

SS PETER AND PAUL PASTORAL COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2024

Attendees: Rev. Ted Jost, Charlie Gaughan, Dan Gerken, Greg Jones, Eileen Lyon, Joan Haag, Joe Burke, Katherine Nicaise-Steffen, Lori Baker, Marcia De Fazio, Robert Coutch, Sharon Coutch, Sharon Keller, Warren Ristine, Kathryn Walsh, Kimberly Bourke, Daniel Rosati.

Excused: Rev. Jim Cuipek, Rev. Paul Mukasa, Deacon Rob Ciezki, Amanda Przyklek, Colleen Stuart, Deacon Carl Koester, Deacon Dennis Conroy, Dick Blake, Katherine Sion-Wypij, Jennifer Golinski, Judy Shelley, Karin Dusza, Lauren (Ren) Gibson, Leslie Brooks, Lori Baker, Marcia De Fazio, Rachel Rizzo.

Unexcused: None

The meeting was held in the parish meeting room and was called to order by President ent was read by all.

Announcements: Sharon Coutch requested that in the future the two Sharons be identified as Sharon C. and Sharon K. in the Minutes.

Old Business:

April Pastoral Council Meeting - Originally scheduled for April 14, 2025 will be held on April 7, so as not to be held during Holy Week. The meeting will be held in the church.

Subcommittee Sign Up - The lists were passed again to ensure that everyone signed up for committee. The list will be addressed again at the November 18th meeting.

Opening prayer sign up - Warren announced that prayer leaders are still needed for February/March/May. He encouraged those who have not signed up as prayer leaders to consider doing so in the SignUpGenius.

New Parishioners Meeting - Warren suggested two yearly meetings to greet new parishioners. Sharon C. mentioned that several parishes in the diocese have these welcome receptions and specifically mentioned Our Lady of Victory. It was suggested that four times a year would be better than twice a year. The Welcome Receptions could be held after a different mass each quarter. Fr. Ted suggested reaching out to people moving into Hamburg. It was suggested that a media specialist reach out to prospective new parishioners – Charlie volunteered to help with this. Warren asked members to consider suggestions and present them at the next meeting.

Walking Trail - Eileen is concerned about out the legal ramifications of The Walking Trail presented by Kathryn Walsh team at September's meeting. Eileen brought up the issue of liability and privacy

near the cemetery. Eileen will present the proposition to the diocesan attorneys for their advice. Greg mentioned that he and his family walked the trail. He indicated the trail needs work.

Family Of Parishes Road to Renewal Update – Merge dates for Saint John the Baptist and St. Mary's is proposed for March 3, 2025, tentatively. Saint Bernadette's is scheduled to merge in May 2025 on a date determined by the diocese. However, Saint Bernadette will more than likely appeal the recommendation to merge with Saints Peter and Paul. From the time the Bishop sets a date for the merger, Saints Bernadette has 10 days to respond and the Bishop has 30 days to answer the response. Saint Bernadette's can then appeal to Rome. Many questions are still to be answered. Warren suggested inviting at least one member of the merging parishes to attend Saints Peter and Paul's Pastoral Council meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

AARP Community Steering Committee – Warren put a link for the letter received from this committee in the minutes. There is a liaison in Hamburg. All churches and residential service organizations in Village are invited to join the Steering Committee. AARP Community Steering Committee is inviting SSPP to become a member. Warren asked Fr. Ted for his thoughts regarding the invitation. Fr. Ted said that he had read the letter, and he would not be interested in joining the AARP Community Steering Committee. As a result, Saints Peter and Paul will not be joining the committee. Skip

Fellowship Sub Committee – Kathy discussed the annual SSPP parish picnic and including the merged churches as the picnic is held after the proposed merger date. Eileen suggested speaking with St. Mary's and St. John the Baptist to see if they would be willing to help in contributing to the cost of the picnic as partners in the picnic: sharing ideas, etc. Kathy was not aware of any name change to the subcommittee.

Discipleship Sub Committee - Sharon K. had small rosaries blessed by Fr. Ted for gift bags. Dan was acknowledged as a new member of the committee.

Ministry Support Sub Committee – Will pick a new chairperson after note is sent.

Procedures and Facilities Sub Committee – Warren has no report for this month.

Standing Committee Reports: Comments, Concerns, and Questions

Outreach – Submitted report stating:

Food Pantry - 802 individuals in the month of September were helped, which is 1% more than were helped last year in September.

Holidays – In September the Outreach was preparing for Thanksgiving grocery distribution during November.

Social Ministry – Collecting “treasures” for annual Christmas Bazaar to be held December 7 & 8.

St Vincent de Paul – Assisted Outreach with clients' financial assistance needs, Feed More WNY deliveries, Wegman's pickups and grocery delivery to clients at hotels/motels, transportation needs, Meals on Wheels delivery, volunteer at SVdP in Buffalo, & serving at funerals.

Kathy and Sharon K. spoke of the need for volunteers to set up for the bazaar on Thursday, 5th of December and take down after the bazaar on the 8th. Also, there is a need for volunteers to help distribute the left-over treasures from the bazaar. Previously charities would pick up the donations that are left over. Charlie suggested that perhaps Saint Vincent de Paul could have a trailer that the leftovers could be placed in and then be hauled away.

Kathy announced that Social Ministry gave out \$21,171 to local charities. The sum came from primarily: the bazaar, the chicken BBQ, the hanging basket and poinsettia sale, and various other sales. Jerico Road, Harvest House, Family Promise, Friends of the Night People, Cornerstone Manor, Outreach, Tuition Angel, Bissonette House, and St. Vincent de Paul.

For the Good of the Parish

Charlie mentioned that Saint Vincent de Paul has a website that they would like to link to the Saints Peter and Paul website. Fr. Ted said that he put Charlie in touch with the Webmaster.

Kathy mentioned that she attended the wine and women in the new evangelization meeting that was held at Saint Aloysius in Springville. It is a national group and they have a website. In fall 2025 they will be having a conference in Buffalo at Our Lady of Victory. She also mentioned that there is a lot of information coming out for women ministry in the Catholic faith. Her future goal is to put together an article for the bulletin advising women of these opportunities.

Adjournment

Warren led the members in the Road to Renewal Pray.

Reminder that the next meeting will be held on Monday, November 18.

Don Gerken is the prayer leader.

The meeting ended at 8:02.