

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The Pastoral Council met on **Wednesday, November 14, 2018**. Father Charlie, Amy Timan, Cris Bloom, John Switalski, Bob Hoffman, Liz Reese, Joan Gavin, Sandi Craig and Marlene Gillan were in attendance. Dee Treaster, Diane Bremmer and Tom Parrish were absent.

As part of the Opening Prayer, we shared where we've seen God in the past few weeks. The Minutes from our October meeting were also approved with no changes.

Old Business:

Committee Clarifications (cont.): Dee is working to update the Opportunities booklet with committee contacts and ministry descriptions. Once the booklet is updated, we'll move forward with the new page on the website.

Response to the Abuse scandal: updates: After discussing this situation for the last four meetings, it was felt that we're starting to go in circles. Although this is a very important and sensitive issue, the Church is well aware of the problem and is taking steps to address it -- it's just a very slow process. Any major changes to Church policy are pending a World Senate meeting early next year. In the meantime, we can use mediums such as the Arise program to help comfort the afflicted.

Committee Reports:

Fundraising: A formal report is pending financial figures from Mary Ellen. Sandi did indicate, however, that the most recent Pancake Breakfast had the largest turnout to date. Gift/Scrip cards sales are ongoing, and Sandi will be looking into the possibility of accepting credit card payments for these.

Social Justice: Fran reported that 25-30 people attended a meeting of interfaith groups addressing immigration issues; they are helping a group of families locally. Good Shepherd attendees said they would help collect food gift cards. It was suggested that an Advent giving tree be dedicated to providing things for the immigrant families living locally.

A. J. brought to our attention the Administration's intent to redefine 'public charge' related to Grounds of Inadmissibility'. An immigrant can be denied entry if it is found that the person will rely on certain categories of US government support. The redefinition would expand that list. It was suggested that committee members comment on this expansion before December 10th.

Finally, Marlene reached out to AJ regarding a Nicaraguan brother and sister who are seeking asylum in the US and need the aid of an immigration lawyer.

Christian Service: Matthew 25: Calls assisted 18 families/individuals in the month of October, 2018. YTD Matthew 25 call expenditures through October, 2018 were \$75.00 over budget.

Faith Formation: Prep for this year's Christmas Children/Youth Choir is underway. The 6th Grade Retreat was held last weekend, and events such as the Confirmation Retreat and 1st Reconciliation are upcoming. Students also made cards for Father Charlie's birthday.

New Business:

Arise End-of-Season Celebration? The first season of the Arise program recently wrapped up. Since it's a busy time of year, we decided against an end-of-season celebration. We'll instead hold off until next year for a possible season two kickoff.

Active Shooter Training - When should we schedule additional session(s)? Attendance for the first two sessions was light. A number of parishioners have expressed interest in additional sessions, as they were previously unavailable. Father will look into this. We also touched on the need for a dedicated committee with the appropriate skills to develop an emergency action plan.

Nametags for Parishioners: During a discussion about building community and getting to know people by handing out Bulletins, It was suggested that we offer permanent nametags for any interested parishioners. Bob and Liz will head up this effort at the beginning of the new year.

Concerns from Fellow Parishioners:

Cub Scouts Feeling Unwelcome: John reported that the Cub Scouts, who have been renting space every third Thursday, are starting to feel unwelcome due to scheduling conflicts with Church events. John will speak with Jim Maund and the Cub Scout leadership to see what's happening.

Hanging Cross: Bob has a plan to simplify the hardware, but a contractor will be needed to do the physical work. Bob will speak with Jeff Sowash about this.

Closing Prayer & Adjournment: 8:32 PM