



St. Matthias

CHURCH & SCHOOL

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date

Tuesday, September 1, 2020 at 7pm

In attendance

Tam Trinh, Phil Callaghan, Sister Mary Riley, Fr. Tony Davis, Kristy Yonyon (Absent: Martha Miricho). Also joined by Helmut Naunheimer of the Finance Council

Calendar Updates

Athletic Association: setting up communications for volleyball and baseball and recruiting both St. Matthias kids and PSR students alike.

Yard Sale: Since a lot of the volunteers work during the day, the volunteers of yard sale have decided to set up in the evenings.

Finance Council: review of budget and report from previous year. Our goal is 3rd weekend of September for budget actuals v. fiscal year budget distributed to parishioners

PSR: Meetings once a month on Wednesday evenings. 2 hour meetings. First hour as big group; second hour to break down into groups to focus on sacraments, community service. It is important for us to bring PSR into our community and help them not feel like outsiders. Main communication vehicle will be Flocknote. PSR leaders set up access to Flocknote for all of those currently signed up for PSR. If you know of anyone that hasn't yet received their invite to participate, let Phil know. Continue to message that students of all ethnic groups are welcome.

Old Business

Parish Outreach Summary: Even though our church's finances are struggling, we will maintain 10% tithing. Previous/Current giving outline provided by Fr. Tony, distributed at meeting. We are open to new suggestions.

Faith on 8th: Men's shelter run by Lutheran Social Services. Bulletin board goes up early in the month. Volunteer here 2nd Wednesday of month to collect food here from 3pm – 5pm. A challenge is that we reduced the drop off window without Sister Marie, who used to be here

most of the day to accept drop offs. Volunteers set up and serve. Facility appreciates 6-7 people to distribute food. Food already prepared. They are done by 6:30pm. No clean up; facility staff. Bridget Marek (Parish secretary) has been in touch with LSS and instead of providing a meal, we pivoted to a monthly donation during covid. We have notified Faith on 8th that we may be stopping, and they said they appreciate our monetary donation in the time of transition, and understand if we stop. It was the same parishioners volunteering. Proposal of possible alternates to Faith on 8th, such as YWCA shelter: one Sat a month/volunteer opportunity at a consistent time.

Open Shelter: Located at 3rd and Mound. Serving homeless men and women. Open 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. but during COVID 10a-12p. Making bologna sandwiches plus sides once a month. Challenges: relied too heavily upon school cafeteria workers during their school hours. Also, students won't be able to come in at 7 to help prep sandwiches during the pandemic.

Helping Hands: Karl Rd at Methodist Church. Catholic churches of deanery are supposed to support it. Catholic churches cover 1/3 of budget, per Father Tony. For people with no health insurance or under-insured. Fr Tony suggests keeping at our monthly amount donation, if not more. Parishioner on board (also on board at St. Stephens House). Church was involved back during Fr Smith's tenure.

Toys for Vinton County: St. Matthias and OLP both participate and send our toy donations together. Thought for consideration if we continue giving in this way: "not that we are handing down to poor people who are less than us, but rather by donating, we are celebrating the gift of Christmas, by sharing with others."

Salvation Army: no contact there; church secretary attempting to establish a contact. Church donations go to general funds as far as we know.

Diocesan Missions Office: important to Fr. Smith-unsure how much funding goes to clerical v. missions

Got a couple Rice Bowls back from lent, but not many (COVID hit a couple weeks before Easter)

Emergency Food Pantry here at church: are we "teaching a man to fish?"

Possible additions for new/alternate giving: See outline provided by Fr. Tony, distributed at meeting: St. Stephens House, Dominican Learning Center, Momm Foundation, Catholic Social Service, St. James the Less Food Pantry, Project on our property

Continue conversation into next meeting for decisions to be made on what outreach to maintain as well as additions/alternatives to adopt.

New Business

Waive onboarding of Parish Council; not yet a full council-ongoing

Parish council members to prepare Christmas Liturgy of the Word. Something for families to watch on our social media. Mrs. Rehm will record some music.

Council members to head into a partner team building day to focus on the parish vision, mission statement and core values to arrive at a 5-6 pg strategic plan. Ted Oravec, who has a background in leadership planning, will assist us. The strategic planning process should work to target core values and establish measures of success. More detail on process next meeting as Ted will be here on our October 6th meeting. Our Goal is to help with communication and ability for parishioners to see transparency in our direction.

Finances: Helmut, a new member of Finance Committee (background in development and was a long-time St. Matthias parishioner ~20 yrs ago): Try to capture vision of organization. Every parish has a personality: capture the gifts and talents of parish and build on these. Helmut is the instigator of the census. We are all at our own point in our faith journey. How to get people engaged and involved. Estimated that we have maybe 900 families: though census results will give us a more accurate count.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 7pm