

St. Mark's Parish Council Meeting

September 11, 2018

Opening Prayer

I. Routine Matters

- a. **Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:45 pm. Members present: Fr. Michael Hickin, Vickie Gangl, Jody Rosendahl, Sue Roeder, Mike Nero, Warren Emmer, and Wayne Barbot –Lay Director.
- b. **Approval of new agenda:** No changes.

II. Council Committee Reports

- a. **Social Ministries:** Warren Emmer passed out a report of the Social Concerns goals and objectives that listed the results of the last meeting for Social Concerns. It listed the future goals that the committee hopes to put into action within the next couple of months. There is a lot of work to be done. He will again offer the GriefShare program to those who have lost a loved one.
- b. **Liturgy:** The Ministries - 3 month schedules are ongoing and effective. We need to recruit more people to the ministries.
- c. **Religious Education:**
 - **The Grades K-6-** We have new co-DREs. They are Mary Gorder and Jessica Tagestad. Religious Ed is going to be on Wednesday afternoon at 5:00p.m. until 5:55p.m. Parents are expected to be there to pick up their children by 5:55p.m. Classes will start on Wednesday, September 19th, at 5:00p.m. Registration is being offered after Masses the weekend of the 15th and 16th, or parents can contact the Parish Office during business hours.
 - **Youth Grades 7-12** - Plans for Theology of the Body/Chastity speaker Jen Messing to present to students at the high schools, and an NLA campout at Metigoshe is in place. She will speak at Little Flower in Rugby on 9/26; St Andrew's on 9/27; and St Mark and at the school on 9/28. The youth may then partake in a Nature Hike retreat at Lake Metigoshe. In partnership with Grace Lutheran, a Net Retreat will also be held on 10/27. During this retreat an Amazing Race program (like trick or treat) to collect food for the Food Pantry will take place; drivers for students will also be needed.
 - **Adult Education** – Fr. Michael would like to offer a Bible study program on the Bible in chronological order. It will have 24 sessions featuring once a month except during Advent and Lent when it will be offered every other week.
 - **RCIA** – Fr. Michael stated that he has 4 maybes for RCIA. If anyone is interested in joining the Church or just wants to explore their faith more fully, contact Fr. Michael to join RCIA.
- d. **Altar Society** – We are gearing up for the Fall Supper. If anyone has not turned in their letters, please call Vickie at the office to let her know if you can help out.
- e. **Knights of Columbus** – first meeting after the summer break will be in October.
- f. **Cemetery** – cemeteries are looking good. We have someone to spray for weeds every year to try to curb the dandelion population.

Maintenance Overview – the new boiler is in place and has been tested. The propane tank is in place and filled. The sprinkler system is in and working. The rectory doors are in and look beautiful. A huge thank you to Lavern Hight who did all the work on the doors! The railings for the church entrance are in the hands of Anderson Welding (Chris Anderson) and Joe Whetter who will fix the pillars before the railings are put in. We received an anonymous donation to pay for this project. The stained glass windows that were damaged over the years have been repaired and the window of St. Mark has been taken out and repaired. Liz Miller did all the work on the windows and did all the work for free. If anyone sees her on the street, they should thank her

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for the beautiful job she did to preserve our wonderful windows. We will purchase a gift card as a thank you to her. The courtyard received a much-needed renovation. We now have a Rosary garden out there with some rather unique seating – created by Ross Kornkven.

Finance Council – the financial report was perused and discussed. The budget for next year was discussed with mention that any budget items anyone wants to have addressed, need to be brought up to Fr. Michael, the parish office or Addie.

III. Old business

- a. **St. Isidore crosses** – were well-received by parishioners and Fr. Michael would like to present them again in the future – possibly every other year.
- b. **Review of Strategic Planning, summer activities** – a Religious Ed board was convened to address the problems we face with our Religious Ed program over the summer. It met with Jerry Migler who led them through identifying the problems and prioritizing the results.
- c. **New Propane Boiler:** - as stated above, the boiler is in place and working. The bill is \$38,435.96 from Bottineau Plumbing and Heating. The electrical work was done by Home & Electric Solutions, who also addressed the out-of-date and extremely un-user-friendly thermostat in the Social Hall. We now have a much-simpler user-friendly thermostat that worked beautifully all summer.
- d. **Sprinkler System** – is in place and working.
- e. **Stonework – On going project; for future planning.** We have a bid to repair the pillars and install the railings as stated above.
- f. **Circle of Care** – hope to present this to teachers this fall, Circle of Grace to the students as well.
- g. **Parish Retreat (Glen Gauer)** – will be coming at the end of October. He will send a 5 minute presentation to be shown at Mass so that the parishioners can see what he is about. We would like to get a team together to plan a social event after each evening session so that all have a chance to speak with Glen and his team, and each other.

IV. New Business

- a. **Address briefly the current situation in the Catholic Church regarding Grand Jury investigations and requests for Pope Francis' resignation, etc.** – this is something that we will have to deal with for a long time. We need to stay strong in faith and pray for the people involved on both sides of the issue.
- b. **Convocation of Parish Leaders: Evangelizing Missionary Disciples** - A joint-conference hosted by the Dioceses of Fargo and Crookston, Nov 30 – Dec 1. All priests are required to attend and Fr. Michael would like have a couple of parishioners along who are interested in learning and helping with this movement.
- c. **Friends of Chimbote** – we have been invited to an event for this on October 13th. The organizer of this is Todd Mickelson who is willing to come up on September 30th to tell us what is going on.
- d. **Food for the Poor** – Fr. Karris will be coming the weekend of October 6th to preach about this. He will have all Masses that weekend. We need someone to pick him up at the airport and take him back to the airport. Call the office if you can do this.

Meeting adjourned 8:00 pm.

Next parish council meeting: **Tuesday**, Oct. 9th, 2018 at 6:00pm – meet for supper at 5:30pm – if plans permit.

Respectfully submitted by Vickie Gangl