

**Church of the Resurrection
Pastoral Council Meeting
Minutes of June 15, 2016**

Attendance

Present: Terry Battaglia, Lisa Frey, Marcia Catalano, Kimberly Ensign, Dorie Ijams, Rick Ijams, Barbara Long, Marty Motsco, Dennis Olsheski, Mary Grace Poidomani, Dotty Smercina

Guest: Julie Parrotta

Excused: Father Tom Dragga, Mark Altstadt, Christa Bomeli, Dottie Eidam, Bethany Koenig, Mark Olszewski, Don Rynbrandt

Preliminary

Prior to the opening of this evening's meeting, Council enjoyed a strawberry shortcake dessert in honor of this being the closing meeting of the 2015-2016 year.

Minutes of May 18, 2016 were approved

Faith Sharing

Dennis Olsheski began Faith Sharing with the reading of Luke 9: 18-24. Members reflected on how suffering can lead to new life with God and how our actions can speak as to who are followers of Christ.

Evaluation of Year's Events

Mary Grace Poidomani presented a list of events held at the parish for the year 2015-2016 which was composed by Father Tom Dragga. Council members were to comment on what went well and what needs improvement or attention. Not all events were discussed but those that were are presented below.

Events that went well:

July- Vacation Bible School: Worthwhile and visits by Father Tom were very impressive.

September – Commissioning of Parish Council Members: showcased council and also indicated Father Tom's regard for Council.

State of Parish Address and distribution of booklet on Spiritual Events & Finances: Very informative and indicates how active the parish is.

- November - Photos of deceased relatives on Church window sills: much enthusiasm for this; Indicated sharing and relationships among parishioners.
All Souls Day Mass: very important for people who have lost loved ones
Christmas Giving Tree: parishioners felt they wanted to participate; well organized
- December – Breakfast in Bethlehem: Important for children to live story of Bethlehem
Live Nativity: Attracts people in the nearby communities
- February – Wednesday Lent Series on Mercy: Fabulous; insightful, informative, well done; Those who attended appreciate the effort put forth by the various presenters
- March – Holy Week Liturgies: All were beautiful
- April – First Communion at Sunday Mass: Appreciate including families of communicants in Mass
Evening on Stations of the Resurrection: excellent program
- May – Feast of Pentecost, Procession of Food to the altar: very moving
Food Pantry Open House: enables parishioners to see how we help the poor on a regular basis but not many stopped to visit
- July – Celebration of 45th anniversary of the Parish: excellent event including going to Father Trivison's gravesite...good tribute to him; wonderful having the charter members blessing the congregation

Other Considerations:

- Search Process for New Music Director: Great process and selection was great
- Music in a Sacred Space Concerts: draws non-parishioners
- Baptisms at Sunday Mass: way to support new parents as part of parish community; also for families that are ecumenical or interfaith, our actions and words can communicate welcome to all
- Senior Dinners: attendees look forward to event; way for seniors to socialize
- E-mail blast and other IT additions: way to improve and connect parishioners
- Heroin event: way to draw from outside the parish community; very worthwhile event

Events that need attention or improvement:

October – Storytelling about the History of Resurrection: did not accomplish what it set out to do, i.e., tell history; was more of personal stories regarding family experiences

Baptisms – return to family walking around the church as introduction of newest member to congregation

Attendance - improve attendance at some events; perhaps favorable follow-up comments in bulletins from parishioners who did attend.

Improve ministry of greeters and ushers by being more engaged with parishioners

Increase awareness of women's spirituality, perhaps a woman's retreat.

Continue youth involvement in ministries

Update on Parish Service Day (Saturday, September 17th)

Barb Long reported that all was going well with the event. Rick Ijams expressed interest in enabling older adults to volunteer for the Service Day in a non-physically demanding manner. Barb will take this suggestion to her committee for further consideration. Also, if more people volunteer, the number of locations would be expanded, if necessary.

Selection of Executive Committee

Mary Grace Poidomani informed council that the executive committee for the council year 2016-2017 will be determined at the Annual PPC Retreat on August 20, 2016. The process will be that of nomination for the positions of Chairperson, Vice-chairperson and Secretary. Alice Hinkel will be offering a Morning of Recollection for the entire PPC.

Comments from Pastoral Team

Terry Battaglia reported the Youth Mission Trip to St. Aloysius parish in Cleveland begins tomorrow. Summer camp has been cancelled due to enrollment. Also, she recommended attending the special day focusing on significant women in scripture to be held on July 23rd in celebration of Lisa Frey's 25 years with Resurrection.

Julie Parrotta made a "subtle" recruitment for "open loft." She suggested that whatever level we worship at Mass, we should try to do more. Julie reported that vocal workshops will be offered and that "Music in a Sacred Space" series is set.

Lisa Frey stated that the trip to France is this Monday and that she is working on wellness and bereavement programs to bring to the parish.

Roundtable Discussion

Marcia Catalano and Dennis Olsheski expressed their appreciation of serving with those going off Council and getting to know them.

Dorie and Rick Ijams thanked all those for making their years on Council enjoyable. Rick suggested that there be a reunion gathering of retired Council members in the future.

Barb Long enjoyed her first year on Council.

Kim Ensign stated it was an interesting year and looks forward to the next.

Dotty Smercina expressed her heartfelt 'thank you' for her experiences on Council.

Mary Grace stated it was truly an honor and privilege to have served on Council the past four years, particularly this last year as Chairperson. The invitation to discern was unexpected and the experience of serving both humbling and exciting.

Marty Motsco, on behalf of Council, thanked the officers and outgoing members for their service: (1) to Marcia for serving as secretary these past two years, preparing the agenda and minutes with accuracy and attention to detail and for baking the delicious strawberry shortcake for this celebration meeting; (2) to Mary Grace for her four years of service, highlighting her excellent leadership as Chair of Council this past year. Mary Grace has led the meetings of Council and faithfully represented it at various church events; (3) to the five outgoing members for their service and dedication to Council these past four years: Dorie Ijams, Rick Ijams, Mary Grace Poidomani, Don Rynbrandt, and Dotty Smercina. Marty praised the group for their insightful comments at meetings and for sharing their ideas and expertise.

Closing Prayer

Closing prayer was offered by Marty Motsco. Prior to this, Marty addressed the Council with the above remarks and then presented outgoing members with a small votive candle and holder as a token of appreciation from Council.

Next Gathering

Annual Council Retreat will be held on August 20, 2016, 9:00 AM-12:00 noon.

Reminder will be sent out with final schedule.