

St. Christopher Pastoral Council Meeting

September 23, 2008

Members present: Fr. Frank Keferl, Joan Dunn, Stacey Hodkey, Catherine Campbell, Ruth Kistler, Doug Knight, Jacqie Nawroth, Don Nutt, Paula Milligan, Tom Trick, Steve Duckro

Father opened the meeting with a prayer, Jacqie read the scripture, and discussion followed.

Previous Month's Minutes: Joan suggested that one change be made in last month's minutes and that was to state that Father sent letters to the parents of "all G.I.F.T., school and youth ministry" kids rather than "all St. Chris kids." Doug Knight motioned, and Tom Trick seconded, that the minutes then be approved. Motion passed.

Financial Review: Jacqie reported that we currently have \$456,000 in cash (\$63,000 of that is earmarked for Crossroads Challenge money that is accumulating). We are \$12,000 under budget for July and August, despite the fact that we are \$19,000 down in the income area. So far this year, the collections have exceeded our \$20,000 target on only four Sundays.

Fr. Frank's notes:

- The parish had very little damage from the windstorm last week. We did lose a lot of shingles, though, and are getting estimates for replacing them.
- According to the constitution, Father is supposed to appoint a president and vice-president to act for the next year. Doug Knight is going to serve as president and Tom Trick has agreed to serve as vice-president.
- The courtyard outside the Emmaus Center has been developed and is quite beautiful. They are going to move the fence out further and put in a vegetable garden (and then take fresh vegetables to the House of Bread, etc.).
- St. John's parish in Tipp City celebrated their 150th anniversary last weekend and volunteers from our parish served the food. St. John's would like to host a joint Mass on December 31 at 5:00 p.m. (like we did with them at St. Chris last year).
- Fr. Bob is feeling better and he's planning to resume helping with Masses in October.
- Frank Runyeon will be in our parish on Oct. 27; he does a dramatic presentation of the gospel of St. Mark.
- Mission Sunday is Oct. 18 and 19.
- Father Frank will be out of the office Oct. 14 to 24.

Pastoral Associate's Report:

- Faith Formation needs a new chairperson, and Joan is waiting for an answer from one of the committee members regarding this.
- Planning to follow up Frank Runyeon's visit with discussions of Mark's gospel in Lent (small groups---parishioners would volunteer their homes for the discussions for the following Sunday).
- We have 18 catechumens and candidates in RCIA, and will begin scripture break first Sunday of October.
- New music has been placed in the pews and will be taught to the parish by the musicians. New plastic covers need to be purchased for the hymnals.
- Joan is working on an updated schedule for the lectors and Eucharistic ministers.
- The Helping Hand fund has resumed taking requests from Vandalia-Butler residents for rent, utilities, etc. (they had to suspend assistance for a while due to lack of funds).

Old Business

Parish Campus Security update: Stacey has talked with one company about security at our church and is waiting for some quotes. They are working on updating all the lighting around campus---trying to get some energy-efficient light bulbs in order to be more cost-efficient.

Hospitality Committee: The chairpersons had to step down due to illness in their family, so nothing has happened with the committee yet.

New Business

Community Affairs: Steve reported that Health Ministry gave away 5 prayer shawls, did 67 blood pressure screenings, has a blood drive tentatively scheduled for Nov. 25, and helped out in the First Aid tent at the 5K run. The community food drive will be Oct. 11 and 12, and volunteers are needed for distributing bags and collecting and sorting food.

Development: Don Nutt spoke to them about the studies they have been doing with regard to the ventilation system in the parish. They are looking at ways to reach out to people for money for this. Also, are trying to address some of the program needs and salaries of the parish.

Facilities: Currently working on replacing all the exit signs. This will save us about \$1,500 a year. Also working on replacing all the incandescent light bulbs (i.e., the chandelier over the tabernacle---lighting now saves us \$1,000 a year). A report on the total revamp of the heating system in the old school is almost ready. We have a new camera, VCR and DVD player in the church. We hope to put TVs in the gathering space at some point.

Finance: Nothing more to report.

Social Activities: The first Donut Sunday went great---they actually ran out of donuts! The next Donut Sunday will be Oct. 5. Social Activities Commission will do refreshments following the Frank Runyeon presentation.

Director of Development & Communications Report:

- The Development Commission met and is going to focus on three major areas: 1) approaching parishioners who did not participate in the Crossroads Challenge, in order to help accelerate existing debt reduction, 2) evaluating and determining if a separate fundraising campaign is necessary for immediate needs of the parish, and 3) creating a Development Plan that addresses long-range needs of the parish. Cathy stated that Don Trentman has some great ideas for raising money.
- Cathy is working on Crossroads Challenge and contacting people who are past due in their payments.
- Audrey and Janice Buschor are continuing work on the donor board and hope to have it installed by the end of the year.
- Cathy is working on increasing awareness of our weekly giving goal; a chart will be inserted in next week's bulletin reporting weekly giving for the first quarter.
- We are almost ready to start the e-giving program (plan to start in January).
- Three people have volunteered to run the SCRIP Program, so it will be up and running again soon. They hope to earn \$15,000 a year for the school (it earned as much as \$20,000 a year before it slowed down).
- There are 203 participants in TAP.
- Waiting to hear back on a grant application and currently working on two others.
- Working on a marketing plan for the school and child care center for next year.
- Last week Stacey got the computer set up for Cathy, so census info can be entered.
- Working on the food drive---getting volunteers to staple papers to the donation bags.

Notes respectfully submitted by Julie Hauer