

Tri Parish Council Meeting- Minutes

Tues., January 17, 2017 @ 7 pm (Prayer at 6:30pm); St. Charles Borromeo

1. Call to Order – Opening Prayer- Fr. Kurt-*Fr. Kurt opened our meeting with a prayer.*
2. Roll Call: *(Those in Attendance are bolded)*
St. Charles: **Dale Hinckley**, Charlie Meyer (B&G Rep), Marilyn McGuire, **Diane LeClair**, **Paul Reisdorf**, Tom Vega, **Tim Indahl**, **Vicki Gathje**, Jose Rojas
St. Aloysius: **Deb Heim**, **Bernie Siebenaler**, **Cathy Schleck**, Sue Mathison, Julie Buehler, Chuck Koestler (B&G Rep), **Elaine Burke**
Holy Redeemer: **Jim Hobbs**, **Mike Walsh**, **Kathy Schumann**, **Mary Matzke**, Jim Clemens, Chris Johnson, Sharon Long, Deb Loftus, **Keith Troke**
Staff: **Fr Kurt and Becky Storey Hunder**
3. Welcome New Members: Vicki Gathje, Deb Loftus & Keith Troke *Becky welcomed Vicki Gathje and Keith Troke to the council and thanked them.*
4. Life in the Spirit Seminar: Alicia Hauge-Feb 20-April 3-*Alicia was unable to attend, so Fr. Kurt reported on her behalf. A Life in the Spirit Seminar stems from the renewal of the church that Pope John Paul had called for. It is charismatic, so it involves music, prayer and reflection, an openness to calling the Holy Spirit. The seminar would be a 7 week class on Monday nights starting Feb. 20 at St. Charles Borromeo. This type of worship is not for everyone, but anyone can try it. Alicia is willing to facilitate it and Fr Kurt would like to offer it to the Tri Parishes. A charismatic renewal is something that Fr. Kurt is drawn to and is willing to do it on his day off. A motion was made by Diane LeClair for the Parish Councils to support the Seminar and help promote it. 2nd was made by Keith Troke, motion passed.*
5. Old Business:
 - a. Tri Parish Christmas Masses Review *It was reported that the 4pm, 8pm & 11pm Christmas eve Masses were well attended. Discussion on ways to cut some Masses next year were talked about. One idea was to have the Holy Redeemer childrens program on the Sunday before Christmas. Fr. Kurt thinks having one Mass on Christmas Day would be enough, he did not see a lot of people at the 8am, 10am and 11:30am. Bernie Siebenaler asked Fr Kurt to put a schedule together to present at the next meeting. The councils could then talk it over. Fr. Kurt agreed.*
 - b. St. Aloysius Parish Meeting with Msgr. Melvin-Feb 11 after Mass-*Becky reminded everyone about Msgr. Melvin's visit to St. Aloysius in February. A bulletin announcement and email to all of the Tri Parish members will be completed by the office staff. It was suggested to have people send Becky their questions ahead of the meeting so she could forward them on to Mgsr., he would then be able to make sure he has answers for them when he comes. It will be added to the bulletin announcement and the email.*
6. New Business:
 - a. Leadership Meeting Follow Up (From Dec. 6)-*Becky reported that the group met on Dec. 6 and was looking at where the next 5-6 years should take us. Becky read the over view provided by Janie from the meeting and noted to the council the detailed outline of the meeting that council members could review*

on their own time. The group plans to meet again in Feb. The Council will receive the goals when they are done meeting.

- b. Faith Formation Report: Becky From Janie-Becky read the following report to the Council

Faith Formation Report from Janie

Faith Formation is going well! After a well deserved Christmas break, our teachers and students are back in the swing of things.

Our 2nd graders are now preparing for their First Communion. Janie had two successful parent meetings with the 2nd grade families and will be having Learning Centers in February. Our Confirmation students continue to prepare for their Confirmation in May. They are finishing their Saint Reports, they have begun working on their letters to the Bishop, they have a retreat with their Sponsors next month and in February they will be having interviews with Father Kurt.

Classes are all going well. Teachers are going through the diocesan safe environment youth curriculum, "Circle of Grace", with students this month. We will be bringing all of the students sledding this week during classes. Janie will be hosting a teacher's inservice night as a mid-year check-in with all the volunteer teachers this month. They will be discussing classroom management, planning for the rest of the year, and praying together for all our students. Janie will be taking a group of middle schoolers to the annual Winter Chill Lock-In in Rochester next week. Other upcoming events include a youth night at the church and InterMISSION, an annual event for high school students. We will be meeting with a student from St. Mary's University this week to discuss a possible internship position with Janie. The candidate is a youth ministry major with great experience. His exact duties are to be determined, but we're excited for his enthusiasm and potential.

- c. Finance Report-

- i. Audits Jan 12-Becky reported that since Rod Kollman had moved, he was no longer the Auditor for the Diocese (he is still our bookkeeper). The Diocese has hired Hawkins Ash to do the audits for them. When they came to do the audits they ended up only doing SCB but assured Becky that they would be back in the Spring to do the other parishes. When they were done they told Becky that the internal controls in our office are very good, but could not give us more details until their report was done.
- ii. Health of Parishes-See Unrestricted funds reports for December Fr Kurt reported and thanked everyone because the parishes had answered his request for funds at SCB and the parishes of SA and HR have been very generous also. All of the parishes has a cushion of funds to help in leaner times. So over all he reported the health of the parishes as very good.
- iii. Ministry Appeal Kick Off Feb 19-Becky reported that the 2017 Ministry Appeal will be starting soon and that if there is a video again this year, it would be shown at HR and SCB. Anticipating that SA will again not have a goal, the video would not need to be shown there.

1. St. Charles deficits from 2015-2016: Pay? *Fr Kurt noted that the SCB goal should be lower, the membership list at SCB has been adjusted by giving and activity at the parish to get a truer number of members. By doing this we should have a goal that is reachable for the parish. At this point, there is no plan to pay the deficits from 2015 and 2016*
 - d. Building and Grounds reports-
 - i. St. Aloysius- Chuck Koestler-*No Report*
 - ii. Holy Redeemer-Jim Hobbs-*Jim reported on the items listed in the Agenda, noting that we are looking at a different company to handle the repair of the elevator at HR. He also noted that the new carpeting in the choir loft turned out very well.*
 - iii. St. Charles-Charlie Meyer-*Charlie was unable to come to the meeting so Becky Reported that the Dry Fire system at SCB is seeing issues with some of the piping, mainly the pipe in the system that does not have any kind of slope. Condensation collects and forms rust that eats through the pipe creating a leak. When a leak forms the compressor works more. When the leak is found, new higher grade pipe is used to replace it. Jose Perez is working with us to see if changing to condensed nitrogen would be a way for us to prolong the life of the pipes. It is dryer air and would involve have nitrogen tanks instead of the compressor. Issue is ongoing.*
 - e. Pastors Report: Fr Kurt-*Fr Kurt noted again that he was heartened by the response of the parishioners at SCB to help financially, he feels the staff in the office is working well together and that there is a positive energy in the office.*
7. Independent Council Reports/Round Table:
- a. St. Charles-*Diane LeClair noted that Food and Fun is coming up on Feb. 4 and Dale Hinckley noted that the RCIA has 3 people going through the program. 2 Adults from HR and their Rite of Welcome will be on Jan 29th at the 8am Mass.*
 - b. Holy Redeemer: *Kathy Schumann noted that Family Promise will be at HR March 12-26th. 2 weeks this time, they are trying to keep the families at the sites at least two weeks so they do not have to move so much. Volunteers will be needed to provide food, drive and, supervise. She noted that Grace Lutheran just took two weeks that was not planned and are looking for help with the same things, call Kathy if you can help out.*
 - c. St. Aloysius-*Cathy Schleck noted that this night was Elain Burkes last meeting, Fr. Kurt thanked her for her years of service. Becky had failed to add finding a replacement to the agenda, so it was decided that Becky and Fr. Kurt could take a look at the membership and make a couple of phone calls. SA members were asked to forward to Becky any names of people that they think would be good to ask.*
8. Next Meeting: March 21 at Holy Redeemer (6:30pm Prayer & 7:00pm Meeting)
 9. Motion to Adjourn *was made by Deb Heim, 2nd Tim Indahl, motion passed*
 10. Closing Prayer *Fr Kurt led us in prayer. SA & SCB individual councils met after*

Tri-Parish Leadership Meeting- 12/6/16

Members from the original leadership meeting from 2010 met to discuss the past plan that was implemented and begin deciding how to develop in the next 5-6 years. Parishioners from all three parishes were present and discussed the good things going on and the struggles each parish is facing. Some major themes discussed included: More opportunities for spiritual development, a need to promote our successful existing groups, better communication between the three parishes, a need to reach out to new and inactive members, and more intentional and engaging faith formation for the youth. The group plans to meet again in February to begin a new 5 year action plan.

Tri-Parish Leadership Plan: Revisit Meeting

December 6, 2016

Minutes/Notes: Janie Maki

1. Attendance:

- Father Kurt Farrell; SCB- Becky Storey Hunder, Janie, Maki, Angie Arndt, Mike Smith, Dale Gathje, Madonna Fohrman; HR- Shelley Haag; SA- Celeste Koestler, John Bedtke

2. Father Kurt asked each parish to describe their current parish dynamics

- St. Aloysius:
 - Parishioners are overcoming hurt/anger/fear/pain from the way the parish cluster has been handled
 - Working on rebuilding the parish and relationships
 - Many people see the church as just a place for their weekly duty/mass
 - There is a devoted group, but they're only there for mass; simple needs
 - Lacking more involvement or community
 - Difficult mass time to attend
- Holy Redeemer:
 - Super close group that feels like family. Which is great, but there needs to be ways to reach out to new families coming into the parish so it can continue to grow and include new families
 - Tragedy has brought many families together and made the parish very close
 - Women's prayer group was formed from that need for support and has been a great addition
- St. Charles Borromeo:
 - Parents and families are less willing to be involved and participate
 - Drastic changes in leadership have caused changes in membership
 - Other school and sports activities often take priority over faith formation
 - Great group of elderly parishioners who are very committed, volunteer and lead many groups and events- We need more young adults to step forward
 - Ecumenical efforts are important, but must be grounded in Catholic faith
 - There is a spiritual hunger in the church!
 - We need more opportunities for the youth
 - More opportunities for spiritual growth, conversion, and encounters with Christ
 - Introduce charismatic renewal/movement

3. Brief review of the original 2010 Leadership Plan

- Values:
 - Welcoming
 - Trusting Relationship
 - Prayer
- Strategic Priorities Agenda:

- 1. Sanctification- Silent prayer, reach out to inactive Catholics, spiritual development
- 2. Governance- Enroll everyone into the plan, create maintenance plan
- 3. Teaching- Pro-life and social concern activities, facilitate spiritual mass preparation, more learning opportunities for adults

4. Moving forward

- How to implement a new plan:
 - 1. Keep the plan simple and have each group (e.g. Men's Club, Catholic Daughters, Faith Formation, etc.) define how they will specifically fulfill the plan
 - 2. Make a specific plan and steps for each group and parish
- Need to define main problem(s) and create a clear plan to solve it
 - Possible problems:
 - Poor unity and communication amongst the three parishes
 - Lack of engagement and participation from youth, parents, and other current members
 - Lack of meaningful opportunities and experiences for all ages
 - Need to evangelize and welcome in inactive or new parishioners
 - Need technology updates (e.g. social media presence, website update, Wi-Fi in Eyota?)
 - Create a survey for the parishioners to determine what people really want
- Need to define what people want from the church (e.g. friendship/groups, charismatic praise, theology/bible, just mass) and define what we should be
- Need to define our population/stakeholders and how to reach them:
 - Youth, families, parents, young adults, single adults, elderly, volunteers, active, inactive, new

6. New 2017 Plan

- **Key words used at meeting:** Passionate, engaging, intentional, open, encounter Christ, simple, actively promote, consistent, relevant, live it out, active, reach out, awakening

1. Sanctification/prayer and more spiritual development opportunities:

- Charismatic renewal- "Life and Spirit Seminar"
- Group prayer time- Before mass at SCB in Chapel like HR women's group?
- Trust and pray to the Holy Spirit for guidance strength
- Mass- Create an environment that is engaging and welcoming

2. Strengthen, promote and empower the successful groups, programs, and volunteers we currently have:

- Define successful areas and how to better promote them
- Determine groups/programs that are lacking proper support, funding, etc.
- Create opportunities and groups that we are still missing- spiritually hungry

3. Welcome new and inactive members:

- Create events for new people- often low attendance
 - Invite new people to existing events or to volunteer (e.g. Fall Festival)
- Need to be open and welcoming and meet people where they are
 - Need to be "Fertile ground"- Be active, open, kind and welcoming
 - Need to be welcoming Inside and outside of the church- we are a representation of the Catholic church as a whole
- Need opportunities for conversion and personal encounters with God

4. Increase Tri-Parish Communication and Promote Unity:

- Unite as a true Tri-Parish and not three separate parishes
- Celebrate differences:

- SA: Long and proud history, lots of visitors, important location
- HR: Family-feel, relaxed and friendly
- SCB: Parish office, large facility, variety of groups and stakeholders

5. Provide intentional and engaging faith formation for the youth

- Define the goal of Youth Ministry / Faith Formation
- Parents: Involve and engage parents in learning
 - Have a parent day where a parent joins the class; open house?
- Teachers: Better teacher training and support
- Provide youth with:
 - Variety of activities to attract all ages, interests and personalities
 - The tools, info and a solid base on which to build their faith
 - Ecumenical opportunities, but don't lose Catholic identity
 - An environment for learning, growth, prayer and fellowship

6. Create a better online/technological presence

- Increase social media presence (e.g. Facebook, update website)
 - Be where the youth and families are- online! Parishioners can see all events going on, feel connected to the parish, we can promote more opportunities, can learn about other events going on in church/DOW
- Become more digital and efficient
 - Online registration forms, payments, sign-ups, forms and information
- Church apps: (e.g. YouVersion)
 - Promote an app that has daily/weekly readings; Mass times, event calendar; Reflections/material
- Faith Formation: Utilize more digital curriculum, video series
 - Do we need Wi-Fi at Holy Redeemer?

Tri-Parish Council January 17, 2017

Holy Redeemer

Buildings & Grounds Report

1. Holy Redeemer is currently working on a maintenance/upgrade project for the elevator. Elevator companies are being contacted for the work.
2. New carpeting has been installed in the choir loft to correct loose ridges that had developed.