

## **St. Francis Xavier Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes**

May 11, 2010

**Present:** Father Hennen, Jim Bischoff, Kelly Boyle, Randy Bunting, Val Enter, Debbie Gladitsch, Jack Kniprath, Anne Lambrecht, Bob Pahl, Pat Whalen, Kim Zumbusch

**Prayer:** Led by Kelly Boyle

**Approval of April minutes:** Minutes were approved by members via e-mail and posted on the parish website.

### **Parish Council Elections:**

- Five bios have been received and will be posted in the bulletin for two weeks.
- Voting will take place at the Masses on the weekend of May 22/23.
- Members will oversee each Mass on voting weekend: 5:00, 9:00, 11:00 – Randy or Deb: 7:30 - Kelly and Anne
  - That ushers at both entrances give one ballot to each confirmed parishioner.
  - That pencils are in the pews
  - The ushers will pick up the ballots in a second collection
  - The ballots will remain in a sealed envelope in the safe
  - Monday morning three neutral volunteers will tally the ballots and hand in the results to Preston, who will inform Father Hennen.

### **New Schedule for Parish Meetings:**

- All parish committee meetings will be held in the Faith and Education Center on the third Monday of each month beginning in September of 2010.
  - 6:30 pm All committees join together for prayer and social
  - 7:15 pm Meeting of individual committees to which a PPC member will be assigned
  - 8:30 pm Meeting of Pastoral Parish Council
- These monthly meetings will be held September through June

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**EDUCATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:** Val Enter

#### **Faith Formation:**

- Faith Formation classes ended for this year on April 28<sup>th</sup>
- Probably won't offer Wednesday night meals again next year because of the expense and the new faith formation format.
- 50 students were involved in the Confirmation Rite of Sending on Sunday afternoon, April 18, and were confirmed at the Basilica on April 22.
- Youth were involved in YWAM in Rockford packing food to be shipped to Haiti.
- Two programs, "Sex as a Price Tag" and "Posing" were offered before prom.
- Vacation Bible School will run August 9-13<sup>th</sup>
- All night grad party is June 11<sup>th</sup>.

#### **St. Francis Xavier School:**

- Spring Fever netted approximately \$60,000.
- Confirmed enrollment for the 2010-2011 school year is at 214 with a possible 229 students
- Enrollment in preschool has dropped in the last two years from 80 to 50 students
  - Probably due to the economy
  - STFX tuition is comparable to surrounding preschools

**OUTREACH:** Bob Pahl

**Love, Inc.**

- Members of the executive board, board, and various committee members have been named.
- Love, Inc. hopes to be operational by the fall of 2010.
- No permanent office yet

**Buffalo Food Shelf:**

- Proceeds of Buffalo Food Shelf Gala were \$9600.00
- 1170 families used the food shelf in the first quarter of 2010
- STFX Church and School continue to lead the community in both food and cash donations.
- Area churches are offering land for community gardens with the surplus going to the food shelf.
- 157 Easter baskets were distributed and 600 people were served supper at Zion Lutheran Church
- 2010 Green Bean Open will be August 9<sup>th</sup> at Wild Marsh Golf Course
- Capital campaign in the works to expand the present food shelf at an estimated cost of \$100-\$150,000.

**Knittin' Kittens:**

- Deacon Otto is giving out the items that have been knitted
- Looking for supplies, cash donations, and volunteers who knit or crochet.

**LITURGY:** Kelly Boyle

- Phyllis Cross stepped down as Sacristan chairperson
- Debbie Gladitsch will take over her position

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION:** Pat Whalen

**Alpha:**

- Begins again Sunday evening, September 26<sup>th</sup> in parish hall
- Ann DeWolfe and Josh Hance are the coordinators

**Revelation:**

- Thursday mornings, beginning September 23, with Joanne Braun as the leader.
- Sunday evenings, beginning September 26, with Laurie Kramber as the leader.

**Catholicism 101:**

- DVD of Jeff Cavins
- Thursday nights, beginning September 23, with Amy Axtmann as the leader.

**The Marriage Course:**

- Begins again Friday, October 1, 2010
- Led by Jeremy and Becky Berndt

**Covenant of Love:**

- Offered throughout the year on the second Friday evening of every month
- Coordinators are Bill and Karen Baker

**Men's Group:**

- Approximately 8 – 13 men are present each week
- Had a breakfast meeting with speaker, Dr. David Pence.
- They are presently reading Deep Conversion/ Deep Prayer by Fr. Dubay.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Vision for the Parish:**

Last year the parish council chose to study and discuss how to welcome back inactive members of the parish and then chose to offer the program, "Catholics Returning Home" by Sally Mews. This year the council members read and discussed Reclaim the Fire by Rev. Martin Pable and dwelt on the question, "How can we integrate family life with Jesus Christ as the center?"

Since we already have a variety of adult evangelization programs ready for the fall and since the new family approach to youth faith formation definitely centers the family's attention on Jesus Christ, the council explored the opportunities we have to put our faith into action. Father Pable states in his book, that the mission of Jesus Christ and the mission of His disciples is to "create a new society, one based on love and service, not greed and violence" (p.58)

Ideas of how to bring about the kingdom of God through service of our neighbor were explored. Some of them were to:

1. Re-activate the sharing and caring hands program in our parish
2. Find a coordinator and start again the Befriender Program
3. Provide special opportunities for separated and divorced persons
4. Start a grief support group
5. Find someone to coordinate spiritual and social activities for the senior citizens of the parish
6. Promote and seek more volunteers for the social service programs already in our parish
  - a. Buffalo Food Shelf
  - b. Faith In Action
  - c. Love, Inc.
  - d. Meals-On-Wheels
  - e. Our Brother's Keeper
  - f. Jesse Tree
  - g. School supplies for the needy
  - h. Nursing Home volunteers

How to promote these programs was discussed.

- Father will call Sharing and Caring Hands and get our parish on the schedule.
- Debbie said there will be space set aside at the festival for information/sign-up tables.
- Pat will make up a one-page listing to be put in the bulletin of social service volunteer opportunities including an explanation and a person to contact.
- It was suggested that on a weekend when the readings are appropriate, each service ministry coordinator give a short explanation after Mass of what their ministry includes and how to get involved. Then follow with an opportunity to sign up.
- The logistics of a ministry fair were discussed
- Personal contact is the best way to get someone involved.
- Kelly Boyle will be listed as overall coordinator of the parish social services.

**Adjournment:** Anne moved and Jim seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 9:00 pm. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting:** June 8, 2010 on the deck of the parish house. Council members bring an appetizer to share.

**Prayer Leader:** Bob Pahl

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Whalen, Secretary