

St. Francis Xavier  
Parish Council Meeting  
February 13, 2024

**Members Present:** Louis Leppert, Sandee Clark, Nancy Collett, Keith Meyer, Matt O'Connor, James Underwood, Chris Williams, Deacon Earl Baker

**Members Absent:** Fr. Dale Cieslik, Joey Followay, Gerry Gonzalez, Pattie Mattingly, Ed Scott, Paula Silliman

Meeting opened with prayer.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Chairman Lou Leppert directed a review of the November, 2023 minutes. Chris Williams moved the minutes to be approved as written; Matt O'Connor seconded; all in favor. Minutes were approved as written.

### **Pastor's Report**

Father Dale was absent due to recent surgery, so Deacon Earl reported in his place.

- Finance Committee Meetings take place at 5:30 pm on the following dates: Feb. 27, April 2, April 30, May 28, and June 25.
- St. Francis Xavier is holding a Region 9 Meeting on April 4 at 1:00 pm.
- There is an upcoming wedding (Grigsby-Murphy) on April 20 at 2:00.
- Future Staff Meeting dates are as follows: March 14, April 11, May 9 all at 3:00 pm
- Staff Planning Day is June 13 from 9am - 12pm.

Father Dale's other duties include:

- The Calzi-Haick Wedding on April 5 at Holy Trinity Church
- St. Meinrad Alumni Board April 14-15
- Priests' Personnel Board Meeting on April 18
- Priests' Support Group on April 23

### **Old Business**

Lou reported that the Pastoral Council of the Archdiocese meeting was rescheduled for March due to inclement weather.

### **New Business**

Several new Pastoral Staff members have been hired since our last meeting:

- Jennifer Sweeney – Parish Business Manager
- Wende Aubrey – Engagement Coordinator
- Cara Blake – Administrative Assistant
- Brian Rueve – Facilities

Gerry Gonzalez, member at large, will be moving to Florida soon. Our alternate, Lisa Reed, will replace Gerry

Dave Richardson will be stepping down as Youth Minister. Lisa Pence will replace Dave in that position.

It is currently under discussion that a member of the Facilities Board be added to Parish Council as a new ministry.

The following were reported as upcoming Parish Activities:

- March 5, 12, 19 are the dates for a Eucharistic Study Series called "This is My Body," facilitated by Paula Silliman, Billy Blake, and Earl Baker. These sessions are free of charge.
- March 9 is the Men's Lenten Retreat from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. The speaker is Tom Malewitz, a Spalding University Professor of Theology, and the theme is Forgiveness.
- The Women's Retreat will be in March.
- March 9 will be the date of our First Communion mass.

Sandee Clark reported that the Community Garden group usually receives money from Parish Council for supplies, but this year the Women's Club is donating \$500 to them, so no money is needed from Parish Council.

James Underwood reported that the Cemetery Cleaning Crew is in need of money for supplies to spray weeds, sow grass. He will work with Bobby Grace and Bryan Rueve to make this a formal request.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Administration**

Chris Williams gave an update on the Taste of St. Francis. He stated that over 200 people attended and 2,460 raffle tickets were sold. The winners of the drawing were Susan Knoppe (\$10,000), Grace Pawsat (\$500), and Truitt Underwood (\$500).

The New Year's Eve Dance was well attended.

Campus signs have now all been installed.

Weather permitting, flashing extensions on the Xavier Center will be installed to correct leaking issues at no cost.

Small repairs were made by TFS to repair sinking concrete issues at the church and RE building entrances.

Lenten Fish Fries will start this Friday and continue through March 22. The Knights of Columbus are asking people to donate canned goods for Community Ministries at the Fish Fries this year. There will be a \$50 gift card for the drawing winner. Participants earn one drawing for each can donated.

Yearly contribution letters have been printed and are in the back of the church with Stewardship Renewals. Those will be mailed home at the end of February when all families have had the opportunity to pick them up at mass.

The Crossroads Messenger will be delayed a few weeks because Gina Nelson, who helps with the newsletter, is currently deployed in the Middle East. It will also now be posted on the website and emailed to homes. Only limited paper copies will be in the gathering space of the church. This will save close to \$1000 in printing and mailing expenses.

### **Formation**

No report this month.

### **Parish Life**

Nancy Collette reported that Lauren Battcher is working on a Senior Dinner for St. Patrick's Day instead of Valentine's this year.

Group fitness is on Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. Between 30-40 people generally attend those classes in the Xavier Center.

Stations of the Cross will begin Friday, 23.

Discussions about the upcoming Summer Fest are beginning now.

### **Stewardship**

No report this month. Lou stated that this committee is looking for new members.

### **Worship**

No report this month.

The meeting closed in prayer.

**The next Parish Council Meeting is May 14, 2024 at 6:45 pm.**

Minutes submitted by Dana Steinmetz, Pastoral Council Secretary