PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES
June 2, 2014

Pastoral Council Members in Attendance: Father Jim, Ron Bachy, Sue Buchholz, Arlene Gross, Mary Jo Meyer, Ted Novak

Absent: Paul Messineo, Christine Stinson

Others: Maureen Brady, Deacon Herb, Gerry Meyer, Renae Brinza

Opening Prayer by Fr. Jim

Old Business

1) Evangelization/Hospitality Committee - Mary Jo Meyer
   - Article in the May 30th Pittsburgh Catholic by John Franco regarding evangelization
     - Summary of the article states-meetings are being held in the dioceses to look at best practices for evangelization in parishes
     - Joe Saxman resigned from Pastoral Council; Council needs a new member to replace him on the Evangelization Committee

Action Item: Mary Jo will follow up with Evangelization

- Update on Greeter effort – Sue approached Patty Connelly about the greeter effort and asked her to lead the effort. Patty accepted. Another person interested in assisting with the greeter effort is Debbie Sargo. The greeter program is to begin in the Fall

- Email list of parishioners – Arlene is undertaking the responsibility of obtaining as many e-mail addresses of parishioners; Mary Lou has the list started. Arlene created a form that can be sent to parishioners, put in the bulletin or as an insert in the bulletin. The form will be an update of their information such as address, telephone number and e-mail address.

2) Youth/Young Adult Music Ministry update – there seems to be some confusion or a miscommunication about what Pastoral Council wants to do.
   - The goal is to have the young people of our parish prepare and lead the music for a mass to get them interested and other young members of our parish interested in participating

Action Item: Deacon Herb will draft a paragraph for the bulletin; run this draft by council; if approved, the ad will be placed in the bulletin asking for youth and young adults to participate in the group.

NOTE: There was a lengthy discussion about other choirs wanting to come to our parish but maintain their choir status. Pastoral Council thought it would be best if the choirs merged rather than be separate entities.

3) Budget Shortfall Update
   - April report reflects a negative balance of $3,000 behind projected expenses.
   - Two estates came into St. Colman which should help us with our deficit

4) Church Alive Campaign
   - As of this meeting, our total pledged is $ 704,096
   - We are still receiving new pledges.
   - We will receive our first check was this campaign in six months which should be October, 2014
   - Projects underway
     - Roof of the junior high is in progress of being fixed
     - Bathrooms for the cafeteria – a discussion took place regarding the type/style of bathroom
     - Mary Jo has agreed to lead a subcommittee for design, color, etc.

5) Worship – Retreat Plans
   - Arlene stated there are two retreats this year; both are held by Father Scott Seethaler
   - One is for married couples which we can participate but would exclude single people; the second is for all men and women
   - The one retreat for all is being held September 5-7, 2014
   - The topic of the retreat is "Know Jesus Know Peace" Psalm 46
   - The suggested offering is $195/person
   - The unfortunate concern is there isn't information to distribute; Father Scott is the draw
   - Suggestions were made to place an announcement in the bulletin letting the parishioners know of the retreat

6) Stewardship – parish survey update
   - Paul and Christine were unable to attend the meeting
   - Two examples of questionnaires/surveys were passed out to council.

Action Item: Paul and Christine need to review the examples and make a recommendation for our parish survey.

<u>New Business</u>

7) Obtaining an AED for the Parish –
   - Ron has suggested obtaining an AED for the parish and maybe one for the school/cafeteria.

Action Item: Ron is going to contact Representative Costa's office to inquire if there are funds for this type of equipment so it will not be a cost to the parish; Maureen suggested also contacting UPMC for one as a donation.

8) Welcoming new members from St. Helen and St. William
   - Ron created a flyer as an insert for the bulletin welcoming people from St. Helen and St. William.
   - Sue also suggested a donut social after some of the masses as a good way to introduce ourselves.

Action Item: Ron will edit the flyer and send to council for approval.

9) Publicize the "good things" going on in our parish, e.g.
   - CCD, Children's Liturgy programs, Ladies of Charity, Grief Sharing Group, All Soul's Service

Action Item: Ron and Maureen will get together to discuss ways to publicize the good we do.

10) Meeting with Diocesan officials on use of our school buildings

- Directives were:
  - to put no money into the school but effort
  - to place insurance claims for the roof damage of the church and the floor in the school
- They offered assistance in:
  - looking for other schools that might need to rent space either permanently or temporary
  - what we should rent the space for and who we might not want to rent the space to

NOTE: Jerry stated the Wilmerding YMCA was considering renting the junior high for their preschool beginning in September, 2014.

11) Parish Demographic and Financial Context

- Discussion of vicariate statistics that were handed out at the meeting
- How do we reach out to all the parishioners to get a better number of registered parishioners
- This is "tilling the soil" for the Church Alive
- We need to get true statistics for our membership

12) Reaching out to "missing" registered parishioners to obtain an accurate census of those wanting to belong to the parish

- This initiative is on hold.

13) Proposed purchase of new TV for meeting room in cafeteria

- Ted suggested getting a new TV for the meeting room.
- It was suggested to get a TV for the meeting room in the cafeteria and the school.

Action Item: Ted is to contact stores such as Walmart, Kmart, Target, Best Buy, asking for donations of TVs.

<u>For the Good of the Parish</u>

- Add some type of heater for the cafeteria meeting room.

- Thanking people in the parish for the good work they do.
  - For example, the people who work the fish fry.
  - Make it a section in the bulletin and call it "Random Acts of Service"

- Ellen Bachy is taking over the Children's Liturgy Program effective immediately.

- Great response to the 40 Days for Life. St. Colman will be doing it again.

- Eucharist Ministers are needed!

Next Meeting is Monday, September 8, 2014 at 6:30pm