

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
St. Francis of Assisi
November 9, 2011

President Paul Litteken opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:30 P.M. Members attending were: Paul Litteken, Dottie Burton, Doris Goestenkors, Frank Dall, Kevin Litteken, Tom Huelsmann, Don Lampe, Susan Bridges and Amy Beer, Diane Wellen, Julie Stockmann and Father Dan.

The minutes from the two prior meetings were approved and Paul submitted to Carolyn to be posted in the website.

PASTORAL PLAN FOR PARISH RENEWAL AND RESTRUCTURING

The attendance at the town meetings regarding the Diocesan and Parish Restructuring Process varied throughout the deanery – some were well attended while others did not have many attendees. Twenty parishes could be closed in the diocese. We are a viable parish; however, we do have a problem with the Sunday collection, which could be a strike against us. We do have parishes within 5 miles in each direction but we are bigger than Germantown and Carlyle.

Father Dan sent an invite to the November 22nd Town Hall for the parish Renewal and Restructure in the Heritage Room. Another meeting will be scheduled for December.

CPAC

January 17th the meeting will be at St Anthony's in Beckemeyer. At that time the new representative will be replacing Kevin's position. They will be discussing Latino involvement in the Church. Cluster level will be discussed in the January 17th meeting.

Kevin presented a demo of an app – “neo” reader used by scanning a bar code. The user must have internet access. The bar code must be at least one inch by one inch to be read. Once the bar code is scanned it goes straight to the St. Francis of Assisi Parish Youth (it could be changed). The bar code could be displayed in the bulletin to be a direct connect to whatever is chosen to represent the bar code.

SWOT

Emphasis for the SWOT method is to focus on 1 or 2 items. Two areas we could concentrate on include finances and involvement with younger adults. An example of young involvement is Nathan Munie working on the stewardship committee. Involving a younger representative on the pastoral council could be another way to get them involved. A suggestion was made to create a separate meeting around getting the younger people of the parish involved in the Church. Amy will review the list of 18-35 year olds within the parish. Father will provide this list of young adults to Amy from Parish Registry after the meeting. This could be a topic for the December meeting.

UPCOMING PASTORAL COUNCIL ELECTION

The nominations submitted from the bulletin amounted to 46 candidates for the positions rolling off the council this year. Paul had the list of nominees typed up and he agreed to call the first two blocks. Julie agreed to do the right side of the list. Amy would call the rest. Dottie agreed to call the last block. The calls were to be made within the week and results of those who accepted should be reported to Paul. The pictures of those who accepted would be taken after 9:30 Mass on November 20th. At the time Kevin/Peggy take the pictures, the nominees will fill out a short overview about themselves. Kevin will create the form and it will include such items as Name, Interest, Family, Years in the Parish and Profession. The pictures and overview will be presented to the parish on a poster prior to Thanksgiving if possible. Diane will create the poster and have it available for Father to setup in front of church.

OPEN ISSUES/ DISCUSSION

- None to report at this time

PASTORAL GUIDANCE

Deanery Meeting discussed serious poverty within the North Central Deanery - Brother Rapp also discussed the progress of the Deanery's Hispanic Ministry Program. He explained upcoming bilingual activities and asked for help in their "come home for Christmas" outreach to the Spanish speaking residence of the Deanery. He also explained that Mexico does not have the custom of giving gifts at Christmas. That is done on Dec. 6th, the Feast of St. Nicholas, for the children only. He mentioned that when area parishes hold a Rummage Sales - they would be glad to translate the flyers into Spanish to help advertise them to those who do not yet read English. From December 16th through the 23th "Las Posadas" (a Mexican party celebrating the nine days before Christmas) will be held at different parishes each day. Everyone is invited and this could help us become acquainted with the Hispanics in our community and their traditions and help them feel welcome in our parishes.

Deacon Bagby from Germantown is having bypass surgery - Please keep him in your prayers.

January 18th is the St. Dominic's Parish Ecumenical Prayer Day. Special Collection will be on December 10th and 11th - Our Lady of Guadalupe. This money will go to the North Central Deanery Hispanic Ministry Project. Suggestion was made to include the explanation of this collection so parish realizes the importance of this collection.

The meeting was adjourned approximately 9:30 pm.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, December 13th at 7:30

Respectfully Submitted,
Diane Wellen