

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

August 9, 2017

The meeting was opened with a prayer led by Corey Huegen. Those in attendance were Fr. Dan, Lori Kampwerth, Carol Imming, and Corey Huegen.

Old Business:

The Parish Partnership meeting is scheduled for August 29 @ 7 PM at St. Francis. Carol Imming agreed to provide snacks and drinks for the meeting and Corey Huegen will contact Carolyn Kampwerth to reserve a meeting room.

There was an effort to invite Hispanic families to work at the Margarita booth at the St. Francis Parish Picnic. The issues included a long waiting list of people wanting to work the booth, as well as Sister Ellen stating the Hispanic families were hesitant to do so and only really want to talk through Father Dan. The Council will therefore need to come up with ideas to reach out and bridge the gap in different ways. One item mentioned was attending a Hispanic mass in Damiansville. We will discuss it further in a future meeting.

The Parish Center Project was discussed, and the committee has a great mix of talented people both new to the project and from the feasibility committee from the past. They are still reviewing the past information and will continue meeting to find a path forward.

New Business:

The Unsung Hero Award was discussed, and Corey will put in the bulletin and on the Parish FaceBook page that the Pastoral Council is seeking nominations for the award to be handed out in October. Last year's winners were Ruth Lager and Edna Wellen. The Unsung Hero Book has winners listed through 2010, therefore the book needs to be updated with winners since that time. Carol and Lori agreed to find the other past winners and add to the book. They will also put a list of the honorees by year in the front. The other discussion revolved around how to advertise the winners more often, and how and when to display the book. Finally, it was also discussed to keep a list of nominees who were not awarded so they can be considered for future consideration of the award.

The Christmas gift was discussed. Father Dan had looked into electronic resources, such as CD's of books, so those who are not avid readers had a chance to also use the gift, however there were no deals for these and the expense would be too great. Options were discussed on what the gift should be.

St. Francis has a rich tradition of having religious from the Parish, including numerous nuns and even Bishop Althoff. In order to encourage vocations the Council would like to post and promote this heritage by posting photos of these religious in the Heritage room and/or other visible areas. Fr. Dan has a group of photos and a list of all religious from St. Francis which he will bring to the next meeting so we can discuss how best to post and promote them.

Pastor's Report:

Melissa Faust has begun as Director of Religious Education for St. Francis Parish. This position covers more than just the PSR program, which has been the main focus in the past, as it covers the entire Parish's faith formation and education. Steve Aubuchon will continue to coordinate youth lectors and servers. Father Dan also stated there are no RCIA candidates this year.

The Feast of the Assumption of Mary for the county parishes will be celebrated with an outdoor mass at Beaver Prairie on August 15.

The closing prayer was led by Corey Huegen and the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be September 14, 2017 at 7 PM. The meeting day moved to Thursday since Wednesday nights conflicted with the Aviston Legion Queen of Hearts drawing where several Council members are asked to work.