



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

Tuesday, June 22, 2021

Attendees: Fr. Brian, Deacon Chris Rauch, Jeannette Fromm, Meghann Naveau, Marty McClain, Mary Ellen Singer

PAC Members present: Cathy Frank, Danny Sprouse, Sarah Chivers, Tom Kwest, Shawn Norris, Melissa Bennett, Lisa Barhorst, Chris Gardner, Chuck Destefani

PAC Members absent: Dan Driskell, Karen Cwiekalo, Deb Franz

Welcome: Fr. Brian/Lisa Barhorst
Opening prayer

Approval of May meeting minutes- Motion approved, seconded and approved by all.

Staff Report: Deacon Chris
No questions on the staff report.

Social Action: Meghann Naveau Social Action met yesterday evening and is working on a Catholic Social Teaching 101 type curriculum for the fall. Ongoing sharing of information through the bulletin, Flocknotes and the newsletter. Ongoing sessions on racism. They are working with the social action ministry leads on needs, and the biggest need is retention and addition of volunteers.

Faith Formation: Mary Ellen Singer- No meeting this month.

Worship Committee: Jeannette Fromm- Communication is ongoing with the ministries supporting the Liturgies on their needs, which is mainly more volunteers. The Candlelight Mass went well with good feedback and attendance. Much thanks to her team who made this event work so well. Chuck asked if the overhead screen would be used in the future. Fr. Brian said, yes, for now. Jeanette has had mixed reviews particularly due to low visibility during 11 AM Mass when the daylight diminishes visibility.

Finance: Deacon Chris- Finances are in good shape. They recommend splitting the excess we have for tuition support, to other parishes in need. It is nearly \$50,000. Last year we donated to St. Benedict the Moor and St. Charles tuition endowment. Anticipated large expenses are roof repairs and parking/driveway repairs.

Youth Ministry: Marty McClain- We are joining with Ascension & St Albert the Great for a summer Mission in My Back Yard, including work at the Dakota Center, St. Vincent de Paul, 5 Rivers Metro Park, Victory Project, Dayton Food Bank, and Habitat for Humanity ReStore. 16 kids with 6 adults participating. Summer activities include movies, games and water activities. The D-cell format was well received and maintained a strong attendance into the spring, where attendance typically drops much more.

Business Updates: Deacon Chris- Budget is set for next year, with the roof and driveway being the large expenses. The acoustic panels are a separate item with its own funds in place. The fire inspection items have been addressed. An anonymous donation of \$33,500 has been made with a desire for this to be used for the prairie, woods and Stations of the Cross, but may be used as

needed. Also Fr. Tom's bequest was applied to the general funds. Benches for Fr. Tom and Deacon Ralph have been ordered.

Fr. Brian Discussion- A discussion was had regarding the way we change back towards a pre-covid situation. It included when/how to open more sections without spacing requirements. Mass attendance is good with overflow areas being used. Ushers could assist with people moving into the center of the pews to assist seating. But the more areas we have for social distance, the lower capacity we have in the worship area. Also, the ushers are asking if masks are required and there is a discussion on bringing back servers, lectors to the ambo and coordination of the amount of Eucharistic Ministers needed at a given Mass to address overflow. Each of these are being evaluated. There is an awareness that some people are anxious and cautious about spacing and masks. So, the changes back to more normal procedures will be gradual looking at peoples' responses and feedback.

The Beacons of Light was reviewed, noting population changes and ethnic growth & diversity expected, over the next 5-10 years. While the Priests serving the Archdiocese will drop from approximately 100 to the 60's. The current system cannot be maintained and must adapt.

There is a steady decline in the Sacraments and funerals occurring from 2010-2019, as well. The older Parishioners are expected to maintain stability while younger Parishioners are hoped to provide vitality and growth.

In reply to an inquiry of seeking Priests from outside our area/country, Fr. Brian said we are to work at internal supply of Priests by promoting Vocations. Outside Priests are utilized but are not seen as the solution.

Methods to get the Vocation message are being looked at including "town hall" type meetings to get everyone informed of this situation. Information on how to utilize a website for updates and input on the Beacons of Light program will be promoted to keep everyone updated and connected to this process.

Special Thanks to Mary Ellen Singer for her great service to our Parish, she will be missed.

New Business: Lisa- PAC nominations are in and help may be needed to communicate with candidates. They will be encouraged to attend a Gifted and Called session and then proceed with election/selection approved by Fr. Brian.

Action Item: Prepare for new PAC positions.

Next meeting: Tuesday, August 17, 2021 (No July meeting)

Closing Remarks: Fr. Brian- Thank You.

Closing prayers: Fr. Brian