

**St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church**  
**Parish Pastoral Council**  
**March 10, 2022 – In Person & Zoom Meeting @ 7:15 PM**

*Attendees:* Fr. Ken, Fr. James, Deacon Fred Cornwell, Meg Schon, Paul Mortiz, Randy Gomez, Jason Richards, Susan Grebasch, Mirka Deza, Brian Werner, Josh Harry, David Reising, Nick Rahe  
*Absent:* Jennifer Joensen

Opening Prayer

February Meeting Minutes - *Moved to approve by Josh. Seconded by Randy. Approved.*

New Business

Lenten Activities

- Stations of the Cross followed by Evening Prayer in song
  - Led last week by Deacon Fred Cornwell and Pete Haack - will continue with this every Friday of Lent with Reconciliation offered simultaneously
- 'Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist' - Lenten book study being led by Fr. James and hosted at OLIH; Fr. James reports there was good representation of SLTE at previous meeting
- Mass Attendance Updates:
  - Tuesday morning Mass = ~30-40 people
  - Thursday night Mass = ~50-60 people
  - Saturday morning Mass = ~30-40 people
    - FOCUS group from Iowa State comes on Saturday mornings, utilize conference room for bible study following Mass
    - Have been needing both priests for confessions due to high demand
  - Weekend Mass attendance has been busy
    - October 2021 Mass attendance was just shy of pre-covid numbers
    - Currently, SLTE is surpassing pre-covid attendance numbers (considering adding eucharist minister for gym)
- Fr. Larry doing First Communion Masses (April 31 - May 1)
  - Looking for volunteers to bring Fr. Larry food between Mass on Saturday, and possibly take Fr. out to dinner on Saturday or lunch after Mass on Sunday - Paul offered to assist for a meal
- Feast of St. Joseph - March 19th
  - Knights of Columbus Pilgrim Icon will be displayed
  - Knights of Columbus will lead short program with Rosary beginning at 8am and Mass to follow at 8:30am
- Knights of Columbus Fish Fry - April 8th from 4:30p-8p

Faith Formation Update

- Three to Thrive
  - Bishop Joensen presented last week and this was well attended with 25 people in attendance
- Confirmation Group
  - Hosted leaders from Holy Desires Ministry (new ministry that parishioner, Sam Knezevic, co-founded to address the risks of pornography) to speak with

- confirmation group followed by adoration
- Family of Faith
  - Looking at expanding and inviting more families to join
- That Man Is You
  - Men's group starting this fall; planning to meet on Thursday mornings from 6a-7:30a
- Strategic Vision of the Diocese of Des Moines for Faith Formation - Focused on 4 pillars:
  - How can we inspire youth/young adults?
  - How can we welcome and invite all people?
  - How to communicate clearly and boldly our teachings?
  - How can we offer meaningful adult faith formation?
    - These are all questions/items to consider for the PC when making future decisions
- Vacation Bible School (June 20-24)
  - Will need to get more volunteers to assist in order to allow for SLTE to host VBS; if not enough volunteers sign up, then we will not be able to host
  - SLTE utilizes Old Testament props in order to reutilize and save on costs year-over-year
- Mirka suggested offering programming for college age students returning home for the summer - Fr. Ken is open to the idea if there is a willing person to lead these efforts; PC will continue discerning and discussing this opportunity

## Committee Updates

### Welcome Committee

- January-February: 24 new families (59 parishioners)
- Total: 771 parish families
- Thirsty Thursday Women at the Well are looking to contribute to the Welcome Committee
  - Each new parishioner will be personally visited by a member of the group and provided with a welcome packet with information regarding SLTE, various groups/organizations within the parish, and how to get involved

### Social Concerns

- Recently provided local organizations with donations - Habitat for humanity being one of them
- Tithing of the Thite has been increased to 5%; If fundraising continues to trend in positive direction, will begin to consider raising this to 7.5%
- Provide volunteer services to Catholic Worker House on the 4th Saturday of the month

### Liturgy

- Training new ministers
- Obtained new microphones
- 3 RCIA candidates
- Confirmation in May
- Received a \$5k donation for the monstrance and utilized this to purchase the current monstrance in the Church, which we have been borrowing; the

monstrance does need some refurbishing which may cost a few additional thousand dollars

- Had a special \$10k donation for monstrance from October which will now be used for vestments and remainder of Oxtobberfest funds may be used for microphones for the church

#### Finance

- Currently at a 10% surplus - on track to reach 15% over budget
- February was a good month with tithing, which is a good sign as this is typically a difficult month in regards to fundraising
- Over 2/3 of total donations are through automatic deposits

#### Other

##### Father Ken's comments

##### School, Building Project, Budget updates

- Over 270 students enrolled for next year
- Almost final bill for Phase 2 project - \$156k outstanding
  - Holding back \$8k until we obtain final closing documents
- Portables - allowed to keep these for another 5 years (August 2027)
  - Will need present plan in 3 years to the City Zoning/Planning Committte regarding our plan to no longer require their use at the end of the 5 years
- Tentative Phase 3 Plan
  - Start in Spring 2026 with goal of finishing building by Spring 2027
  - Considering using Phase 3 as a dedicated middle school building to allow for disciple specific classrooms, such as science labs, with some additional storage space
  - Likely will extend building to the west and extend current hallways to connect to the Phase 3 building
  - As a part of land agreement that the church made with the developers to the north - the church will have access to 13th street via a cul de sac on north side of school - developers will build the street and city will own and maintain
  - May eventually be able to have space for rectory and maintenance/storage building to the north, as well
- TV will be installed for next weekend's Masses in the gym - this will eliminate need for extension cords running through the Narthex
- Brick Campaign - bricks will be ordered this month, delivery in April and construction will begin at the end of April/early May pending weather
  - Will need volunteers to assist with laying the bricks
  - Rock underlay has been donated
  - Ordered 2,400 bricks - will lay all bricks initially and personalization of bricks cane be done at later date

Next Meeting – April 21, 2022

Closing Prayer