

Minutes of St. Jerome Pastoral Council Meeting of September 15, 2008

In Attendance: Father Dave, Bob DeSimone, Florence Loch, Father Joe, Kevin Smyth, Anne Groener, Regina Flaherty, Rich Vincenzi, Andy Carney, John Turchick, Claire Budnik, Pat Olson, Beth Olson, Tom Wagner, John Wagner, Moira Barber, and Kathy Coyne.

Father Dave led the council in prayer and reflection in the church. Minutes from the June 9 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

Pastor's Report:

Stewardship Appeal: Our budget is operating with a deficit and as a result, our emergency fund is seriously shrinking. The goal of the campaign is to increase our offertory by 10% so we can make budget. Managed through Cuneen, the campaign will kick off with Bill Groener speaking at all the Masses on the weekend of September 20-21. Bob Olson will speak the following weekend and Father Dave will talk at all Masses the weekend of October 4-5. Pledges will be handled both in pew and through the mail.

Building Sub Committee: Plans for the new building are indefinitely suspended in light of the financial struggles of our parish and several others in the diocese.

Parish Database: The diocese is switching over to a new database system which is more sophisticated than the current system. Kathy Coyne commented that it can handle mail merge more efficiently and the end result will be better communication. Since we are the first diocese in the country to test drive the system, we will get it for free.

Education and Hope: Julie Coyne will speak at all the Masses on September 20-21.

St. Augustine Medal of Service: This year's recipients from our parish are Dan and Florence Loch and they will be honored along with all the other diocesan recipients on Saturday, October 25 at St. Augustine's Cathedral.

Reach and TOTAL: Are off to a good start! TOTAL had 85 teens on opening night.

Parish Festival: So far, 60 tickets are sold for the Sunday, September 28 Caribbean-themed festival to be held at St. Jerome.

New Business:

Family Movie Night: Since we weren't able to get this event going last spring we will try again in the fall and will coordinate through the Reach program.

Pancake Breakfast: November 9 is the first non-Reach Sunday of the year and a great opportunity to have a pancake breakfast. Planning meetings soon to follow.

Parish Newsletter: We can use volunteers to write articles for this year's Christmas and Easter issues.

The next council meeting will be held on October 20. Father Joe led the council in closing prayer. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Claire Budnik
Council Secretary