

**ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH**  
**PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, October 9, 2018

**Present:** Fr. Joe Dorner, Mike Calawerts, Mike Quinn, Helen Wellens, Tom Schampers,  
Carol VandenBush

**Absent:** Jean Laux, Steve Lepak

**Opening Prayer:** Fr. Joe led us in opening prayer

**Approval of Agenda:** Mike Calawerts welcomed all and thanked everyone for attending. Several parishioners were in attendance to share ideas for growing our parish and for ways to use of the monies we will gain from the Diocesan Capital Campaign happening in the fall of 2019. Also, Barbara Strutz wanted to share information about the upcoming St. John's Homeless Shelter Gala. Fr. Joe asked that, if possible, parishioners called the parish office or Mike Calawerts a week or two before council meetings if they wished to add an item to the agenda. After the above additions to the agenda, it was approved as written.

**Ideas for Capital Campaign Funds:** Fr. Joe stated that we had \$50,000 for capital improvements this past year. Because of renovations to our church, rectory, and Ricklin Room, there is presently only \$2,500 left for capital improvements. During the Diocesan Capital Campaign, we are targeted to raise \$200,000, half of the collection given to the Diocese and half for use at our parish. The Diocese will use their portion of the capital campaign for help for seminarians, parishes, deaf ministry, Catholic Schools, youth faith formation, and evangelization. Tom Schampers has agreed to head up a committee to bring ideas to the parishioners as to how our portion of the money should be used. He is presently looking to formalize a committee of approximately six to eight parishioners by November to join him in this effort. Tom shared that there has been several past renovations done which he has kept scrapbooks of. These were done in 1947-49, 1970-72, 1998-99, and 2003. Fr. Joe knows of several professional designers who did work at Holy Family in Marinette and St. Mary's in Black Creek. He said they did a nice job at those churches and thought it might help to get them in to look at our ideas. Following are some ideas that came forth at this meeting. We could enhance the sanctuary including the back wall, ambo and tabernacle areas and have more prominent placement of our statues. It would be nice to have a gathering space, but adding on to the church would be very expensive. We will have to come up with ways to get people to come down to the Mazzuchelli Hall to gather after liturgies. The Diocese will help all parishes develop a process in the fall of 2019.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. Committee Reports...**

*Buildings and Grounds:* Steve Lepak was unable to attend this evening.

*Finance Committee:* Mike Quinn stated that our envelope collection was down for our first quarter. Our investment account was stable and our cash flow good. We had several large expenditures including funds to the Cathedraicum, our Catholic grade schools, and Notre Dame Academy. All in all, our parish is in good shape.

*Deaf Community:* Jean Laux was unable to attend this evening.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Ideas from Annual Meeting...**

At our annual parish meeting, many felt we needed to put forth effort to grow our parish. Mike Calawerts spoke to his account representative at Element Advertising, an agency he uses for his company, for parish advertising ideas. One of the ideas was an announcement we could put in the Compass advertising our 5:30 Mass as being the latest English Saturday Mass in our diocese. Kevin Rompa, who was present at this meeting, headed a successful “Grow the Parish” campaign in 2013. These are some of the things his committee did to invite new people to join our parish: put up advertising banners on our church lawn, attended Faith on Tap gatherings, gave new members a welcome gift bag, contacted them within the month after they joined to get them involved, asked people to invite a friend to church, and put up a welcome board with newcomers info on it. Mike Calawerts asked Kevin if he would be interested in heading this up again and Kevin agreed. Maria Hinnendael suggested at our annual meeting that we use social media to advertise our parish. Kevin will work with Maria on getting this up and running. Someone suggested our tie to the homeless shelter should draw people to our parish. Also brought up was to set up a table in church with information about our parish that people could take with them. It was suggested that socials are important for growing our numbers.

**B. Fall 2018 Adult Faith Formation...**

Fr. Joe informed us that Jan Phillips, Ann Kieltyka, and Carla DeGroot are our adult faith formation coordinators. He said that forty people per week attend Fr. Gaitley’s “The One Thing is Three” sessions. Fr. Nielson’s is presenting “The Saints Among Us” on November 29 and soon Msgr. Feely will be doing a talk on St. Dismas. More facilitators need training to continue offering the Alpha Program at our parish. Alpha is just the beginning of the diocesan “Disciples on the Way” experience. Alpha informs us that God loves us and initiates or grows our personal relationship with the Lord. Then it encourages us to share this encounter with others.

**C. Clergy Congress Report...**

Fr. Joe talked about the Baseball Diamond Paradigm brought up at the Clergy Congress. First base is BELIEVER, second is DISCIPLE (Follower), and third base is WORKER. We need to give parishioners the skills to be a Worker...to recruit others and help grow our faith. We need to ask what is working in our parish and stop doing what is not working. Fr. Joe suggested two books he just read called “Rebuilt” and “The Divine Revelation” that would be helpful tools for spiritual revival. Someone on our committee stated, “Our faith makes the world a better place. Do something that makes a difference”.

**D. Garden Party Review...**

All had positive feedback from this outdoor event. Suggestion was made to have an adult faith formation activity tied in with our social events.

**E. St. John’s Homeless Shelter Gala...**

Barb Strutz passed out information about the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual St. John’s Homeless Shelter Gala happening on Sat., Nov. 10 at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center in Green Bay. She encouraged all to attend.

**Closing Prayer:** Fr. Joe closed with prayer and blessing.