

St. John Evangelist Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 22, 2017, 6:30 pm

Present: Fr. Joe Dominic, Jim Beine, Judy Grey, Molly Holzrichter, Lynn Justinger, Jill Ladwig, Patty Langel, Matthew Meyer, Dale Neil, Lori Udovich, Susan Vavra, Steve Webster, Carol Benishek (parish staff), Chris Briggs & Laurie Konrad (Youth/Young Adult Ministry Committee)

- I. **Opening Prayer, Reflections and Discussion:** Led by Steve Webster
- II. **Approval of August 22, 2017 Agenda:** Matt Meyer moved to approve. Dale Neil seconded motion. Agenda approved.
- III. **Youth/Young Adult Ministry Committee Report:** Chris Briggs, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry provided a Power Point presentation to summarize the classes, programs and activities for which he is responsible:
 - High School classes consist of weekly small group sessions led by parish volunteers and large group sessions led by Chris for students of both St. John's and Blessed Trinity from October through April
 - After School Pit Stop: Free cookies and beverages are served each Monday during the school year outside of Blessed Trinity Parish to students walking home from the Sheboygan Falls Middle and High Schools
 - The Lodge at Blessed Trinity Parish is available for middle/high school students to hang out prior to Religious Education classes on Wednesday evenings
 - Five joint Religious Education and Youth Ministry events were planned last school year of which two were held (Kick-off BBQ and Halloween-Fall Family Festival)
 - Sunday Night Liturgies at Blessed Trinity Parish attended by 20-30 people (*Patty Langel inquired if consideration could be given to alternating these Masses between Blessed Trinity and St. John's Churches. Chris said that a new model is being considered which would entail having two-to-three Masses per year between the two parishes.*)
 - Confirmation preparation (*Dale Neil asked if the Confirmation Masses could alternate between St. John's and Blessed Trinity Churches. Per Chris, the 2018 Confirmation Mass will be at St. John's.*)
 - Catechist Appreciation Dinner in May
 - Catholic Heart Work Camp: Three students from St. John's traveled to St. Louis in July
 - SCORE (Sheboygan County Organization of Religious Educators): County-wide youth ministers planned a 9th grade retreat, middle school lock-in at St. Dominic Parish (25 students in attendance, none from St. John's/Blessed Trinity Parishes), hosted speaker John Grossmann who spoke on Homelessness, and "At Home Mission Week" (one student from St. John's participated)
 - College Care Packages: Sent to 40 students of St. John's and Blessed Trinity Parishes during final exams
 - County-wide Catholic Underground (for adults ages 18-39): Free dinner followed by a discussion on a religious subject held at the Lodge (participants do not register so no stats available for St. John's/Blessed Trinity participation)
 - Was checking into a trip to John Bosco Day at Holy Hill but may not happen due to changes in youth ministry staff at the Sheboygan Northside/Southside parishes
 - May consider planning a youth trip to the National Catholic Youth Conference (November event) in 2018
- IV. **Review and approve St. John Evangelist Pastoral Council Minutes-July 25, 2017:** Matt Meyer moved to approve. Patty Langel seconded motion. Minutes approved.
- V. **Finance Council Report:** Steve Webster reported that a Finance Council meeting is scheduled for August 24, 2017. Steve and Matt, Pastoral Council liaisons to the Finance Council, are unable to attend so Molly Holzrichter will attend.
- VI. **Committee Liaison Reports:**
 - A. **Youth/Young Adult Ministry:** Patty Langel discussed that receiving deposits from students at the time of the Catholic Heart Work Camp mission trip sign-up would remove the possibility of the deposit that had been paid by the parishes from being forfeited. Also, there are concerns that programming seems heavy on the Blessed Trinity end. St. John's is paying 50% of program costs when Blessed Trinity Parish

membership is larger than that of St. John's (2015 parish statistics: St. John's registered households=367/Blessed Trinity registered households=991; St. John's # members 938/Blessed Trinity # members=1956). Fr. Joe recommends the Pastoral Council approach Chris Briggs with program requests and concerns (based from the Parish Survey and discussion) using the format of: 1) Formalize requests in writing to Chris and 2) have expectation that a written response will be provided to the council from Chris.

- B. Religious Education: Steve Webster reported that there are new committee members. The programming focus will be on families.
- C. Hospitality: Lori Udovich reported that Julie Minter, Director of the Catholic Life Center, requested assistance with a Catholic Life Center sponsored "Breakfast with Fr. Joe" at St. John's. Lori suggested that perhaps a Saturday morning breakfast would be conducive to family participation.

VII. Secretary Report:

- A. Suggestion Box: Dale Neil shared a new suggestion with the council. He continues to keep records of the suggestions.
- B. Guest Register: Dale posted a sign near the book so visitors will notice it. He continues to send notes of welcome to visitors.
- C. Correspondence: No new correspondence to share.

VIII. Old Business:

- A. St. Anne's Altar Society Tag Sale Recap: Patty reported that the sale was a success not only financially but also with community building. Funds raised will be used for High School Senior Service Awards and charitable organizations. Items not sold will be donated to a Refugee Shoe Drive, a local coat drive and Safe Harbor. Fr. Joe suggested that someone involved with the Tag Sale speak at the Masses to share the good work and results of this project.
- B. Parish Survey Trend Meeting Summary: On August 2, Molly Holzrichter led members of the council through a process to identify five trends that emerged from the Parish Survey.

IX. New Business:

- A. Parish Survey Results-action items for committee chairpersons: Molly reported that committee chairpersons will be invited to learn of the survey results pertaining to his/her committee. Council discussion took place regarding one of the parish survey priorities related to the rectory becoming a dedicated living space for the priest. Council members discussed that parish staff would be able to better serve parishioners if the offices were located at the church or school since many looking for staff tend to go there first. Another benefit is being able to keep the church unlocked longer during the day (for prayer) if a staff member is present (for security reasons). The Religious Education students and families are familiar with the school location and it might be helpful to have the presence of Religious Education employees present at the school with posted business hours for the convenience of students and families. Following additional conversation regarding staff office locations, Dale Neil moved to approve the relocation of the Director of Youth/Young Adult Ministry, Chris Briggs' office from the second floor of the rectory to the current school office prior to Religious Education classes starting with the 2017-18 school year. Matt Meyer seconded motion. Relocation of the Youth/Young Adult Ministry office to the St. John's school office approved. *Update: Plans to move the Youth/Young Adult Ministry office to the school are pending Fr. Joe's direction.* The potential relocation of remaining staff working at the rectory will be discussed at a future meeting. Also, a request will be made to the Catholic Life Center, Youth Ministry and Religious Education Directors for office hours to be published in the bulletin.
- B. Sunday Parish Social September 10, 2017: All council members are needed to help with the social and to visit with parishioners.

X. Pastor's Comments: Fr. Joe thanked members of the council for their interest in and love of the parish.

XI. Opening Prayer Assignment for September 19, 2017 meeting: Molly Holzrichter

XII. Closing Prayer: Led by Fr. Joe.

Respectfully submitted:

Carol Benishek