yet. New council member, Bonnie Faller, was asked to consider acting as liaison.

There being no further New Business, Chairman Ken Jablonsky reminded the Council of the Lenten Leadership Retreat to be held March 6th. Members noted that there will be a conflict for some who will be attending the First Choice Clinic dinner the same evening.

There will be no Parish Council meeting in March due to Lent.

The Chairman led the council in Closing Prayer and adjourned the meeting at 9:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Lang

Recording Secretary