

One in Faith Area Catholic Community

Meeting Minutes

Church of St. Mary, Fireside Room

November 12, 2024, at 7:00 PM

Opening Prayer

The regular meeting of the One in Faith Area Catholic Community was called to order at 7:00pm on November 12, 2024, by Lisa Wuertz.

Present

Kristie Revering, Jean Hemker, Richard Sand, Tatum Holdvogt, Jan Herzog, Lillian Arnzen, Lisa Wuertz, Mark Schoenberg, Herman Lensing, Carol Inderrieden, Marvin Meyer, Rosa Ramirez, Gary Feldewerd, Ashley Feldewerd, Maureen Schaefer, Father Mitch, Father Oswaldo, Father Dan, Char Meyer, Pam Pundsack, and Janet Dusek.

Approval of Agenda - consensus approval

Consultative Discussion - Pastors

Father Mitch Bechtold – The parish offices held a collaboration meeting and had a good meeting.

Father Dan Walz– nothing to report.

Father Oswaldo – nothing to report.

Parish Reports

- a) St. Mary – the parish has just invested in some new vestments, they were very reasonable and if your parish would like to use them, let Father Mitch know. The parish is in the process of sifting through the archives and cleaning things up. Lots of shredding was done and all records and offices are being centralized to Melrose. There is a Chalise that was found and was re-plated, it is 98 years old.
- b) Sacred Heart – nothing to report.
- c) Immaculate Conception – The Bishop was out for mass. Harvest supper is coming up in two weeks and the winter raffle is coming up.
- d) St. Rose of Lima – the elevator was broken and thankfully was repaired very quickly.
- e) St. Michael – There is a breakfast coming up November 24th. The parish is working on some projects and fixing some stained-glass windows.
- f) St. Andrew – CUF is doing a raffle during November. The drawing has already happened and there is a \$1,000 matching grant for this fundraiser. Mass attendance seems to be going up, recently they have been running out of hymnals.

- g) St. John – Painting will resume this winter. They had Oktoberfest and an animal blessing. They just got done with their 100-year anniversary celebration. They had a pancake meal, and it was a great fundraiser that raised \$16,000.
- h) Hispanic Community – They will have a mass for the Virgin of Guadalupe on December 7th. There will be a play to tell the story and dinner to follow the mass.

Old Business

- a. Play Progress – currently working on the location for this play. Hoping to do auditions in January and possibly have the play in March.
- b. ACC newspaper column and radio spot – this idea will be on hold for now. The thought is that we would provide community events for the public's information. Cost on KASM for 2-minute spot for \$20 per day. So, this would come out to roughly \$400 a month. The newspaper is \$100/week for a 3X5 ad.
- c. Publish list of ACC reps - it was discussed that this list should be posted somewhere for parishioners to access. There was discussion about this and it was decided that this information should be put in the bulletin every three months and two weeks prior to the ACC meeting.

New Business

- a. Divine Mercy Sunday – Lisa noted that they are hoping that this event could rotate and that another parish would step up to host this event. Lisa noted that they will be discussing this at the Spring Hill council meeting. Meire Grove is also a possibility, Lisa will let them know if Spring Hill passes on hosting the event. Kristie noted that they have notes and materials from the previous celebration for help and guidance moving forward.
- b. Bulletins and inserts – Maureen discussed the history of the bulletins and that it would be nice to have a unified plan for how inserts in the bulletin are handled moving forward. Father Mitch talked about discussion at the staff meeting. Discussion about the cost and how is that going to be handled and who should cover the costs. There were also concerns about parishioners being overwhelmed with the amount of information. It was noted that in the ACC bulletin, information should be listed under each parish. There was an ask for a unified decision on how/when inserts should be put in the bulletin. It was discussed that since we are working towards the continuation of bringing the parishes together that we should have one standardized bulletin for all the parishes. Father Dan noted that the inserts are tracked based on color and then the success of each avenue of advertisement. Father Dan noted that parish fundraisers and school information should take priority. The cost is minimal for the inserts. There was a rough guess of 24-40 inserts per year. Father Mitch's concern is that there may be fatigue if there are too many. There was discussion that the organization that wants the insert should have a volunteer come in to help office staff stuff bulletins. A decision was made that we go a year without limits and then have each organization pay for the insert and provide volunteers to stuff the information.

- c. Diocese update - CM Catholic magazine info (Bishop's letter, ACC planning, Bridge Builders) – Janet was in attendance from the Diocese and brought information regarding the All Things New, Honoring the Past, Inspiring the Future. There will be framework provided in upcoming months for the ACCs, it will most likely be early January when information comes out and then the ACC can work to create a plan for moving forward. This plan will need to be completed by July and the implementation will happen in January of 2026. Janet brought up that there were several parishes operating in a deficit. This number is 4 out of 5 parishes operating in a deficit. This only considers the plate and envelope money, not the fundraisers. There is also a website that will have all this information to access. The ACC care team will have some changes happening as well, unsure of the changes at this point. The Diocese will continue to be a resource in any way that they can. Father Mitch asked for ways that they would recommend as a way for our parishes to honor the past. Kristie asked that the Diocese give us clear information and rip the band aid off so that we can move forward and plan for what is to come. Janet noted that our ACC is doing a great job of working together and collaborating well.
- d. Social media: Website, Facebook, etc. – Father Dan noted that he brought it back to the finance council, most were supportive of moving forward with this, but not right now knowing that changes are coming. Father Mitch noted that if all parishes weren't on board that it would be a no for now.
- e. ACC name and logo – It was brought up that One in Faith name for the ACC is also used for Melrose cluster youth group activities, the Freeport cluster uses Tri-Parish uses One in Faith as well. There was discussion about if the name should be changed all together to avoid confusion. It was suggested that the four parishes come up with a new name for their faith formation. Father Mitch noted that their faith formation would work on coming up with another name for their program. Father Mitch suggested sending the logo to a graphic designer to have it adjusted as needed.
- f. Adult Faith Formation opportunities – 33 Days Morning Glory retreat, Theology on Tap, and other faith formation.
- g. Lisa extended her gratitude for all the outgoing members dedication and hard work. It was decided that Pam and Amy would work together to coordinate taking notes.

Agenda for Next Meeting

- a. New Members

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm by Lisa Wuertz. The next meeting will be at 7:00pm on February 11th, 2024, at the Church of St. Mary.