

NATIVITY PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday – April 23, 2013
6:30 P.M. – Nazareth Room

At 6:34 p.m., Eric Krueger led the Council in Evening Prayer.

At 6:49 p.m., Chairman Joe Miranowski called the meeting to order pursuant to notice, welcomed our new members and each council member introduced themselves.

Council Members Present:

Fr. Kevin Boucher, Fr. Chris Markman, Duane Koble, Laura Alderman, Dale Craft, Tom Hanson, Eric Krueger, Brenda Lang, Melissa Mehlich, Joe Miranowski, Wendy Paulson, Ryan Roshau, Don Schott, Terry Thorp and Corporate Secretary Anne Stoll

Council Members Absent: Lydia Carlson, Anne Moynihan and Corporate Treasurer Patrick Kautzman

Minutes from the 02/26/2013 Parish Council meeting were provided prior to the meeting and accepted by unanimous consensus.

Guests: Susan Trnka and Wayne Sanders

OLD BUSINESS

Nativity Anew II Update – Fr. Kevin reported on the following in connection with Nativity Anew II:

- His weight loss fun-raiser was very successful.
- \$140,000 has been collected from all fun-raisers held to date.
- Certificate of Occupancy was recently received.
- Several staff members have moved into their new office space and others will follow.
- Financially, \$100,000 from the original campaign has yet to be collected. If not, then \$100,000 of the \$140,000 fun-raiser funds will be needed to complete the project debt free. Keep in mind that the \$140,000 turns into \$280,000 with matching funds.
- Need to wait for the ground to thaw before sidewalks are poured. Will not enter through the new front doors for some time, although accommodations will be made to enter through the front doors for Marvin Bossart's funeral this coming weekend.
- All the staff are getting used to the shortcuts to reach the new office space.
- Fr. addressed several questions that were raised regarding the new space:
 - Received a donation for lounge furniture to place near the front doors and office area.
 - Entrance area would be decorated with seasonal décor and greenery.
 - With the upcoming summer road construction in June and July to the east of the church, entering & exiting the area will need to be from the side exits. There will be traffic issues during this time, but decreased attendance during the summer will alleviate some, but not all of the issues involved.
- Do the Stars of Bethlehem (one outside and two inside) in the floor have any significance?
Fr. Kevin explained that the whole design radiated from the intersection of the axes of the stars. The three stars are oriented to the cross on the roof, with the three stars pointing to the altar thus lighting your path to the altar.
- Will the locking system be changed? Everything is in transition at the moment; at which time when completed the locks will be rekeyed accordingly.
- Anything else to be done with the courtyard area? Landscaping with plants.

Filling Pastoral Council Liaison Positions

The two unfilled Liaison positions for Social Justice Commission and Health Advisory Commission were discussed. Don Schott volunteered to act a Liaison for the Social Justice Commission, as well as continue to act as Liaison for the Young Adult Ministry & Youth Ministry.

New council member, Terry Thorp volunteered to act as Liaison for the Health Advisory Commission. Duane Koble will contact the two commissions to inform them of the new Liaisons.

Other Old Business – None

NEW BUSINESS

Friends of Chimbote Update

Guests Susan Trnka and Board of Director Wayne Sanders from the Friends of Chimbote – Father Jack’s Mission, joined the meeting at 7:22 p.m.

After viewing a video about the Mission, they expressed Fr. Jack’s gratefulness to Nativity, their first Sister parish, for our continued monthly support to his ministry since leaving our parish 40 years ago. Fr. Jack’s goal has been to transform lives of the poor through education. Susan and Wayne explained where Fr. Jack’s mission had been, what they have done, and where the mission will be in the future. The mission truly enhances a person’s faith journey when traveling to Chimbote to assist with this ministry.

Susan had provided a financial report to Duane and spoke of the mission’s financial condition. Over 5,000 donors and 90 sister parishes assisted with the \$2,000,000 to operate in 2012 that worked to help 32,000 people in Chimbote. The Mission operates with a staff of two; Susan Trnka as the Executive director, one assistant, and managed by a Board of Directors.

At such time when Sr. Peggy and Fr. Davis choose to retire, the board has been conducting strategic planning to build a strong foundation to sustain the ministry. Fr. Jack has coordinated programs over the years with excellent mentors who are able to continue the ministry whenever Fr. Jack is absent. Continued support is needed because there are no social, medical or educational programs in Peru due to the government in Peru.

On May 9, 2013 at 6:30 p.m., a celebration is being held at Seasons at Rose Creek for Sr. Peggy to recognize her legacy of education for Fr. Jack’s mission. Susan handed out invitations to each of the council members.

Susan shared that Fr. Jack’s Mission at Chimbote includes the first known hospice in South America. She also shared that at the Mission, they pray for Nativity and for each of the benefactors from here by name. Recovering from recent devastating rains is still in progress; so as it dries out, they are tearing down the old and replacing with the new.

Duane noted that Nativity routes 4% of the Offertory to “Care and Share” of which \$300 month is provided to the ministry at Chimbote.

Nativity’s 5-Year Long Range Plan

Fr. Kevin noted that everyone received a copy of the current Long Range Plan that has been in place for the past 5-7 years and is divided into seven goals. These goals form the foundation for each commission, committee and council within the parish.

- Goal 1: Whole Parish Evangelization and Faith Formation
- Goal 2: Youth and Young Adult Formation
- Goal 3: Pastoral Outreach

- Goal 4: Stewardship
- Goal 5: Social Justice
- Goal 6: Buildings and Grounds
- Goal 7: Consultation and Governance

Fr. Kevin provided the following direction to each of the Liaisons:

- Bring the current Long Range Plan back to their respective committee, council and commission and conduct a critique of their respective goal.
- In that critique, review what has been done, what was accomplished, what was successful and evaluate what more may need to be done. Duane recommended keeping the process simple:
 - a) Where have we been?
 - b) Where are we now?
 - c) Where are we going to be in 5 years?
- The Pastoral Council Liaison will then bring a report back to the Pastoral Council.
- This evaluation will take some time to be done, but once completed, will be the information that will help build Nativity's next 5-year Long Range Plan. Since the Parish Faith Life Commission will not meet again until August and to allow sufficient time in the fall and winter for this to be completed by all, Father acknowledged a December 31st goal date to plan to write the Long Range Plan.
- Be aware that the Liaison from the Pastoral Council will be the driving force to meet with the Chair of their respective committee, council and commission.
- The staff will also be revisiting the 5-year plan to incorporate their ideas.
- After securing the reports from the committees, commissions and councils, the Pastoral Council's next step will be formulating the next 5-year Long Range Plan.

Fr. Kevin noted that education for parish service is the Diocesan Program which may be replaced by a new goal.

Wendy Paulson asked who would meet for Buildings & Grounds as she is the sole member for this Committee. Fr. Kevin noted that he, Duane Koble and Frank LaLonde will meet with her.

Pastoral Council's "5K Marathon Fun-Raiser"

Fr. Kevin reported that a donor had approached him and will pledge \$200 to the first 17 parishioners who sign up through the Nativity site to participate in any of the Fargo Marathon events. All pastoral council members are encouraged to participate in some way by signing up and/or sponsoring another parishioner.

Chairman Joe Miranowski said that he and his wife Bev would like to organize a campfire at Nativity after the 5K walk on May 17th in celebration of a "walk" well done! The council agreed this would be a fun follow up to the marathon. Discussion followed regarding the steps for signing up for the marathon as well as the Nativity signup. Brenda was acknowledged for her contribution in organizing the Pastoral Council's fun-raiser event.

Time & Talent

Liaison Dale Craft reported that the Parish Faith Life Commission (PFLC) had questions regarding the Parish's Time & Talent process which Dale brought forward to the Parish Council for discussion:

1. What does each ministry need for volunteers?
2. What those ministries are?
3. What do these ministries entail?
4. The date for "Time & Talent" is not consistent. Would like to see it at the same time every year. When will the next "Time & Talent be held?

5. Use the three questions Duane mentioned before as a guideline:
 - Where have we been?
 - Where are we now?
 - Where are we going to be in 5 years?
6. The PFLC likes the idea of a volunteer desk in the new gathering space with information of what is needed for the specific ministries.
7. Consider a space for parishioners who are interested in volunteering to leave their contact information for someone to contact them the following week.
8. What about using social media such as Nativity's Facebook.

Duane noted that the staff is pulling together a "Ministry Fair" for the weekend of May 18-19; and will be covering the seven areas of ministry; therefore, the staff is taking the lead on the area of "Time & Talent" this next month.

Fr. Kevin added that no "Time & Talent" was held in 2012 due to the building project Nativity Anew II taking priority. In the past, the parish has held its Time & Talent in the fall, but as the staff recognized, the fall is too late. Also, the same people signed up year after year, so the process was not very effective.

Therefore, the Pastoral Council had already held discussion about conducting Time & Talent in the spring instead so that the names were in place and ready for the fall. With Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP) starting again; i.e. one women's and one men's weekend during Lent, the timeline when CRHP holds its discernment is timely for the participants to consider the various parish ministries when Time & Talent is being held.

Fr. Kevin noted that the decision was made this year to conduct a "Ministry Fair" versus the Time & Talent "in the pews". At this Fair, each ministry will have a job description card that people can collect from each table. These cards will be compiled in a book and located in the Gathering Space.

Fr. Kevin appreciated the discussion of the PFLC to move the Time & Talent process forward. Not determined yet if Time & Talent will be held every year or every other year.

CRHP aligns itself with "Time & Talent" since the needs of the parish are already integrated within the CRHP process. Therefore, the parish's ministry needs could be organized in advance of the CRHP discernment meeting to facilitate a decision where a person may choose to minister.

Formation Discussion: "Dogmatic Constitution on the Church Lumen Gentium – Ch 3 & 4

Fr. Chris briefly outlined the topic of the first four chapters:

Chapter 1 speaks to the church wanting to write this document about who she is; and that all these things are found in Christ.

Chapter 2 is about the church in general and all its parts.

Chapters 3 & 4 go into more specifics of the church; i.e. the hierarchy of the church and offices they have to teach, sanctify and govern the church; and the hierarchy on how Christ picked the apostles and how all bishops could trace their lineage back to the apostles.

Chapter 4 explains the role the laity has within the church to help the hierarchy to evangelize the world.

Describes how the laity has a secular character. Because the laity lives in the world, they are supposed to be the leaven of the world and responsible for evangelizing and building up the world with the values of our Christian faith and sharing Christ with others in the world.

Discussion followed about the many opportunities during our day to evangelize to others.

Other New Business - None

Pastor's Comments

Fr. Kevin reported that Lent and Easter had kept him busy since the last meeting.

Parochial Vicar's Comments

Fr. Chris highlighted the following from his report:

- Second graders completed their first reconciliation.
- Children will receive their first communion soon.
- Fall Festival committee has met once to begin organizing for this event.
- Has seven couples meeting with him for marriage preparation.

Finance Council

Corporate Secretary Anne Stoll reported that a review of the 1st quarter budget reflected total Offertory income at just under 25% of budget.

A reminder will be placed in the bulletin for parishioners to continue with their contributions during the summer months.

There is no further construction in the interior for the building project. The front sidewalk has yet to be poured before the front entrance can be used.

Three applicants have been selected to interview for the accounting & payroll position.

Director of Administration's Report

Duane Koble highlighted the following from his report:

- The Spring Salad Buffet scheduled for May 8th raises funds for faith formation. A grant will be secured if \$2,500 is raised.
- The executive members and Duane held an Orientation for new pastoral council members this past Sunday. Email Brenda or Duane with any questions.
- This is a great time for the parishes in the Diocese with the new Bishop being installed. Expect to see growth in the area of evangelization.

Duane thanked the council members for their leadership in the parish.

Committee & Commission Reports

Youth Ministry & Young Adult Ministry

Representative Don Schott reported that WOW and LinC hosted the Mardi Gras Talent Show. WOW presented the Living Stations of the Cross during Lent.

Awe Power & Praise continue to meet on Wednesdays.

The Parish Faith Life Commission asked the youth for assistance with their Nativity dance fun-raiser.

Students from LinC were invited to attend a 24-hour food fast at St. Leo's church.

CYA has been working on service projects for Churches United for the Homeless and finishing their book discussion soon on The Screwtape Letters.

Since the term for the Special Elective position for Young Adult Ministry & Youth Ministry runs from August through April, Recording Secretary Brenda Lang asked Don to speak with Desiree Wilson if Lydia Carlson will continue in this position or not for the August 2013-May 2014 term.

Buildings & Grounds Committee – Liaison Wendy Paulson asked Fr. Kevin who will be completing the landscaping. He confirmed that the contractors will do this work and that the Buildings & Grounds Committee will be responsible for maintenance.

Father noted that the parking lot resurfacing will be delayed until 2014 due to the 11th Street construction. Mention was made of the need for new lines in the parking lot to assist with more organized parking as the paint used last year did not last as long as expected.

Deanery Representative – Fr. Kevin had nothing to report at this time.

Health Advisory Commission – Duane Koble reported that the commission had planned their 2013 Brunch & Learn series focusing on caring for special needs. Watch the bulletin for these Saturday morning sessions.

The staff's baby pictures raised \$50 for the building fun-raiser.

JPII Council – JPII Liaison Laura Alderman reported that their small group met and assigned members to attend Baptism classes and speak about Catholic Schools.

Discussed Catholic Schools Week and better ways to organize the event next year. Was difficult to find volunteers for all the ministries.

Will hold the Ice Cream Social again on August 14th, which was very successful last year. Invited all the families of Nativity and 100 people attended last year.

School is very busy at this time of year. There are many programs to attend if looking for an evening out. The Shanley Auction will be held this Saturday.

The Shanley Choir held their home concert on Sunday and showcased their talent.

Joe Keller's walk for wishes is on Sunday at the Scheels Arena. Please support him by coming to walk for Joe's Heroes as Joe was a Nativity alumni.

Liturgical Commission – Liaison Anne Moynihan was absent and no report was provided.

New council member Melissa Mehlisch is on the commission and reported that the meeting was held at Melissa Woinarowicz's home for an Easter ham dinner. The Liturgical members were given an assignment to attend a Mass and evaluate what they liked and did not like about the liturgy.

Discussion was held regarding things to possibly change in the future.

Was noted that the new communion vessels take longer to clean due to their size and that the vessels for the Body of Christ tend to hold the particles in it.

Also discussed the feedback from the Easter Masses regarding how people reacted and what they liked or did not like.

Parish Faith Life Commission – Liaison Dale Craft reported that they broke into two sessions.

Will be inviting 5th Grade students to attend WoW

Discussed a mandatory parent meeting for Awe or WoW.

Discussed ideas on how to get parents involved in the WoW program. Parent helpers on WoW nights and better ways to communicate with parents by scheduling a year ahead.

LinC watched "The Human Experience" as their Lenten Movie.

LinC invited 8th Graders to their meeting.

Discussed ideas on how to connect LinC to the parish community.

Kathy Bourdon participated in a seminar in Denver called "A Guide to 21st Century Faith Formation" to look at ideas to fashion faith formation around the people and not try to "fit" people into our programs and activities. Topics discussed included creating an online faith formation website; look at social media more seriously and how best to utilize online methods for communication.

Build on the current Faith Formation website and use that as a hub

Have a lifelong faith formation office as a "go to" place for parents.

\$1,541 was raised from the Heifer Project.

47 children completed the Sacrament of reconciliation from Grade 2 and above.

52 children will be receiving their 1st Communion. Celebration for both sacraments to be held May 5th.

Social Justice Commission – No report was provided prior to the meeting.

Fr. Kevin reported that Cathy Schwinden showed a video.

Community Connect event will be held on Wednesday-May 1st at which all the social agencies are at the FargoDome to provide free services to the homeless and those who cannot afford these services. If any of

the council members would be interested in volunteering to hand out rosaries, or be there to talk or pray with people, please contact Cathy Schwinden.

Announcements

Chairman Joe Miranowski made the following announcement:

- The next scheduled Pastoral Council meeting is Tuesday- May 28, 2013.

There being no further business, the council closed with Evening Prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Lang

Recording Secretary