

## NATIVITY PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday – October 23, 2012

6:30 P.M. – Nazareth Room

At 6:31 p.m., Laura Alderman led the Council in Evening Prayer.

At 6:44 p.m., Chairman Greg Schmalz called the meeting to order pursuant to notice and introduced Lydia Carlson as the Youth & Young Adult Ministry Representative.

### **Council Members Present:**

Fr. Kevin Boucher, Laura Alderman, Lydia Carlson, Duane Koble, Dale Craft, Eric Krueger, Brenda Lang, Joe Miranowski, Anne Moynihan, Wendy Paulson, Greg Schmalz, Don Schott and Corporate Secretary Mykal Sonstelie

**Council Members Absent:** Fr. Chris Markman, David Brunelle, Bonnie Faller, Lisa Suda and Corporate Treasurer Michael O'Leary

Minutes from the 09/25/2012 Parish Council meeting were provided prior to the meeting and accepted by unanimous consensus.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### Nativity Anew II Update

- Fr. Kevin provided a building update. Concrete for the courtyard flooring was poured leaving only the step yet to complete. The roof was raised on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Anticipate the roof decking to be done early November and exterior window areas. The building should be completely enclosed by November 15th. The school was cleaned thoroughly over teachers break. Watch for new doors in the new entry and the old front doors will replace the back doors. The fire system needed to be operative when school started, so over break the fire system was moved to its new location. A fire drill went very well.
- Fr. Kevin met with the Hoffart's again regarding their matching gift. Their gift rewards the parish for a successful Nativity Anew II campaign and now they wish to challenge the parish to hold a "fun-raiser" to raise \$500,000 which they will match. Creative ideas were discussed at this meeting and Fr. Kevin asked the council members to provide their input. Brenda will provide the list of ideas to Fr. Kevin. Please email Father with any other fun creative ways that you have seen for fund raisers. The timeframe will remain open to do these "fun-raisers".

Other Old Business – None

#### Young Adult Ministry

Lydia Carlson provided her report at this time as she will need to leave early.

The Spaghetti Dinner hosted by WOW and LinC went very smoothly and grossed \$1,941.00.

Fifteen students are in the LinC program this year.

Catholic Young Adults (CYA) program continues to grow with 22 adults attending. They are holding a book discussion on "The Screwtape Letters", attending "Restless Heart" presentation and wrapping gifts for Operation Christmas Child.

Awe Power & Praise (APP) on Wednesdays is new this year with the WOW students and some adults attending. The plan is to grow public attendance.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### *Fall Festival Report*

In Fr. Chris' absence, it was noted that the various Fall Festival committees are still in need of volunteers; especially for clean-up. Also very few baskets have been dropped off for the Heavenly Baskets Silent Auction with the Fall Festival around the corner on Sunday-November 4<sup>th</sup>.

### *Discernment Process – Openings on Pastoral Council for 2013*

Fr. Kevin led the discernment discussion for the Pastoral Council's officer positions:

- Brenda Lang was asked if she would continue as Recording Secretary. She agreed to remain in this position for another year.
- Mykal Sonstelie and Michael O'Leary have completed four successive terms in their respective corporate positions. Fr. Kevin announced that Pat Kautzman will be Chair of the Finance Council and Anne Stohl will be the Secretary for the Finance Council for 2013.
- Joe Miranowski accepted the Chair position for 2013.
- Fr. Kevin asked for nominations from the floor for Vice Chair. Eric Krueger volunteered to accept this officer position.
- With two members completing their 6-year terms on the council, Greg Schmalz and Bonnie Faller, two membership positions will need to be filled to maintain the minimum of 11 members. Fr. Kevin noted that open positions for all the committees, commissions and councils will be brought forward at the CRHP Evening of Discipleship for consideration.
- Brenda will contact Lisa Suda to confirm if she will serve a second 3-year term on the Pastoral Council.
- Laura Alderman agreed to serve a second 3-year term on the Pastoral Council.
- Duane Koble also agreed to serve another one-year term as Staff Representative.

Prior to the November council meeting, all members were asked to review the brochure in their binders that outlines each of the committees, commissions and councils so that they may discern which Liaison position they may be interested in for the 2013 year.

Fr. Kevin noted that Nativity is blessed with a functioning Pastoral Council.

Lydia Carlson excused herself from the meeting.

### *Formation Discussion*

The council viewed the final lecture on the vision of Vatican II entitled "The Sacrament of Everyday Life" by Fr. Michael J. Himes. When faith is alive in the lives of the people, then you see active participation. In America as a church we need to encourage the faith life of parents. It is the duty of all to be responsible for unity, proclaiming the Word of God and service. If not, then we are not fulfilling our duty as church.

How has Nativity fulfilled these three duties? Through CRHP, our committees, councils and commissions, through our Social Justice ministries and through our families. These three responsibilities ought to be applied to families to foster the sacred, love, and respect for one another and to serve each other.

*Other New Business* - None

## **Pastor's Comments**

Fr. Kevin drew the council's attention to the following from his report:

- Through the council and board of directors, JPPI is pursuing the building of the school in West Fargo. A building committee in conjunction with the Network will look into the school design. Dr. Smith is creating a 5-year financial plan. Based on current tuition, parish subsidies, etc. the project will need to start at an operating deficit; keeping in mind that the deficit will decrease as

enrollment and parish subsidies increase each year. The development piece of the network is being explored as well as Best Practices for fundraising, needs as a network, and how to make these pieces work. It may be determined that financially this project may not move forward or that a monetary gift may be needed.

- Officiated for one funeral and five baptisms this past month.
- The first “Dining with the Word” was exciting with 93 for dinner and 127 for the presentation by Msgr. Goering.
- The Christ Renews His Parish Men’s weekend was postponed until April 2013 for more people to sign up.
- Eighty people attended the Volunteer Appreciation Open House at the rectory.
- Fr. Kevin mentioned an organization of philanthropists who hold an annual banquet to recognize six different individuals or entities. The Grand Forks Senior Meals on Wheels will be recognized, as well as the former NDSU President for his community building efforts and the Scheels Foundation to name a few. The Hoffarts were nominated as Philanthropists of the Year. If interested in attending, mark November 15<sup>th</sup> on your calendar at the Holiday Inn.

### **Parochial Vicar’s Comments**

Refer to Fr. Chris’ emailed report.

- Will witness his first wedding in October.
- 17 people attended “Who Knew with Fr. Chris” with many tough questions, including a discussion about purgatory.

### **Finance Council**

Mykal Sonstelie reported they had reviewed the third quarter financials which reflected a (\$70,000) loss. Usually would see the potential to catch up by fourth quarter of the year. Have two permanent endowment funds that they started using for the first time. Nativity Anew II has \$140,000 in pledges yet to collect and will contact these people regarding their intentions. Nativity Anew II matching gift and fundraising ideas were discussed.

### **Director of Administration’s Report**

Duane Koble highlighted the following from his report:

- Nativity has signed an agreement with Sanford at no cost to make our campus available to Sanford in the event of a community emergency at no cost to Nativity.
- A 24/7 Subscriber Signal Monitoring Agreement has been put into place with Sanford Medical Alarm Central for the Nativity campus.
- Maintenance is an ongoing issue for a campus of this size.
- Training will be held for the administrative team on the new geo-thermo system.
- Duane attended the City of Fargo Public Input meeting regarding the University Avenue Corridor Study and its affect on the Nativity campus as another lane will be added on University beside Nativity. Contact Duane if interested in reviewing this study.
- Included information about the User Fee.
- Every fall, statistical reports are submitted to the Diocese from each parish. Can review his report for more details.
- Coming off of summer finances are tight going into fourth quarter with the hope of meeting budget.

### **Committee & Commission Reports**

*Buildings & Grounds Committee* – Liaison Bonnie Faller had no report.

*Deanery Representative* – No report.

Health Advisory Commission – Liaison Wendy Paulson reported that Charlotte LaCroix was the guest speaker and shared her ministry to those with Hanson’s Disease at Maliki, Hawaii. The Commission’s By Laws were reviewed and accepted with minor changes. The Commission’s Officers will remain the same. Deb Boyer will conduct another Nurtured Heart session on October 27<sup>th</sup>. Fr. Dale Kinzler will report on End of Life issues November 17<sup>th</sup>.

JPII Council – Liaison Laura Alderman had no report.

Liturgical Commission – Liaison Lisa Suda was absent. Greg reviewed her emailed report with the council.

For catechesis they are watching the Robert Barron series which has been very inspiring. Anyone is invited to join the commission to share in this series on Sunday evenings.

Pat Callens is sewing new altar server robes.

The Commission has selected new Communion vessels. The current chalices purchased in 1978 are made of pewter and are degrading. Fr. Kevin added that it is permissible to melt down the vessels to make into a sacred object; i.e. corpus mounted on a cross for example as the size would be perfect for a processional cross. They know a metallurgist in the area who would do this type of work.

Parish Faith Life Commission – Liaison Dale Craft had no report.

Social Justice Commission – Liaison Anne Moynihan highlighted the following from her report:

- Agencies in the area that provide shelter and services for the homeless.
- The Community Garden was a great success.
- Recycling continues.
- Fr. Kevin to review a smoke free ballot initiative as Nativity was asked to formally be a non-financial sponsor of the initiative which Fr. Kevin did decline.
- Report included an October calendar of events.
- Training for the Sheltering Project will be held at Elim Lutheran church on November 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Viewed and discussed the video “The Line” regarding poverty in America.

Further discussion was held regarding training for the Sheltering project. Churches United for the Homeless is working with the area churches for overflow shelters as the shelters were full last year. An additional month was added to house the homeless. Catholics were noted for not being involved last year. Blessed Sacrament church has agreed to be a site for a couple of weeks. Four volunteers are needed during the night for any of the three 4-hour shifts. Churches United conducts all the training for volunteers. Anyone can go online to sign up to help and for training.

Nativity would consider being a site for a weekend but with the school, the safety of our children is an issue; therefore, Blessed Sacrament offered their church for a couple of weekends.

Also, Churches United does all the pre-screening of the homeless and who will be sent to the church. The downtown YMCA rents their buses to bus the homeless to the shelter sites. The shelters were full all summer and now we are moving into fall with the shelters filling up again.

The Feedback band will be playing the Wednesday before Thanksgiving at JT Cigaros smoke free bar. Previous Shanley students are in the band and had won the Battle of the Bands this past summer. They donated their winnings to the foundation that sponsored the Battle of the Bands.

## Announcements

Chairman Greg Schmalz made the following announcements:

- Mark your calendar for the next Pastoral Council meeting on Tuesday-November 27<sup>th</sup>.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Brenda Lang*

Recording Secretary