

Pastoral Council meeting 9/12/06

Meeting commenced at 7:35 p.m.

In attendance: Pat Beckett, Kari Albers, Robin Stanford, Charlie Bohan, Bob Blythe, Debra Herman, Christine McClelland, Debbie Calabro, Joel Friederich, Father Mike, Dee Lopez

Not Present: Maggie Short, Geoffrey Carter, Bev Bajersky, Reed Camron, Bill Beckett, Laura Morris, Jay Schuck, Jerry Latimer

Opening Prayer – Charlie Bohan
Scripture and Faith Sharing – Pat Beckett

Minutes were reviewed and corrections made. Bob Blythe's email address was corrected, and the correct spelling of Reed Camron's name was noted.

Completed Business: Discussion about the handicapped pews ensued. There will be an announcement in the bulletin educating the parish about the new signs on the dedicated pews in the front and back of the church. Pat Beckett said this is a welcoming effort to serve those individuals with special needs who use walkers or are in wheelchairs. There was also a discussion about the welcoming atmosphere of the church. Father Mike shared a comment made to him on this subject. Welcome ministers stationed at each door help to make the church a friendlier atmosphere, but if all parishioners said hello to people coming in and out of church, it would help visitors and new parishioners to feel more welcomed.

In Process Business:

Charlie Bohan, Debbie Calabro, Deacon Marcus, Dee Lopez, Pat Beckett, and Ed Hill are on the Pastoral Council Charter review committee, which will be meeting on Wednesday, September 13th. A report will be given at the next meeting about the pastoral charter.

Discernment of Council officers was held for Communication and Assistant Coordinators for 2006-2007. Debra Herman was discerned as Communication Coordinator. After two rounds of discernment for the Assistant position, the position was still not filled. Pat said that we would wait until next month's meeting to discern this position. There may be someone who is not present who will be discerning.

Shared Vision:

Goal Team 1: Priorities for the goal were reviewed. There will be an upcoming class, which will be announced from the pulpit next Sunday and also will be in the bulletin. The whole series is called: "Catholicism for Ordinary People." They are still looking for some instructors. Christine said that they would like to have a class each season or quarter with in-depth sessions to follow. There was a discussion about how attendance is not as good as it used to be. The first meetings were very well attended, and it was questioned as to

whether they feel they have nothing else to contribute or maybe they lost interest? Pat said that at least people gave their input to begin the process, and now it would be okay to invite other people to join the meetings again.

Goal Team 2: The objectives are being worked on. The meditative walk is being incorporated into the outside Stations of the Cross, which is already in progress. The goal team does not need to duplicate these efforts. Currently the focus is on working through whether to have speakers or a mission. Debbie Calabro said that there seems to be a need for both.

Goal Team 3: The objective to establish neighborhood small faith groups was merged into the core team Small Christian Communities (SCC) said Robin. Part of goal 3 was merged into goal 2. Goal 3 people will be on the Core Team working on the neighborhood groups. The marketing part is the second part of goal 3. Pat said this team is also working with stewardship. The stewardship committee and ministry teams are sharing responsibilities coordinating the Ministry Fair. The pamphlet rack will be moved outside of the vestibule to make it more accessible to parishioners (suggestion from last month's discussion). The group seems to be moving forward according to Pat.

Ministry Fair - The Ministry Fair will be held on October 14 and 15. There is a list of ministries and a layout for the booths. Charlie will email last year's brochure to Pat to be modified. Charlie wanted input on the display board used last year and wanted suggestions for tangible items that could be used at the booth. Suggestions given were rosaries, holy cards, and mints with testament sayings. Joel and Christine will help revise the display board. Pat mentioned that a little lamb is now given to new parishioners' children.

The other goals, which were not selected from the Shared Vision Process, were tabled again to the next meeting due to time. Charlie reviewed items that we will be discussing at the next meeting.

Father Mike's comments: In regards to the drop-off in attendance at the goal meetings – keep everyone abreast of what's happening even if they are not attending. People tend to cycle through. It's not just the decision making process in these meetings that are important, but the sharing, prayer, etc. that's also important. New people come in all the time. These are all basic issues with which we all struggle. It's all part of the process.

Charlie commented that while looking at Sunday's bulletin, he noticed that there are so many classes. Almost doubled! There are so many opportunities for people to come together and be fed. It says a lot about our parish. There is a lot to be proud of and there are many people involved. Perhaps Parish Council contributed in some small way to that.

Faith Sharing for the next meeting on Tuesday, October 10th will be Christine McClelland. Meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Debra Herman

