

**Church of the Resurrection  
Pastoral Council Meeting  
Minutes of October 21, 2015**

**Attendance**

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

Absent: Kimberly Ensign

Marcia Catalano requested that she be informed prior to the meeting, if members are unable to attend.

**Minutes of September 16, 2015 were approved**

**Council Roster and Calendar of Meeting Dates for the 2015-2016 year were distributed.**

**Faith Sharing**

Faith Sharing will take a different direction with the reading of the designated gospel for the Sunday **following** the council meeting date. Reference to the selected gospel can be found in the church bulletin **preceding** the Council meeting date.

Dorie Ijams led Faith Sharing with the reading of Mark 10:46-52 followed by council comments.

**Council Constitution Review**

Mary Grace Poidomani provided council with a redlined version of the "Council Constitution." This initial revision was prepared by Christa Bomeli. Members were asked to review the handout and note areas for further discussion at the November meeting. Council will be undertaking a thorough revision of this important document. Preliminary title replacing "constitution" is "Our Way of Preceding."

**Vision for Council**

Father Tom Dragga explained his vision of council's role as the "eyes and ears of the entire parish." Council is a visionary group that connects to the bigger picture of the Church. It makes recommendations which church staff then attempts to implement for the parish. Father Tom would like council to include high school and young adult (early 20's) parishioners.

## **Year of Mercy**

Father Tom Dragga discussed the possibility of the Pope's "Year of Mercy" being council's theme for the coming year. Council broke into 3 groups led respectively by Father Tom, Lisa and Terry. Groups discussed the meaning of mercy and how to reflect mercy at Resurrection in the coming year.

## **Mercy means:**

**Group 1:** Understanding, compassion, respect, charity, kindness, attentive to others' needs, and taking the high road

**Group 2:** Compassion, vulnerable, forgiveness, service

**Group 3:** God's action through us; grace; not judgmental; kindness, spiritual and corporal works of mercy.

## **Action to take:**

**Group 1:** Symbolic ritual re: "door"; "help board;" day of community service within the community; "breathe," assist families with time away; "Re-membering church," listening to those who left church; \* Ritual action to mark beginning of Year of Mercy.

**Group 2:** Forgive prisoners and help them forgive themselves; be less judgmental; scripture study on mercy; welcome all to table; bring reconciliation among churches and religious traditions beyond Christianity; do more with a different attitude.

**Group 3:** Be accepting/ reaching out; reach to marginalized: evening of conversation on "their" turf; use our events as outreach; bring a friend; Parish Council welcome at Mass.

Father Tom, Lisa and Terry will give consideration to a symbolic opening event for the Year of Mercy which officially begins December 8th. Conversation on the "Year of Mercy" will continue next month.

## **Comments from Pastoral Team**

Lisa Frey reported that "paper bag" donations will be collected for Thanksgiving.

Terry Battaglia commented that PSR is off to a good start and confirmation will be starting as well.

Father Tom informed council that the new music director has declined the job and a new search is beginning again.

### **Roundtable Discussion**

Several council members commended the “Report on Parish Life” booklet which was available to all parishioners and thanked the pastoral staff for the visual acknowledgment and commissioning of Council after all masses last weekend.

Barbara Long suggested a yoga class for toddlers and their mothers to bring non-parishioners into the church setting. Barbara offered to teach the class.

Dennis Olsheski suggested publishing the different accomplishments of organizations and to better define certain ministries such as greeters and ushers.

### **Closing prayer**

Closing prayer was offered by Dottie Eidam

### **Next Meeting**

The Council will reconvene **7PM, Wednesday, November 18th**

Faith Sharing will be offered by Dotty Smercina

Closing prayer will be offered by Dennis Olsheski