

**St. Katharine Drexel Parish Council Meeting**  
**Thursday, October 1, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.**

**Members present:** Diane Nekvinda (Welcoming), Carol Deering (Communications), Brian Berg (Building & Grounds), Laurie Christensen and Sandra Meyers (Parish Activities), Annamarie Trevvett (Youth), Lloyd Tooley (Faith Formation), Jeff Ellefson (Finance), Joe Mauss (President), Tonia Honner (Parish Secretary)

**Opened With Prayer**

**Stewardship Fair notes:**

- Attendance was very low, only a few new people signed up for committees. Some felt that it was better in the gym where people could spread out and tie in with other activities.
- Since Stewardship Committee representative was not available for our meeting we decided to wait with further discussions on the continuation of this annual event.
- One topic that got a lot of discussion was Children's Liturgy of the Word and Nursery during Mass and the lack of help. It was suggested that we highlight this in the bulletin and ask for parents who use the service to volunteer once a quarter, much like St. Michael Parish would do for parents who used the Nursery years ago.

**Committee Reports**

**Building & Grounds:**

- Meeting scheduled for Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> following morning Mass
- The burned out lights in the Nave will be replaced on Saturday, Oct. 24th.
- Brian will follow up on discussions about extending the downspouts away from our building addition as there were water problems that caused some delays this summer. He will also follow up on creating some type of steps to the loft in the garage.

**Liturgy/Art/Environment:**

- Darryl was unable to attend, as was Lenae Schwartz who is working on a redesign for our Gathering Space. Darryl will try to arrange a presentation by Lenae at our November meeting. Cost of the project is still unknown.

**Faith Formation:**

- Meeting was held on Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup> with discussions on "The Year of Mercy"
- First Fridays during "The year of Mercy" will have a focus on showing mercy towards various groups of people, starting with ourselves
- Upcoming events: Fri.-Sun., Oct. 30th-Sun., Nov 1<sup>st</sup> is Koinonia; Sat., November 21<sup>st</sup> is a Day of Recollection at our parish led by Fr. Tschakert; Sat., February 27<sup>th</sup> Dr. Chris Burgwald will speak at our parish; Julie Dicks is checking into bringing Fr. Carlos back. He has been entrusted with St. Maria Goretti's reliquary and will be touring in the area in 2016; possible Lenten study from Fr. Gaitley

**Welcoming:**

- The Welcoming Committee welcomes Cindy Miller to their committee
- Welcoming Table was set up after Masses on September 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> and they welcomed 2 new families,
- Next meeting is Monday, October 19th

- Welcoming Committee will help the Parish Activities Committee at Turkey Bingo on Sun., November 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Communications:**

- E-newsletter went out recently; Carol will be in contact with Jennifer to resend to the recipients who had not opened the newsletter. Carol had not looked at the open rate yet. They will be working on another issue for November.

**Finance:**

- The Building Fund had some money left over from our building addition and the Finance Council decided to send in a \$50,000 payment to Debt Reduction from that fund, which brings our debt down to \$4.08 million. They are expecting the completion of Katie Ave. in 2016 to cost \$150,000-\$175,000 which we are responsible for.
- “Sharing Our Gifts” is Sat. & Sun., October 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> and Chris Filsinger will give a lay witness talk. We will have cards available to recommit and cards will be mailed out.
- Turkey Bingo: The Parish Council members voted that Turkey Bingo proceeds be split between Stained Glass Windows and Debt Reduction, with a tithe of 10% going to our charity fund.

**Stewardship:**

- Committee member unavailable—no report

**Social Ministries:**

- Food Pantry usage has gone way up since partnering with Feeding South Dakota. We handed out 112 bags of groceries and 218 bags of diapers in the month of September. We will continue to monitor funds in this that account and may have to make adjustments to our program. Funds for this program are only from donations made toward Food Pantry. There is no line item in our parish budget. It is strictly money in, money out for purchases toward the pantry.

**Parish Activities:**

- Stewardship Fair: They had 2 new people sign up to be on the committee and those people have been contacted. Two e-mails have gone out to committee members asking if they want to remain on the committee and what activities they would like to commit to. If members have not given a response, they have been removed from future emails.
- Trunk or Treat is Sat., October 24<sup>th</sup>. There will be sign-up sheets available in the Gathering Space to help. The committee will block off a section of the parking lot for cars to park in and decorate their trunks. Games and food will be in the MPR.
- Turkey Bingo: Need 40-50 volunteers to take ½ hr time slots for various jobs. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Gathering Space following Trunk or Treat. Youth will sell food, Silent Auction Committee is starting to collect items to be auctioned off and door prizes. Laurie is contacting our Knight of Columbus to help with set up.
- T-shirts/polos: We approved Laurie to order 24 t-shirts to have at Turkey Bingo and we will take orders for more. We are ordering an Under Armour golf-style polo with the embroidered logo to show as well.

**Youth:**

- The Bean Bag Toss Tournament went well. We raised \$538 before expenses.
- Pancake Breakfast is coming up Sun., October 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Youth Conference in Brookings Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>
- Search is November 20-22 at Holy Spirit Parish in SF
- Bake Sale is Sat. & Sun., December 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> after all Masses.
- Child Care will be available Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> in the MPR
- Mission Trip: Annamarie is working on a location that is with a Catholic group so the students can make this a Confirmation Retreat.

**Closing:** Closed with prayer.

**Next meeting is Thursday, November 5th at 6:30 p.m. in the Youth Room**

**Respectfully submitted:** Tonia Honner 10-2-15