

St. John Evangelist Pastoral Council Meeting

October 23, 2018: 6:30 pm

Present: Fr Joe Dominic, Suzie Barrock, Patty Langel, Lynn Miller, Bill Rutten, Susan Vavra, Tony Yetzer

Absent: Lynn Justinger, Matt Meyer, Scott Misfeldt, Lori Udovich, Evan Udovich (Student Representative), Audrey Waitkus

Guests: Jeanne Bitkers, Steve Kovacs, Jen Vallo

I. **Opening Prayer and Reflection** Patty Langel

II. **Review and Approve** (Bill R 2nd Lynn M) 10/23/2018 PC Agenda Approved

III. **Review and Approve** (Bill R 2nd Patty L) 9/18/18 PC Minutes Approved

IV. **October Committee Chairperson Report - Religious Education** Jen Vallo/Jeanne Bitkers

Jen Vallo (Grades 7 - 11) Jen reported that the 7-11 RE program was growing and introducing a number of new programs: once a month service program (hygiene kits, Donor Bingo, Easter Baskets, Garden Clean up and meal "What would Jesus eat?"). In addition, the students attend a Speaker Series (examples: Jail Ministry - Sharon O'Reilly, Talks with Fr Joe, Learning about the Church - tours with Rita Nettersheim, etc.) Jen also shared several new initiatives: Developing the Welcome Room for children who are early for their RE classes, a successful book sale, and a new parent's café for those parents waiting for children to finish their RE classes. Project Linus is an inter-church project that makes blankets for children. It is hoped that more projects will develop where several churches will work together for a good cause.

Jeanne Bitkers (Grades K- 6) Jeanne announced that 66 students meet Wednesdays. They combined 4 and 5 year olds into one class and continued to develop the Welcome Room for students who arrive early (snacks, activities, socialization). Sunday, October 28th will be the next Children's Liturgy. A suggestion was made that the children could read at Mass on a designated Sunday. The Christmas Program is scheduled for December 19th. In the New Year, a Play Group is planned. It will be a morning program focused on toddlers and parents. What will the name be? Ideas are now being accepted. Jeanne reminded us of the importance of the diocese sanctioned Safe Guard Training Program as all of the RE program volunteers must have this before becoming involved.

V. **Finance Council Report** Bill Rutten. No meeting was scheduled.

VI. **Committee Liaison Reports**

Suzie Barrock reported that the Joint Evangelistic Committee (Paula Inda for Blessed Trinity) that volunteers are needed for the December 1st Sheboygan Falls Christmas Parade. Carolers, both to walk with and sit on the float are needed. Bill Rutten volunteered.

Lynn Miller announced the Catholic Life Center upcoming dates: Tuesday, November 6th will host a Potluck luncheon at 11:00. On November 29th a Coffee Social at 8:45 am will be held at the Center to say Good-bye to Julie Minter.

VII. **Secretary Report** Susan Vavra reported that 4 visitors registered since the last meeting. A suggestion was made that the Children's Mass Bag be looked at. It contains no religious material such as color books, crossword puzzles, or reading.

VIII. **Old Business**

A. **Faith in Our Future Proposal**: Strategic and Effective Parish Communication presented by Steve Kovacs and Patty Langel. Steve shared a Welcome Page that included a landing page with links to two independent sites, each allows for St John's and Blessed Trinity to have independent control of information and updating. The second landing page would have a similar format which includes info related to Mass times, directions, etc. Steve will work with Blessed Trinity for the Joint Launch.

B. **Holiday Parade Update**: Patty reported that liability forms are being completed. People are needed to sing carols around the float. There are limited spots on float for those who prefer to sit. Announcements will be made at the RE classes and forms sent home to parents.

IX. **New Business**

A. **Deanery Meeting**: October 27th, St John the Baptist-Plymouth. Each parish is asked to share the good and the positive activities within their parishes: the joint float project between Blessed Trinity and St John's. Questions to Archbishop Shemmer: #1: Women in decision making roles, #2: lack of Priests in the Sheboygan County area, #3: no Catholic high school in Sheboygan

B. **Village of Kohler Ecumenical Walk**: Walk and caroling starting at St John's proceeding to Grace United and ending at Bethany Lutheran for a Social. Date: December 9th 4:00pm.

X. **Pastor's Comments**. Fr Joe thanked everyone for their hard work. He was pleased with the number of activities. Our Church must be the "Mission of Jesus:" Witnessing, Pro-active reaching out, Evangelism.

XI. **Opening Prayer Assignment for January 2019 Meeting**

Susan Vavra

XII. **Closing Prayer**

Fr Joe

Respectfully Submitted by

Susan Vavra

Secretary