

## **St. Katharine Drexel Parish Council Meeting**

### **Thursday, January 7, 2016 at 7 p.m.**

**Members present:** Diane Nekvinda (Welcoming), Brian Berg (Building & Grounds), Sandra Meyers (Parish Activities), Annamarie Trevvett (Youth Rep), Jeff Ellefson (Finance), Jan Feterl (Social Ministries), Micah Mauney (Stewardship), Lloyd Tooley (Faith Formation), Darryl Dubs (Liturgy/Art/Environment), Carol Deering (Communications), Joe Mauss, Fr. Tschakert, Tonia Honner

**Opened with prayer**

#### **Committee Reports**

##### **Liturgy/Art/Environment:**

- Stained Glass Windows: The six on the east side of the Nave are completed and will be installed in the near future. We have enough money for 4 of the 6 on the west side. Ken Bird of Dakota Stained Glass has assured Darryl that the price per window will stay the same.
- Darwin Wolf updated the council on the Gathering Space renovations. Through private asks, they raised \$15,000 to help defray costs for the update. Darwin provided us with handouts outlining projected costs and options for a media set-up above the information center. Darwin will present to Liturgy/Art/Environment Committee as they have not met in a couple of months and changes have been made to the original proposal. Darwin will report back to Parish Council in February.

##### **Building & Grounds:**

- Water in ductwork in the north HVAC unit of the new addition was caused by water pooling in the area and undermining the concrete the unit sits on. The French Drain that was originally put in place to handle the water back there is not working like they had hoped. Brian has temporarily cut an opening in the bottom of the unit and dropped a sump pump in to drain water out of the unit. The unit has run well since this was done. They can't leave the sump pump in there as there is no way to prevent it from freezing.
- As spring approaches some long-term fixes may need to take place. The estimated cost would be between \$8,000-\$10,000; this would include hiring an engineer to determine where cuts could be made in the building.
- The berm will be removed and hopefully some of that ground can be used to raise the landscape allowing water to funnel away from the building.

##### **Faith Formation:**

- Bill Wegner will be here for our Parish Mission Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>-Wednesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Planning meeting for our Parish Mission will be Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Welcoming:**

- No meeting was held in December; The committee's next meeting will be Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup>. Diane will confirm if that meeting will be held, and the committee will have their Welcoming Booth in the Gathering Space the following weekend.

**Communications:**

- The December e-newsletter was sent out and had a 49% open rate. Carol will check with Jennifer if she resent to the unopened recipients.

**Finance:**

- CFSA assessment for 2016 is \$86,000 a little over 2% increases over last year.
- Future projects that require capital raises or asks will need to go through Finance Committee. The Finance Committee will determine a dollar amount that needs approval before anything can precede. Jeff asked for a suggested dollar amount and we came up with anything over \$5,000. He will take that to Finance Committee and report back in February.
- End-of-year giving allowed us to go below \$4,000,000 debt.
- Budget update: End of November income increase was 6%, with expenses tracking right on budget.

**Stewardship:**

- Dawn Wolf is looking into Fr. Joshua Wagner coming for Lent in 2017.
- Dynamic Catholic had chosen to donate 34,000 copies of Rediscovering Jesus for Christmas to parishes in the Sioux Falls Diocese. We had already purchased 500 from a generous donor, and gave away every copy.
- Matthew Kelly has a daily "Food for Thought" message that is very powerful. He did a short video each day for Advent and plans to do the same for Lent. We will be looking at advertising in the bulletin for people to sign up for his daily messages.

**Social Ministries:**

- No December meeting—they will be meeting on Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. Focus will be on increasing awareness of "The Year of Mercy" and looking for someone to chair a Parish Blood Drive.
- Food Pantry: In December, we handed out 105 bags of groceries and 198 bags of diapers. The Advent Giving Tree and Knights of Columbus French Toast Feast helped us purchase food from Feeding South Dakota and restock diapers.
- Mary Lingberg did a wonderful job distributing all the items from the Advent Giving Tree.
- Laurie Hemmer will have the Spiritual Adoption Program weekend on January 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Parish Activities:**

- Meeting was Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup> and Laurie Christensen stepped down as their leader.
- T-shirts were ordered, but no date was available for delivery.
- 3 people typically attend their meetings.

**Youth:**

- January Dinner Show has a 50's theme. They will be serving hamburgers and fries. Tickets are still available. There are 4 acts less than last year, with an intermission to provide for some fun dancing.
- Junior High retreat option for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders for this summer has been secured.
- Steubenville applications are due Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>.
- EPIC discount cards are on sale in office and from youth. They are reusable for 1 year and more discounts are available online.

**Open Discussion:** Knight of Columbus trial period of alcohol after meeting was revisited with no one objecting to allow them to continue.

**Closed with prayer**

**Respectfully submitted:** Tonia Honner 1-8-16

**Next meeting is Thursday, February 4th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Youth Room**