

**St. Andrew / St. Mary / St. Theresa
Pastoral Council Monthly Minutes
January 23, 2024, 6:00 PM at St. Mary's Gym**

Opening Prayer: Father Ed

Attendance: Randy Clark, Nancy Bogenschneider, Katie Feucht, Joan Wiese, Tracy Nadolski, Nathan Waas, Jeff Bauer, Tami Vodak, Michele Burns, Kimberly Cinnamon, Rick Steger, Daniel Hoffman, Lynn Steger, Kevin Knoll, Mary Jo Myers, Father Kornath

Guests: None

Absent: John Schuller and Karen Bodden

Review/approval:

1. November Pastoral Council Minutes: A Motion to approve the November 28, 2023, Minutes was made by Nancy Bogenschneider; second by Mary Jo Myers. There being no objection, the Motion was carried and the Minutes approved.

Open Forum: None

Committee Updates: Comments and Questions

• St. Mary's Advisory School Commission: (incl. school exp. Update) - Katie Feucht states that they have not met; the next meeting for the School Advisory Board and Home and School Committee is scheduled for February 13, 2024. Concerning the school expansion, the next meeting is scheduled for January 30, 2024.

The following is the update Mary Yauck provided to Katie Feucht:

Can you please tell them about the upcoming open house and the start of Catholic Schools Week. For Sunday the 28th, the kids will be singing at Mass, the open house will start after Mass and Mike Schneider, the polka guy, will start at 12:30. We will be purchasing a new playground structure hopefully in Spring depending on the grant I applied for. If approved we will have funding for it, if not we will need to wait. Open enrollment starts in February. I anticipate an increased enrollment of 12 for the 2024-2025 school year. We currently have 17 Choice students. I anticipate an increase to 20 Choice students for the 2024-2025 school year. Contracts will be reviewed in February. I was nominated for the Herb Kohl Principal Leadership Award for private schools by a parent. I went through the application process and this is the letter I received regarding my application. There are only 4 private school principals that will receive this award and I have made it to the final round. If they could pray for a good outcome in March I would appreciate it.

Dear Mary Yauck,
Your Herb Kohl Educational Foundation application has been reviewed by the regional screening committee. Congratulations! Your application has been advanced to the finalist level. Applicants are remarkable in their level of quality and the number of highly qualified

applicants far exceeded the number of 2024 awards available, making the choice of finalists very difficult.

You are among a select group of individuals whose applications are being forwarded to the statewide selection committee. The statewide committee will review your application in February and award recipients will be announced in mid-March. Thank you for your fine work. Best wishes for continued success.

Herb Kohl Educational Foundation

- Christian Formation/Education: – Joan Wiese has submitted the following Minutes:

Christian Formation classes continue to go very well.

November 29th was the Advent Fair. This year, all grades were involved, with grades 8-11 helping Catechists for grades K-7 in their activities. Crafts, activity centers, writing letters as well as a “Food Drive War” by class, were some of the activities. Over 300 non-perishable food items were collected, lead by Catechist Wendy Clark. The food items were donated to St. Vincent DePaul in Beaver Dam.

December 17th, families were invited to come together for a Birthday Celebration for Jesus. Winter items and hygiene items were “gifted” for Jesus. Well over 200 items were collected and donated to Catholic Charities in Milwaukee.

DRE, Nicole states that Fr. Ed has been such an inspiration and blessing to the program by joining in on classes and offering Confession to our students on class nights. Our parish families are very appreciative of his hands-on approach with students and families.

Upcoming, February 7th will be the Mardi Gras Fair. It will run similarly to the Advent Fair, with the older grade levels contributing. February 14th will be Ash Wednesday, with students attending as part of their class requirements for the year.

The Christian Formation/Religious Education Committee met on Sunday, Jan. 7th at St. Theresa Church, with parents of St. Theresa Christian Formation students. (Fr. Ed could not attend, as he had Mass at St. Mary) Tami Vodak, from the Pastoral Council was also in attendance. The parents in attendance were grateful for our meeting and voiced how pleased they are with the current program. They do not have any issues with the current dates/times of religion classes. They do not feel “left out” of the program. The Committee did emphasize that we are looking for a member of St. Theresa to be a committee member. At this time, we do not have a representative from St. Theresa on the Committee. St. Theresa parents said communication with the Christian Formation Program has not been an issue. Their children do bring home information regarding special events from their CCD teachers/classes. They felt e-mails from the DRE for registration and weekly updates via the parish bulletin is enough. Parents voiced concerns of “more paper!” They receive enough paper daily from their school-aged children...and the piles of paper and are not easily reviewed for the latest versions. Going forward, these two means of communication from the office of the DRE will be standard. The Committee re-emphasized the DRE contact information can be found in the bulletin....AND...the parish bulletin can be downloaded or even sent directly to their e-mail, if they register to receive it that way. The Committee asked the parents present to spread the word to St. Theresa families that registration will be approaching and to contact our DRE for new students, especially Kindergarten and First Grade.

- Young Adult: This committee is on hold.
- Spiritual Life & Worship: – John Schuller has submitted the following Minutes:

Present: Diane Vollmer, Marilyn Steger, Evie Mather, Marge Cramer, Fr. Ed, Debby Wondra
Excused: John Schuller

Approval of Oct. Minutes

Old Business:

Thanksgiving Mass was held the Wed. evening before. Not a lot of people in attendance. Feast Day of St. Mary's—Dec. 3, 2023—went well. Lots of people stepped forward to help. Advent-- Advent booklets were all used and well received.

Christmas services went well. Churches were beautifully decorated. 4:00 p.m. mass was full on Christmas Eve. People were turned away. 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. masses were not full, but large amount of people attended. (note—Christmas eve 2024- St. Mary's will host the 4:00 p.m. mass.)

New Business:

Lent-Ash Wed. is Feb. 14. Mass schedule is: 8:00 a.m. St. Mary's, 6:00 p.m. St. Andrew's with the Religious Ed Kids attending that evening mass. Teachers will distribute ashes Wed. morning. Debby will check with Jerry and Ruth Gassner about getting some ashes to share with the 2 parishes that will be having services that day.

Lenten decorating will be bare bones (simple) for Lent.

Evie will order Lenten booklets for all 3 parishes. She will also update the useful Lenten schedule for the parishes as in the past, and have the sheet put in the bulletin before Lent begins.

Palms have been ordered for this year. We ran out last year, so more were ordered.

Each of the 3 parishes will be scheduling Stations after their morning masses: St. Theresa—Wed. St. Andrew—Thurs. St. Mary—Fri.

Tom Schuessler has asked to schedule a Lenten Bible study this year. He has done a Lenten study the past few years. This normally takes place in Mayville at the school. More to follow from Tom.

Holy Week Schedule:

Palm Sunday, mass at all 3 parishes—Fr. Ed will see about getting a priest helper for that morning, as mass will take longer with palm blessing and the reading of the Passion. 3 readers are needed for the masses, along with 3? Servers.

Holy Thurs. 7:00 p.m. Mass at St. Andrew's. Fr. Ed would like to have 12 people to have their feet washed.

Good Friday: 1:00 p.m. at St Mary's 3 readers and 2-3 servers? 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross at St. Theresa's

Holy Saturday: Mass at St. Mary's (Time will be--7:30 if OK with Archdiocese) (possible 3 confirmands) ?readers and 3? Servers.

Easter Sunday—Normal mass schedule with 2 servers and 1 reader?

Schedulers will get their information out to all people involved in the various services.

New Easter candles have been ordered for all 3 parishes.

Pastor's Report: Fr. Ed mentioned that he is being welcomed nicely into the 3 parishes.

Would like to celebrate Candlemas Day on Feb. 2nd as well as bless throats for St. Blase Day. St. Mary's school children will be present that day. Evie and Marge will make sure the candles used to bless throats are refreshed.

Parish Council Report: none

Other Business: Judy Rose and Mary Wondra along with Fr. Ed. put together a common practice for servers that should be used by all 3 parishes. St. Andrew's is having a training Sat. morning. If the other 2 parishes are not going to have a training, each of the servers should get a copy of the notes to refresh themselves. Because of the difference in the altars at the 3 parishes, the common practices might be a little bit different at each of the churches.

Evie would like to get some 3rd graders trained as new servers later this year.

Purpose of this Committee—

Day of Reflection for Ministries—on hold

Next Committee Meeting: Committee decided to meet mornings instead of evenings, after mass, so next meeting will be Tues., Feb. 13, 2024 (after St. Andrew's morning mass).

Goals:

1. Encourage Prayer & Worship members to attend workshops offered by Archdiocese, LARCSWORC and others that will help us to understand liturgy and effectively plan for the seasons.
2. Environment – continue to work on this to make worship space welcoming and enhance worship experience.
3. Music – continue to develop this ministry
4. Youth – look for ways to include youth in liturgy
5. Commissioning of Ministers
6. Be on top of what's happening in our world and be aware of the service aspect of reaching out to others, whether in prayer opportunities in church, collections of food, clothing, money, etc.
7. Outreach

- Human Concerns: – Mary Jo Meyers has submitted the following Minutes:

Human Concerns meeting minutes from 01-18-24

1. Attendees included Donna Drake, Mary Jo Myers, Carol Smith and Tami Vodak.

2. November Drive – Winter Outerwear Collection

a. Items were sorted and separated by condition of the clothing by Maria, Carol and Mary Jo. Due to the fact that the Family Promise of Washington County shelter would only accept new items we decided to take the collection of good items to St. Katherine Drexel Warming Shelter in Fond du Lac.

b. Carol delivered the items that were in really good condition and they were very appreciative of the donation. She also stated that they are in need of men's clothing also.

c. Rick Torn was kind enough to take the balance of items remaining and put them into the St. Vincent De Paul bin in the Parking lot by St Mary's.

3. We all agreed upon holding a Food Pantry Collection for the month of March for the Mayville and Lomira Food Pantries.

a. Tami will call the Lomira Food Pantry to find out what items they are most in need of, and Carol will call the Mayville one.

b. We will put bins in just the three churches and possibly the school, with a flyer on them stating the main items that each Food Pantry is in need of. We will reach out to Vicky Hartwig to post it on the St Andrews Facebook page and see if Danielle can put it on the school one.

4. Mental Health Services discussions:

a. Donna Drake reported back that there are two non-profit organizations that she found. National Alliance of Mental Health (NAMI) of Dodge County, and Church Health Services (which is mental health and other health services).

b. – After discussions we feel this is not something that we would be able to help with all that much other than trying to do a fund raiser asking for money, and with the Love One Another campaign we agreed it's not time to be asking for money.

c. Tami mentioned that maybe this is something she can present to Parish Council in spring for the year end donations that the council decides on. We all agreed it seemed more suitable for this type of donation to come from the Parish Council donations that are made each year.

5. Discussion of the idea of creating a store type atmosphere for people in need to be able to get clothing items that they are in need of at no charge. After research by Tami and Carol we have decided not to pursue this.

a. Tami stated that the one at the school system in Lomira tends to be a dumping ground for people and is a lot of work to sort through a lot of bad clothing items.

b. Carol found out that Gateway Community Church in downtown Mayville already has this type of service so it didn't seem to make sense to have two of them in a smaller community.

c. Discussion was also held if we should reach out to them to see what their clothing needs might be, and then maybe advertise their needs in the church bulletin.

6. Donna Drake inquired on the toiletry items that are dropped off at the side entrance at St. Mary's church if any of us knew what those collections were for. None of us know who/what areas they are distributed to so Donna said she call the church office and inquire what these collections are used for, as we don't want to duplicate other efforts being done.

7. Next meeting is scheduled for February 15th at 6:00 pm at the Mayville Library.

Proposed Agenda:

1. Discuss if we could hold a Fair Trade sale through the fairtradefederation.org site next fall.

2. Discuss the organizing a PAVE collection or St. Katherine Drexel Shelter drive.

• Finance Council: (Including Buildings & Grounds)

o St. Mary's: Nancy Bogenschneider states that they have not had a meeting.

o St. Andrew's: Tracy Nadolski states that they have not had a meeting. Daniel Hoffman notes that the sound system is in operation. Fr. Ed states it is wonderful

St. Theresa's: Michele Burns advises that they are getting the Love One Another account established with Edward Jones. Burns also informs that the committee has talked with the School District of Lomira regarding the use of the St. Theresa school building for a daycare. Tami Vodak explains that the Lomira School District lacks daycare and they are looking to possibly rent the school. Katie Feucht questions where this would conflict with St. Mary's

daycare. There is a discussion regarding this issue and the fact that there is a big need for daycare in the area. In addition, Fr. Ed would need to get permission from the Archdiocese before this could happen. It was requested that Mary Yauck be made aware of this proposed daycare.

- Stewardship: Karen Bodden is not in attendance; no report.
- Scholarship: Tracy Nadolski advises that they have the application form together and ready to get out to the school. She notes they received \$50,000 from Vollmers. The family is requesting certain language be added. The Committee is requesting the forms be returned in April.
- Generations of Life: Joan Wiese provided Minutes to the Council before the meeting but informs that the February 4th Parish Family Brunch Day at The Wisco has to be cancelled because The Wisco has had severe flood damage due to burst pipes; they will be closed indefinitely. The Minutes are as follows:

In December, we held two events. Dec. 4 was our Christmas Party at The Meeting Place; 47 parishioners took advantage of this event. (14 no shows after RSVP's) A voluntary gift exchange took place for attendees who wished to participate. A "Christmas Finish The Lyrics and Trivia Game" was fun for all and we finished with a Sing-A-Long. Dec. 5 was the motor coach trip to Wisconsin Dells. This event featured "Christmas in the Dells" dinner and musical theatre. Kim's Tours has been a wonderful partner and there have been no complaints about costs of services provided.

For January, we held a "GAME DAY" on Jan. 3rd. We had 8 different game tables set up and some attendees brought more games. Poker, Sheepshead, Royal Rummy, Yahtzee, Dominoes, Uno, Kings Korner, Sequence and Farkle were played. A Chili and ham sandwich lunch was served. We had 27 people in attendance. One of our January events did not come together in time, but it is being offered now on Feb. 4.

February events are as follows:

Feb. 4 - PARISH FAMILY BRUNCH DAY at The Wisco in LeRoy. This is an event seniors requested, to include their families. This event is open to ALL parishioners of our three parishes. The adult cost is \$ 20.00 (including tip) with children's pricing of \$ 10.00. The Wisco is creating a brunch just for us, it is not something they typically serve. Reservations are a must. 9am - 1pm should allow for everyone to attend who wish to. We extend a special invitation to the Pastoral Council as well as Fr. Ed to join.

Feb. 12 - Valentine's Day Party at St. Theresa Hall. A Valentine craft will be completed at this event. We also reached out to Joel's Confections and Widmer's Cheese in Theresa and they were SO GRATEFUL! Joel's is donating gift boxes of chocolates for door prizes. We will feature his chocolate and wine. Widmer's was just so complimentary of what we are doing. They too, are donating wine cheese boxes for door prizes and they will also provide a nice selection of cheese for our party. We are still looking for a chocolate fountain; if anyone has one, please let me know. THANKS!

Feb. 29 - HoChunk BINGO and Casino Time. Through Kim's Tours, we're offering an opportunity for BINGO especially at HoChunk. The last visit wasn't long enough for BINGO and we learned that is something many people asked for.

March events are also being planned.

March 11 – Senior Fair at St. Andrew Hall. This event will feature vendors from the fields of medical, dietary, health, banking, safety (both police and fire/EMT), investments and more. This is another free event for our seniors to help enrich and inform them of services right in our area.

March 25 – BINGO at St. Mary Gymnasium. We have had trouble scheduling events at St. Mary, due to school and after school activities....but this is Holy Week (no school), so we are happy to have an event at St. Mary.

Our committee continues to listen to our attendees as well as anticipate areas of interest for them. We think it is going very well

- **Emergency Response:** Jeff Bauer advises that he sent an email to Joe Meagher, the Dodge County Emergency Response Director. Bauer spoke with Meagher and he is willing to help the churches out; would want to do walk-throughs. Bauer states he believes there should be a chairperson for this committee, but he does not want to be that person. One idea he has is that there be phases; phase one would be education; maybe cameras down the road. Rick Steger states that Theresa's Officer, Nick Weber, did walk through St. Theresa's church and had several suggestions, i.e. a solid door on the side that leads to the Sacristy; the ability to lock the Sacristy door; a "teller's" button on the Priest's chair; fire extinguishers. Bauer suggests they wait to see what Joe Meagher comes back with. He also suggests that a generic booklet on protocols be prepared that could be made specific for each church.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Dodge County Parish Planning

- a. Nancy Bogenschneider, Daniel Hoffman, Rick Steger

Nancy Bogenschneider states that Fr. Miniatt has been trying to coordinate a meeting, but one has not been scheduled yet. They are looking at a meeting in February. Rick Steger inquires if it is possible to hire a substitute priest. Discussion held. Fr. Ed states that Fr. Van Beek will be helping at the Palm Sunday Masses. Otherwise the Archdiocese says "try your best."

NEW BUSINESS :

1. Fun night for all 3 parishes – postponed until January, 2024

Nathan Waas believes there was a trivia night discussed under Joe Haack's direction. He does not think much was done and that it should probably be started from scratch. Fr. Ed states that they had such a night at some of the other parishes that he was at and it was successful. Nathan Waas states he will get more information and bring that back to the group. Discussion held regarding ideas. Randy Clark summarizes that: 1) Nathan Waas will get more information; 2) a chair would need to be named; and 3) Would this be a good project for the confirmation class.

2. Parish website administrator – Aaron Hartwig – St. Andrew

Randy Clark advises that Aaron Hartwig has moved back to the area and is willing to volunteer to oversee the Parish website. A motion to appoint Aaron Hartwig as the Parish Website Administrator was made by Jeff Bauer; second by Kevin Knoll. There being no objection, the Motion was carried.

3. Mass Schedules:

- a. Review with Fr. Ed
- b. In preparation for new Pastoral Unit, and to align with guidelines of Archdioceses, Pastoral Council should review current schedule
- c. Proposal to follow the 3-Mass per weekend guideline
- d. Alleviate pressure on Sundays and to allow more time for Father's activities required with the new Pastoral Unit

Fr. Ed notes that according to Cannon Law, we are in violation because he is saying three Masses on Sundays. Now we have to try to prepare our parishes for the new Dodge County Parish Planning.

Nancy Bogenscheider explains the Mass Attendance information that the council members received.

Fr. Ed explains that in Spring he may have a better idea as to what will happen. Our seven parish area is known as "Dodge East" and now there is an open listing for an Associate Pastor. Fr. Ed notes that he will need more guidance from the Archdiocese. Advent of 2025 is the date the Archdiocese has given as a deadline for the new schedule. At this time, Fr. Ed does not want to change the Mass schedules. There is a discussion as to how many people each of the churches can hold.

Fr. Ed states that the Archdiocese Personnel Board will start with meeting soon to determine the future assignments; Father should know the assignments by May.

We will table this subject for the time being and if things change for Father, we will look at revisiting it.

Other New Business brought up:

Joan Weiss questions the sale of the old Library; would it be a viable daycare? Katie Feucht notes that she has been thinking about that building as a thrift shop. Discussion.

Kevin Knoll states his concerns about the lack of the lighting in the St. Mary's Church parking lot. He notes that the only lighting seems to be from the streetlights. Nancy Bogenschneider states that she will bring the light issue up at their Building Committee meeting.

Randy Clark brings up whether or not to have annual meetings. Fr. Ed suggests that we wait until we have some direction. He thinks that annual meetings are a nice thing to do so that parishioners are aware of the overall vision. Father states that Cannon law recommends annual meetings. Jeff Bauer inquires if it would be a good idea to get a representative from the Archdiocese to talk at an annual meeting.

Next regularly scheduled meeting: February 27, 2024, at St. Theresa Hall at 6:00 p.m.

Announcements:

1. February – Communications for Religious Education – invite Nicole

Prayer assignment for Next meeting: Karen Bodden

Closing Prayer: Katie Feucht

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted by Lynn Steger.