



Staff and Commission Attendees: Fr. Brian Phelps, Deacon Chris Rauch, Jeannette Fromm (Worship), Meghann Naveau (Social Action), Laura Lipnitz (Youth), Cheri Rotterman (Faith Formation), Ben Marsh (Seminarian)

PAC Members Present: John Hoffmann, Mary Gutman, Lynn Stuart, John Maqsd, Dave Laurash, Cathy Frank, Danny Sprouse, Sarah Chivers, Tom Kwest, Shawn Norris, Melissa Bennett, Chris Gardner, Chuck Destefani, Karen Cwiekalo, Deb Franz

PAC Members absent: Lisa Barhorst

Guest Presenter: Matt Naveau (Precious Planet)

Opening prayer

Welcome: Fr. Brian

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

Staff Report: Deacon Chris

See report for full details.

- Mass counts taken from the camera footage of all masses in October. Deacon Chris counts heads.
- Tom Kwest asked about the sound panel construction project. They will minimize the disruption as much as possible.
- Giving Tuesday cause: 30 Ton Chiller for Air Conditioning failing. It needs to be replaced with a crane. First bid is \$96k. Looking for two more competitive bids.
- Fund Update: Have \$100k in Emergency Fund, \$257k in savings for capital improvements. A parishioner gave a gift of \$33,500 for the prairie and beautification of the grounds that could be used for a pathway through the prairie.

Social Action: Meghann Naveau: Ongoing sharing of information through the monthly newsletter Anti-Racism in September had 30 attendees. Ladies from Centering Prayer offering to help with their ongoing execution.

Catholic Social Services Food Drive goes well every month.

October Newsletter focus on Solidarity. Parish survey found understanding lacking. One new topic will be focused for educational purposes every month.

Faith Formation: Cheri Rotterman- Constitution review yielded no needed changes. Digging into the website with the diocesan policies. Two male candidates need male sponsors for RCIA. Knights and Man to Man ministries approached. One has stepped up but still need one more. A bulletin announcement was made but no volunteers have come forward yet. The candidate is a young man in his early 20s. Please have interested male sponsors contact Cheri.

Worship Committee: Jeannette Fromm - Candlelight Mass this Thursday, 21 October at 7:45pm. The commission members are increasing their understanding of the mass by walking through Edward

Priest's Biblical Understanding of the Mass. They will go through the Steps during the Worship Commission Meetings.

Finance: Deacon Chris - First quarter looks great. At end of Q1 balance is \$11k over budget target. The One Faith, One Hope, One Love campaign pledges from the past five years resulted in a surprise deposit of \$8,131. The roof over the original church was replaced and paid for at a cost of \$61k. The Loudspeakers for the Bells have been moved closer to the amplifier which is located in the vesting sacristy. We are at \$16k over budget expectations now. The funds outlays are running light b/c we have not hired a new Director of Religious Education and the maintenance man went to part time. The duties of these employees have been distributed around the staff/volunteers for now. The Beacons of Light work with our combined parish on sharing resources will keep the hiring process on hold until a more complete analysis can be finished.

Precious Planet Guest Speaker: Matt Naveau – Took over chair this year driven by the Holy Spirit. The Laudato See Action Platform was written by Pope Francis. It calls us to Care for Our Common Home. The encyclical ties caring for people and the world together. Everything is interlinked. “We need to hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor together.” The Vatican is trying to lead the world's Catholics into adopting Laudato See lifestyles. The billions of Catholics in the world today can make a huge impact if we put our energy to these ends. The Action Platform is to gather everyone together over a seven-year period – a Planning year, five years of execution, and a Jubilee year to Celebrate of accomplishments. Focus on families, parishes, education for schools, universities, hospitals, non-profits, etc.

The ask is for the Parish to make a commitment to make a plan over the next 12 months, starting with November. Deacon Chris asked Matt to introduce the idea to PAC. He proposes that Precious Planet take the lead to build the plan including as many of the groups, communities, and age groups as possible. There is an opportunity for the Spirit to lead the way in the area by incorporating the concepts into the Beacons of Light efforts. We can help to teach our combined parish since we already do many of the Laudato See ideas and can show our combined parish community the way.

Discussion: Chris Gardner: We should all be living these principles in the first place. What would be an example of something we would do differently? Matt: There are seven distinct goals. One that we could do more with is Education for all of the new people that have come into the parish. There is more work to be done within St. Francis, and we have the ability to instill a culture of stewardship in our new parish family. Some things that could be part of the action plan could be things like installing solar panels to give back to the grid. Melissa likes the idea of a year of planning and focusing on being better stewards. Chris is all in because his assumption is that we should all be doing this anyhow if we are living our faith principles. Laura thinks that this would attract the younger generation and young families into our parish. It would attract a good demographic to St. Francis as something new and fresh.

Father Brian asked for an informal poll. All PAC members unanimously support. Tom Kwest requests additional information around the expectations for participation and outcomes.

Youth Ministry: Laura Lipnitz - Still doing D-Cell small groups. 3 total. 1 Saturday and Two Sunday. Saturday teens (Freshmen) are watching Season 1 of The Chosen. The Sunday Group is Soph-Senior. Trucking along in Season 2. Conversations after talk about how show relates to our faith and how to carry it out.

A group went to a Matt Barr concert two weeks ago. It was amazing!

National Catholic Youth Conference in November at the Lucas Oil Stadium and the Convention Center. Taking 10 students. 12,000 in attendance (limited by COVID). Looking forward to it!

Business Updates: Deacon Chris – Covered during the Staff Report.

Fr. Brian Discussion – Thanks to everyone who helped with the Beacons of Light information! 3500 comments have been received. The Public Comment period closes tomorrow. The diocese will work to create the parish families based on the feedback received. Their hope is to announce by mid-November what the families of Parishes will be. The third-party group recommendations are what the bishop plans to accept. He is not going to intervene in the process. They are trying to move as few priests as possible. They are taking into account many factors to make the process as smooth as possible.

Deborah Franz spoke of her experience hearing the pastor at Incarnation speaking positively about the Beacons of Light. Announced St. Francis as the family member and highlighted some things we do that they can benefit from like the Divorce Care ministry.

New Business:

Prairie Grass: Cathy Frank: It takes three years for it to mature and look good. Some people comment that the dead grass is not attractive at all. Chris Gardner shared that he found the prairie to be beautiful this summer and that it is fall so all vegetation is going dormant.

Dave Laurash: Laurie Everitt is a Cybersecurity Expert. Wants to know if St. Francis would like to receive cybersecurity education to the parishioners. She's on the Finance Committee. St. Charles had 30 people in attendance at their event. This is a great opportunity for people to learn how to stay safe online. John commented that 19 of the top 20 Christian Facebook groups are run by Russian trolls to capture information on Americans. All agreed that a cyber-education seminar would be well received by the parish. No cost. Deacon Chris working to coordinate a date.

October Feast help needed?: Knights of Columbus offered to help cook food. There will also be three food trucks: Tacos, Holy Smoke and BBQ, and a Dessert truck. 340 people signed up for it. Tent will hold 200 people. Shelter holds 50. People will bring their own chairs, games, BYOB. Weather expected to be a high of 60F. (Father Brian will be in shorts and T-shirt.)

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Closing Remarks: Fr. Brian- Thank You for all you've done. God bless!

Closing prayer: Fr. Brian