

**Church of the Resurrection
Pastoral Council Meeting
Minutes of April 20, 2016**

Attendance

Present: Father Tom Dragga, Terry Battaglia, Lisa Frey, Mark Altstadt, Christa Bomeli, Marcia Catalano, Dottie Eidam, Dorie Ijams, Rick Ijams, Bethany Koenig, Marty Motsco, Mary Grace Poidomani, Don Rynbrandt, Dotty Smercina

Excused: Kimberly Ensign, Barbara Long, Dennis Olsheski, Mark Olszewski

Guests: Julie Parrotta, JoAnn Green, Robyn Manchick, Juanita Vargo and Herb Wilson

Minutes of March 16, 2016 were approved

Faith Sharing

Mary Grace Poidomani began Faith Sharing with the reading of John 13:31-33A, 34-35. Discussion followed regarding the importance of the message to “love one another.”

Adult Faith Formation Opportunities

Father Tom Dragga stated that when we look at Faith formation opportunities, we want to be inclusive of offering societal, justice, human and personal issues as well. Very often these "other areas of concern", need to be addressed in the context of parish life as they can be a hindrance to some getting to the deeper spiritual issues. Therefore including them under the umbrella of faith formation makes sense because of how it can aid a person in feeling healthy, holy and whole. Several future events which present opportunities for this adult Faith formation include the following:

- The Social Justice Committee is spearheading the upcoming 2 part-series “Mercy and the Justice System: “Serving Life” and “Serving Youth,” May 2nd and 16th respectively.
- On September 20th, Father Paul Turner will be addressing a combined audience of liturgical ministers from St. Paschal, St. Noel and Resurrection. PPC members are encouraged to also attend the presentation at St. Paschal.
- Father George Smiga, pastor of St. Noel will discuss scripture and the paintings of Caravaggio in four Monday sessions in October.
- Next March, writer and publisher Robert Ellsberg will speak on Dorothy Day who is being considered for sainthood.

Council members added other topics that would be of interest and help to our parishioners: 1) caring for aging parents; 2) memory loss; 3) ill family members; 4) human trafficking; 5) Christian Seder meal; 6) healing, acceptance and mercy; 7) Alzheimer’s awareness and 8) retreats.

How Do We Promote Resurrection Parish Outside Our “Regulars”

Father Tom Dragga raised the possibility of an Evangelization Committee whose purpose would be to reach out to people beyond the regular church-goers. (“Evangelization” was defined as reaching out to Catholics and Christians in an effort to draw them more into the church.) It was suggested that perhaps Sister Margaret Mach of our parish would work with a group of people. “Re-membering Church” would be under this umbrella as would a welcome packet for new area residents. There was enthusiasm for the idea of the church growing through “personal” invitation.

Father Tom handed out draft pamphlets promoting the parish and asked for input. A few comments included: photos of children and junior adults be included and only the parish phone number be listed. It was decided that everyone take the pamphlet home, make suggested changes on them and turn them in this weekend.

Final Review of Acts of Mercy Project

In lieu of Kimberly Ensign’s excused absence, Dottie Eidam presented the status of the project. Snippets from the large document prepared by the Acts of Mercy subcommittee will be in the bulletin. Additionally, Father Tom suggested a link in the church email blasts, perhaps titled “Mercy Moments.”

Discernment Update

Rick and Dorie Ijams reported a good response from the speeches given at the end of each Mass April 2nd – 3rd. Five people expressed interest in Council with 4 being guests at this meeting. Announcements will continue in the bulletin and on the church e-mail blasts. Discernment for new members and those who are completing their 2nd year on Council will be held on May 23rd at 7-9 PM. Alice Hinkel will be the facilitator that evening as well as for the Parish Council Retreat on August 20th.

Calendar Update

Mary Grace Poidomani reviewed the following dates to be posted to council members’ calendars.

Monday, May 2 at 7:00 PM – Mercy and the Justice System: Serving Life

Wednesday, May 4 at 6:00 PM – Evening of Reflection Please RSVP

Thursday, May 5 at 1:00 PM and 7:00 PM – Music in a Sacred Space

Monday, May 16 at 7:00 PM – Mercy and the Justice System: Serving Youth

Monday, May 23 – New member discernment

Saturday, August 13 – Parish Picnic at 6:30 PM

Saturday, August 20 – Parish Council Retreat 9:00 AM to noon (location TBA)

Saturday/Sunday, September 10 & 11 – Blessing of Pastoral Council at all weekend Masses

Saturday, September 17 – Parish Service Day

Comments from Pastoral Team

Father Tom Dragga asked council to consider service ideas that could be included in the Parish Service Day, September 17th.

Lisa Frey mentioned the upcoming Mercy and Justice System series; the fact that books are available for the taking from our library which is being turned into a new food pantry and that helpers were needed to accomplish the transition on Monday morning after Mass; that the Church Directory is still having some issues with production; that “Women and the Word” initiative will take place on Wednesday nights beginning April 27th. This program includes lectionary readings followed by women preaching the Word. Lisa will be preaching on May 11, at 7:30 PM, at the Carmelite Monastery on Fairmount Blvd.; and, that Lisa will be celebrating 25 years with Resurrection this summer and accordingly is planning a retreat day, July 23rd, 9 – 2:30 PM.

Terry Battaglia stated that Confirmation will take place this coming Saturday at the 5:30 PM Mass; that the youth will be helping with the Senior Dinner; that this year’s Mission Trip will be June 16-19th; and that there will be fundraising events for next year’s mission trip to Honduras.

Julie Parrotta indicated that in addition to local nursing homes, 4th grade students at Dorothy Lewis have been invited to attend the upcoming Music in a Sacred Space afternoon performance; and that she has obtained additional youth cantors.

Roundtable

Don Rynbrandt: Seder celebration was very enjoyable and worthwhile. Thank you from all to Dennis Olsheski for coordinating the event.

Marty Motasco: about 300 people were at the Seder; very moving and inspiring; afterwards they were invited to see the Torah.

Mark Altstadt: charitable giving meeting is coming up.

Dottie Eidam: Prayers for parishioner Gary McBride.

Dotty Smercina: May 11 is Senior Dinner at which youth will cook and serve spaghetti.

Christa Bomeli: attended Easter Presbyterian service. Overflow was handled by having a separate service for children; also mentioned as fundraiser for Mission Trip youth, a garage sale with items donated by neighbors.

Rick Ijams: Thank you for those who helped with Discernment project.

Mary Grace Poidomani: Good comments for all the Easter services.

Closing Prayer

Closing prayer was offered by Don Rynbrandt

Next Meeting

The Council will reconvene 7PM, Wednesday, May 18th

Faith Sharing will be offered by Dorie Ijams

Closing Prayer will be offered by Rick Ijams