

COUNCIL OF MINISTRIES
Thursday, March 26, 2008
IC Education Center Conference Room – 6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Fr. James Brinkman, Arlene Tenner, Connie Crosby, Jim Tilly, Jo Germain, Laura Rebhan, Monica Rominski, Cheryl Stephens, Tanya Weinzierl. Absent: Teri Skramstad

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order with evening prayer.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: March minutes approved by consensus as presented.

MINISTRY REPORTS:

Finance and Administration – Monica Rominski – Two new members have been added to the Finance Ministry – Al Lingen and Don Klein. Chad Denucci presented a financial update for St. Mary's as well as a proposed 2009-10 budget and action plan to balance the budget. The school is doing a great job of holding expenses. They are still anticipating a year-end surplus of approximately \$10,000. A proposal to add summer child care for 11 weeks was presented and approved by Finance Ministry to be presented to Council of Ministries. Current IC deposits were reviewed and suggested transfers were discussed. Jo Germain provided an Endowment report. Currently all endowments are below their principle balance. The Endowment Ministry is looking at investment options where principle cannot be lost yet have the ability to earn anywhere from .5% to 13% interest. Updates will be provided.

Stewardship – Jo Germain – The dates for the Stewardship Renewal were presented as September 26/27, October 10/11, October 17/18, November 7/8. The theme for 2009 is 1 Kings 17:14, 'The jar of flour shall not go empty, nor the jug of oil run dry'.

Worship & Spiritual Life – Cheryl Stephens – Lent, Palm Sunday, and Holy Week items were shared. Student Servers are needed and wanted by the parish. Fr. Jim will announce at Mass that those interested in serving may sign up in the Sacristy. It was noted that according to USCBB guidelines about the bowing of readers, readers are to bow only at the entrance and recessional processions. Liturgy Corner of the bulletin will consist of articles by Paul Turner as well as questions to Cornelius. Due to lack of interest and commitment by the youth, Youth Mass has postponed further efforts. We are the first church to convert to DVD recording from VHS for the cable company. Apparently the cable company is having trouble with the recordings. Books were shared with WSL members concerning cantors, lectors, hospitality and environment. The book "Sing to the Lord, Music in Divine Worship" was also presented to the WSL members as a guideline to music in the Catholic Church.

Catechesis & Faith Formation – Laura Rebhan – As requested by Finance Ministry, CF and all ministries are to cut their parish subsidy by 10% before end of the fiscal year. \$5,100 should be cut from the CF budget. Areas to be reduced or cut are attached to these minutes. Confirmation service hours were discussed and reviewed. Currently, students may, beginning their 6th grade year, start earning the 25 service hours required for Confirmation. At the end of this year, the students will be allowed to begin earning their service hours beginning their 10th grade year. A discussion was held on how to integrate the youth into Church. There are many areas in which the youth can be involved at Mass. The ministries include: choir, greeters, ushers, altar servers, coffee and donuts, Sunday school helpers. Some suggestions were: 1) personal invitation right at Mass, 2) having the heads of the ministries mentoring the youth.

Education – Fr. Jim – Arlene Tenner presented the Council of Ministries with a proposal with three options related to maintaining a middle school at St. Mary's and balancing the budget in 2009/10. Full details relating to the proposal are on file with these minutes for reference if requested. Proposal was approved unanimously by the Council of Ministries.

Buildings and Grounds – Fr. Jim – We have received a bequest from the Walter and Delores Harrington estate to finish purchasing the new doors for the church. We are presently working with Scott Counter and Esser Glass. The doors will have a mullion between the doors so they will be more air tight and efficient. We hope to have this project completed sometime this summer. It was suggested to have the church signs out on Highways 64 and 65 removed as they are weathered and in poor shape. Arlene Tenner suggested that perhaps the Eagle Scouts could take on the project of building new ones to replace the old ones. Arlene will check with one of the scout leaders. To save energy, we are going to turn off the large stainless steel freezer in the back kitchen and move the few things in there to the small chest freezer in the kitchen. The two large freezers can then be plugged in whenever they need to be used such as MayFest.

Outreach – Connie Crosby – The C.O.M.E. meal was held February 17 at First Lutheran Church. It is estimated that 127 meals were served as well as 15 take outs. The next C.O.M.E. meal is Tuesday, August 18. Volunteer Appreciation weekend is scheduled for April 18/19. Tanya Weinzierl will be going over pictures that Wanda Viellieux has taken to put into the directory.

Parish Social – Tanya Weinzierl – MayFest is in full swing. Changes this year include a rib buffet called Schwarz Wald (Black forest) Barbequed Rib Buffet Dinner rather than a breakfast/brunch. The dinner will include BBQ ribs, hot German potato salad, coleslaw, corn, baked beans and bread. There will be a homemade chili competition, Spaghetti-O's eating contest, relay races, art tent (for the kids), perennial plant sales, kids jumper, mini golf, crazy hair do's, raffle, Rib Fest with fresh cut French fries outside and, of course, the live auction. It was also approved that beer be offered as a beverage at MayFest. Jo Germain will check on all of the legalities and with the City about ordinance laws before we are able to offer this as a choice. Tanya is currently looking for people to help with all areas of MayFest.

Parish at Large – Teri Skramstad/Jim Tilly –

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS: Trustee – Jason Pape has resigned as trustee. Fr. Jim will be appointing a new Trustee to replace Jason.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. The next meeting will take place April 23, 2009, 6:30 p.m., IC Education Conference Center.

Respectfully Submitted,
Theresa Skramstad - Secretary