

Preliminary Parish Council Meeting Minutes for May 26, 2021. To be approved at the September 14, 2021 Meeting. Attendees: Deacon John Fridley, Deacon John Mote, Dana Woods, Janice Wiegmann, Chris Schomaker, Judy Winkeler, Kassie Hund, Joyce Schomaker, Vivian Bossler, and Ted Winkler from Finance Council. Absent Patrick Maciejewski

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM with prayer lead by Deacon Mote.

With the correction of the number of years a person may be on the Parish Council at a time from 9 to 6, the approval date changed from May 18, original meeting date, to May 26<sup>th</sup> and the spelling correction of Terry Thole, Deacon Mote motioned to accept the minutes of March 16, 2021; Janice seconded. Motion carried.

## Commission Reports

### ❖ Finance

- With expenses down and income recovering, finances are headed in the right direction.

### ❖ Building and Grounds

- Homescape was awarded the contract for lawn care services.
- Randy Warnecke will be removing mold from the bricks on the north side of the church then spraying a water seal treatment on the entire church at a cost of approximately \$23,000.
- At the same time and sharing a 125 foot crane, Sudholt sheet metal will replace the 100 year old current copper waterproof deck in the bell tower and also on the four corners of the clock tower.
- We are planning to replace the carpet in the 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> grade and 8<sup>th</sup> grade rooms and rectory along with other minor upgrades.
- Since lawn mowing and snow removal is contracted, we are looking the possibility of disposing the current equipment.
- We have a possible handyman, but not available until September.

### ❖ Christian Formation & Education

- The PSR teachers and staff met after the last class on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. There was both positive and negative feedback on the Pflaum resources used this year. Another meeting will be held sometime this summer to further access. Several of the staff and teachers will not be returning in the fall and volunteers are needed as replacements.

### ❖ Christian Service and Social Justice

- Food and Clothing Pantry (housed at the UCC Church)
  - The Food Pantry is open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Nonperishable foods welcome; will always accept a check for donations.
  - The Clothing Pantry is open on Mondays from 12 – 2 pm (closed on Memorial Day 5/31/2021). A couple of bins are in the back of the church to drop off clothing donations. Small household appliances will also be accepted (toaster, can opener etc. (no large electronic devices, tv's etc.)
  - Zion Church of Christ is hosting Life-Line Screening Thursday July 15. Pre-registration is required. Flyers are available to be posted in church or we can place the information in the bulletin. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 618 588-4135.

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- Knights of Columbus
  - No report.
- Hispanic Ministry
  - No information to share.
- Sister Parish
  - No new information.
- Mater Dei (MD)– information from Jill Tasker
  - Many staff are being recognized this year for their number of years of service.
  - Seniors went to the Cathedral on May 6 for a Baccalaureate Mass. Graduation was Friday May 21 at 7 pm on the athletic field. Bishop McGovern attended.
  - Band Concert was held outdoors on Sunday May 16.
  - The Building Trades house will be sold this month. It was a 2-year project and was a very positive experience.
  - The Golf Scramble is on June 5. Spaces are available for a few more teams.
  - Offering lots of new dual credit courses in the fall in addition to what we already offer. We are adding Chemistry 2, Spanish 3 and 4 (which is Spanish 1 and 2 at KC), Child development, Music Theory, and the Clinton County CEO program (which we have 4 students who are a part of) have all been accredited. Waiting to hear on Anatomy and Physiology.
  - Currently 104 freshmen are registered for the 2021/2022 academic year; a Freshman Welcome is to be held on May 27.
  - A match of \$15,000 for the IL Tax Credit Scholarship through Empower IL was met.
  - Mega Raffle Tickets are on sale. See Jill Tasker to buy one or you can buy online.
  - A letter has been submitted reappointing Jill Tasker as St. George representative on the Mater Dei Board.
- Respect Life
  - Bishop McGovern sent a letter to priests, deacons, parish staff, and diocesan staff encouraging the faithful to vote “No” on Senate Bill SB 2190 and House Bill HB 1797. The bills are identical pieces of legislation that seek to repeal the Parent Notice of Abortion Act.
  - The Racial Justice and Social Equity Committee program called Just Faith though the Just Faith Ministries held its last session on Monday May 24.
  - Wendy Fink continues to email information for the “Respect Life Corner” in our bulletin. Recently she was notified of a serious domestic violence situation. She worked with other Catholic agencies, such as Catholic Urban Program, to secure a safe place for the mother and her child. Domestic violence is more prevalent in our diocese than we may think. She asks we keep all victims of abuse in our prayers. She also noted that St. Louis ranks in the top 20 cities in the country as a hot spit for sex trafficking.

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- This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Diocesan Social Ministry. A gathering is scheduled for November 20, 2021 from 9 am – 3 pm at St. Clare in O’Fallon. Bishop Cheri, the auxiliary bishop of New Orleans, will speak.
- Ministry to the Sick and Aged
  - No report.
- ❖ Evangelization and Hospitality Outreach
  - Close to 100 welcome bags have been distributed to new families in New Baden over the last couple of months. The posting on Facebook generated a positive response from businesses.
- ❖ Family Life and Social Activities
  - Donuts were made available after Mass a couple of weeks ago and many people stayed around and visited.
  - Currently a movie night is being planned.
  - There was a discussion about doing a food truck and maybe pairing it in with a talk.
- ❖ Youth Ministry and Social Media
  - The Youth Group held their annual Kick Off where they hosted 34 teenagers 😊! Out of the 15 eighth grade students, 12 filled out the paperwork to officially join the Youth Group and there may be one more. This is compared to 6, 8 and 6 for 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.
  - Currently there are 37 active teens with 6 occasional. 13 are from St. George, 9 from St. Mary’s and 12 are from other churches or no church at all but brought by their friends.
  - The Youth complete a hike in Highland.
  - Beginning in June and finishing in August, the Youth Group will again be covering the Theology of the Body study. Please keep these Youth in your prayers as they face unprecedented confusion about sex and their bodies.
  - The Youth Group plans to attend camp in Georgia again in 2022. There could be upwards of 40 attending.
- ❖ Liturgy and Worship
  - We will begin using the Hymnals again around the middle of June. These will be stored on a cart with one side for Saturday and the other for Sunday. With a week between uses, they will not need to be sanitized.
  - It was determined St. George is agreeable to revert back to one Saturday evening Mass between St. George and St. Mary’s. St. George historically has Saturday evening Masses during even months. July we will not hold Saturday evening Masses.
- ✚ Old Business.
  - Anne is looking for help with the Picnic, specifically we are needing new Chairs for the Beer Stand, the Basket Stand and the Raffle stand. After much discussion Dana had a couple of names as possibilities.
- ✚ New Business.

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- An updated CLC Use Agreement was distributed. Even though there was only one change, the Board decided they would like time to review prior to voting on accepting. Since there will not be a meeting until September it was determined an email vote would be taken.
- Father Joe Rausher's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration will be this coming weekend. It will be celebrated at both Masses and a small luncheon will be held on Sunday for those invited.
- Father Neff's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration is still pending.
- It was determined we would not be electing new officers at this time.
- Deacon Fridley feels confident a new Priest will be assigned to St. George during the June/July timeframe.

The next Parish Council Meeting is Tuesday, September 14th, 7:00 PM.

Submitted by Vivian June 2, 2021