

St. Luke Pastoral Council
Minutes – September 18, 2018

In Attendance: Fr. Joby Abraham, Nick Beckmann, Chris Boland, Patrick Bryant, Ken Crook, Tom Feick, David Fink, Mark Garza, Patrick Jendraszak, Bruce Konicek, Katie Kumler, Stan Kwiatkowski, Michele Marxer, Eileen O. Metzger, Joe Muldoon, Judy Palmer, Msgr. Schaedel, Eric Spohn, Pat Wachtel, and Jeff Whiting

Absent: Todd Moore and Dave Orlando

Pastoral Council Members attended 5:30pm Mass followed by light dinner to start the 2018-19 term.

Call to Order – Judy Palmer

Opening Prayer – Nick Beckmann

Opening Comments/Welcome – Judy Palmer

Reading for Mass tonight had focus on sharing gifts that God bestows upon us, we have many unique gifts represented by members of Pastoral Council (PC) and look forward to growing together as a PC and sharing our gifts throughout the year to support PC, please share your gifts with our PC this year thru your participation in PC

May 2018 Minutes Approved

Action Item –Conflict of Resolution Item, submitting to PC members for review, discussion, and voting on during October meeting, using same language as adopted by school commission, some discussion ensued around language being used, Joe Muldoon to review and provide some suggested changes between now and next meeting, see attached language that was submitted to council in advance of September meeting (Pastoral Council By-Law Addition), this will be Action Item in October meeting

This meeting served as a retreat/first meeting, so format will alter slightly with limited report outs from various commissions, Msgr will lead us in some discussion.

Pastor's Overview – Msgr. Schaedel

Goal is to generate some discussion around leadership for Parish and some of the key goals Msgr. had established when coming to St Luke, but before that discussion ensues want to discuss some of the current issues facing our Church

Msgr. provided some comments/thoughts around the issues our Church has faced this summer – Cardinal McCarrick scandal, Grand Jury Report in PA, items in the news pertaining to Roncalli High School

Lively dialog ensued around above topics, some views varied around what the Church's response should be to address, most agreed that punishment for proven accusations should be swift and clear from the top of the Church (Vatican), more than just placing in life of penance and prayer

PC members were passionate in feelings

Discussion around 'talking points' on how to respond to people who ask us about scandals – no excuse for what has happened, but not necessarily related to celibacy, statistics show that similar issues exist in other churches where ministers can marry

Suggestion that our Archdiocese be as transparent as possible with communications around scandal

Don't condemn entire church for the responsibility of a relatively few number of people

Appreciation for discussion around these topics, need to continue the dialog and identify how we can learn from it and apply learnings here at St. Luke

Discussion around 'cultural ground' of church appears to be shifting, do we let cultural shifts change basic views and doctrines of the Church or is this the time to stand stronger on our Catholic doctrines

Msgr. referenced link during dialog which will be shared in future parish bulletin –

<http://actsapologist.blogspot.com/2018/08/the-philadelphia-report-by-numbers.html>

Discussion shifted to goals of our parish which Msgr. outlined as-

1. Increase number of parishioners receiving sacraments/confession/etc.
2. Increase participation in stewardship opportunities
3. Increase enrollment of grade school
4. Increase quality of non-school/religious education (children thru adult)
5. Increase number of religious vocations

Above goals were designed around the idea of being able to measure success

One addition Msgr. would like to see in addition of above goals is 'better formation', a lot of people don't understand core beliefs of Catholic Church, believes this is an area of opportunity within all Catholic church, but also here at St. Luke

Another goal is to continue capital plan, in process of working on feasibility study (to gauge willingness of parishioners to participate), seeking approval of Archdiocese, primary emphasis is around adding classrooms and meeting space
Evangelization is also continued focus for St Luke and PC

Commission and Council Updates

School Commission – Katie Kumler

Feasibility Study underway to study complete costs of sending child to St Luke (tuition, fees, etc.)

Evangelization Task Force – Bruce Konicek & Nick Beckmann

Stewardship Commission – Yo Grego/Katie Naughton

Faith Formation & Catechesis Commission – Pat Wachtel

Christian Social Action Committee – Ken Crook & Chris Boland

Finance Council – Stan Kwiatkowski

See attached Report

-school headcount down by 19 students

-hired new teacher(s) who have kids in school (where children receive discount as part of benefits package)

-off to slow start, looks like we are behind plan by about \$100k (researching what is driving this and how to address)

-Pre-School headcount is down slightly (below budget)

Parish Life –

Spiritual Life –

Business Managers Report – Patrick Jendraszak

-New staff person in office (finance) due to departure of personnel

-New volunteer coordinator – Ashley Dirks

-New maintenance person – Linda Finesy

-Still searching for new Spanish teacher

New Business-

-Jeff Whiting distributed prayers than we can use this year at beginning of each meeting which were distributed to PC

Respectfully submitted,
Nick Beckmann