

St Luke the Evangelist Parish Council Minutes

October 12, 2017

Attendees: Father Larry, Deacon Fred, Tonya Althaus, Teresa Busch, Paul Carlson, Andy Cink, Jason Hatch, Mary Johnson, John McPherson, Gary Olson

Not Present: Father Adam, Nate Meier

September Minutes approved: Motion by Andy Cink, seconded by Gary Olson

Opening Prayer

1. Welcome new members: Tonya, Mary, John, Nate, Gary
2. Committee Updates
 - a. School Strategic Planning Update
 - i. Plan looking at building classrooms, meeting spaces, indoor and outdoor storage, multi-use of space (church and school having their own space and still sharing when available), extra parking (124 spaces now, possibly doubling that)
 - ii. Plan for portable classrooms
 - iii. Two section school (2 classes per grade) contingent on funding
 - iv. Four companies are in competition for next capital campaign
 - v. Hope to have an unveiling of the plan coming soon
 - b. Liturgy
 - i. Christ the King (South side of Des Moines) Visit for hospitality ideas
 1. 80 hospitality people in matching shirts
 2. Parish also read "Rebuilt"
 - ii. October Right to Life Month
 - iii. Ministry Fair Outcome
 1. Leaders of fair were happy with it
 2. Keep inviting people to come and to get involved
 3. Next year: spread out tables, more colorful banners or signage, make it easy to find tables, a map, a handout in the bulletin a few weeks before, have the time and talent survey come out the following week
 - c. More committee updates to come
3. Old Business
 - a. Welcome Party for Father Adam and Pete Haack
 - i. Maybe we should have formally introduced Father Adam and Pete
4. Coming Events
 - a. St Luke's Parish Pasta Dinner, Oct 15th
 - i. Discussed volunteer needs
 - ii. Silent auction
 - iii. Bake sale
 - iv. Father Adam's keg sign and sale

- v. 2018 Parish celebration will be an Oktoberfest
 - 1. Ideas, suggestions, and thoughts are welcome

5. New Business

- a. Priest Retreat "Great Catholic Parishes" book by William E Simon Jr.
 - i. 3 Hs
 - 1. **H**ymns
 - 2. **H**omilies: tie together Hymns and Homilies
 - 3. **H**ospitality: attitude of hospitality
 - 4. A few more Hs from Father Larry & council
 - a. **H**oliness
 - i. Alpha
 - ii. CFM
 - iii. Formed
 - b. **H**elp/**H**ands On: service
 - c. **H**ome
 - d. **H**eaven
 - 5. Tie our FB videos into the 5Hs?
 - 6. Do a Year of 5Hs, a whole year of focusing on 5Hs?
 - 7. Social Media: Ask Father questions/videos?
 - b. Councils Project Management/Calendar (Teresa to work on)
 - c. Tablecloths for parish events
 - i. Teresa will ask funeral luncheon committee about their tablecloths

- 6. Next Meeting: November 9th 7PM

Closing Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Teresa Busch, Secretary

10/13/2017

Fr. Larry Hoffmann's reflections shared at 10/12 St. Luke the Evangelist Parish Pastoral Council

The Annual Priests' Workshop 10/1 – 5 featured William Simon, Jr. and Clair Henning. William, Bill wrote the book Great Catholic Parishes. The book involved interviewing over 240 across the country known for having things going well in them. Many of the chapters paralleled what we studied about in the book Rebuilt. Bill made a suggestion at the end of one of his presentations that what was needed was “3 H's:” Hymns, Homilies and Hospitality.

I will list these three and give some ideas about each and then add “2 more H's.”

Hymns: - Make Sunday (the weekend) prime time in the parish; have music ministry that attracts people to our masses; have staff present; have well planned and coordinated liturgies

Homilies: - Work with homilests in advance so that music, liturgy, homily direction are united, that hymns fit; Priests and deacons spend 1 hour per minute of homily in preparation suggested

Hospitality: - Train Hospitality ministers so they can be “hosts” like the book Rebuilt would suggest; examples would be those at Christ the King in south Des Moines. - Someone should go there at see what they do. Encourage all parish members to develop an “Attitude of Hospitality” at church, but in all meetings with people in their lives. We should be the ones who reach out, who initiate getting to know others, to form real relationships that could eventually lead to sharing our faith comfortably.

Holiness: - have as our focus our own Inner Spiritual Life – our relationship with Jesus – our efforts at prayer – taking advantage of mass, confession and adoration – spending time with Jesus. Holiness includes our study, our making time to grow in our faith, to know the person Jesus.
– Current efforts like Alpha, CFM, Small Groups, Christ Life (like Alpha), CEW, use of FORMED individually, in groups – can help people develop holiness in their lives.

Help: - Our relationship with Jesus, our growth in holiness will overflow into service, charity and efforts to bring justice – many efforts are already being done by the Social Concerns Committee – they are looking to form “sister” relationships with places like Indian Reservation Parishes in South Dakota and Creative Visions in Des Moines.

Each of these “H's” could be developed in many ways. Having 5 easy to remember words that give us direction and help keep us focused on Jesus may be very helpful as we work to plan the coming year.

Hymns, Homilies, Hospitality, Holiness and Help

Bring your ideas about these 5 to the next meeting.