**St. Thomas More Pastoral Council Meeting**

**August 13, 2015**

The Pastoral Council meeting began at 6:45 p.m.

**Members in attendance:** Anne Kelly, Beth Deninger, Bill Wise, Father S. Page, Joan Garrity, Katelyn Murhammer, Alex Gudenkauf, Keith Less, Norma Ward, Ron Conner, Traci Wagner, Karly Smith, Greg Duethman, Lou Ann Montgomery

1. **Opening Prayer/Sunday’s gospel reading –** Norma Ward
2. **Minutes from June 4 meeting:**  Approved

1. **Items of Business**

* **Debt Elimination Campaign Update –** Fr. Page, Lou Ann Montgomery

-386 pledge cards returned so far, still need to hear from 600+ families

-$1,173, 376 pledged so far towards goal of $2,100,000

-Debt Elimination Campaign Committee meets Aug. 25th for an update meeting

* **Items for New Parish Website**

-STM website has recently been updated

-Judy Duncan (“webmaster”) walked us though the new site

-Pastoral Council information is listed under “Contact Us”

-Will post monthly pastoral council minutes on the website

-Will put at the bottom of the minutes – “These minutes are pending approval at the next pastoral council meeting.”

* **Planning for the Future**

-Rich Curran visit will take place on 11/8/15 – develop strategic plan to help new and old parish “gel”

-Father Page would like pastoral council members and commission members to be present

-We should invite everyone on our respective commissions to attend

-Event will likely take place from 1:00-5:00 p.m. that day

* **Constitution – Bill Wise, Ron Conner, Norma Ward**

-The group has a draft, but not finished yet. Need to look at the draft from the diocese and combine the two drafts.

-The group will be meeting soon and will report back at a future meeting

* **Bylaws – Lou Ann Montgomery, Joan Garrity**

-Bylaws will be revised based on finished Constitution

-If anyone wants to join this group, let Joan or Lou Ann know

1. **Reports**

* **Arts and Environment –** Father Page has asked this group to update the gathering space document to reflect the small space available and how signs are used/posted in this small space. They will then send this update to the different commissions as a reminder on how to use the space for posting about their different events.
* **Regina Board of Education – Anne Kelly, Janan Rustan, Jim Nepola**

Regina August Update

* + BOE heal annual planning session in July. Focus on Strategic Plan for center.
  + Foundation 2014-2015 Annual Appeal total was $425K
  + As of July, 845 students registered for fall. Kindergarten class at 67 students.
  + Admissions Department setting up several “shadow” days for prospective students to visit Regina for a school day.
  + School starts Aug 24th

Respectfully submitted.

Anne Kelly & Janan Rustan

August 13, 2015

* **Religious Education – Joan Garrity**

-Religious education classes start the week of Sept. 20

-Catechists will be recognized at Catechist Sunday the weekend before.

-Looking for an adult to monitor the upstairs door during each RE session excluding Sundays. Felt necessary to ensure safety of students and to monitor comings and goings of the students.



* **Finance Council – Patrick Tierney**
* Starting to make plans for basement with the debt elimination funds that have already come in.
* Reforming basement committee
* Having discussion on Lee Gullickson’s role as he moves into retirement; will probably split current role into two jobs.
* **Church Life/Family Life – Traci Wagner, Beth Deninger, Greg Duethman**
* Church Directory – Have about 300 families so far signed up to get their pictures taken with another dozen or so who have inquired about submitting a picture. Need to get many more signed up to reach goal of having picture of each of the 1,000 registered households. Please encourage fellow parishioners to get their picture taken. Looking for a pastoral council member who would be willing to do a recording for an “all call” to remind parishioners to sign up. Also still looking for volunteers to sign up to be greeters at the sessions. There is a Sign Up Genius link in the bulletin.
* **Social Justice – Lou Ann Montgomery, Karla Smith**



* **Worship and Spirituality – Karla Smith, Norma Ward**
* Discussed possibility of a nursery option for helping families of young ones who would like this. Would probably require hiring someone to staff. Also discussed having a receiver system for those who have trouble hearing during the masses. STM has a receiver system and need to make it compatible with the sound system. Also discussed may need a survey for young families about their needs during mass.
* **Evangelization and Stewardship – Bill Wise, Joan Garrity, Chad Triplett, Ron Conner**
* Did not meet this month
* **Youth Ministry – Michelle Montgomery**
* Several youth recently returned from service trip to David, Kentucky
* Two openings available for youth to attend NCYC in November

1. **Next meeting –** Thursday, September 10 at 6:45 p.m.

**Volunteer for prayers at next meeting –** Karla Smith

1. **Closing Prayer –** Norma Ward

These minutes are pending approval at the next pastoral council meeting.