**St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church**

**Transfiguration of Our Lord Mission**

**Parish Pastoral Council Meeting**

**Council Members**

Fr. Johnson 859-391-2098 Deacon Mike Keller- 859-485-1488 Jeff Fremin- 502-525-6882 (6/19)

Don Wright-502-514-1033 (6/18) Kathy Bieger-502-525-1780 (6/19) Jim O’Neill-859-948-9770 (6/19)

Jeane Shepherd 502-662-2661 (6/19) Alan Harsin 502-649-3707-(6/20) Brian Frye-502-419-1768-(6/20)

Eloy Fuentes-859-652-4382 (6/20) Tom Buchanan-502-682-6523-(6/18)

Minutes

**August 8, 2017**

**Call to Order:** Jeff Fremin

**Opening Prayer:** Father Johnson

**Members Present:** Jeff Fremin, Don Wright, Father Johnson, Jim O’Neill, Alan Harsin, Jeanne Shepherd, Kathy Bieger, Brian Frye

**Review/Approval of Minutes:** Corrections were of the minutes made. Don making motion to accept the minutes and Tom seconding.

**Old Business:**

Buildings and Grounds

* Bids on Parish Hall floor –Don said the floor is in process of being complete.
* Bees-There are no bees inside the church. The bees are in the rafters. The beekeeper will take the bees out free of charge. It is yet to be decided if we remove the roof or go through the ceiling. Jeff said that we will have to clean it out so there is no residual smell of bees. No action will be taken at this time. Father Johnson, Don and Eloy will continue to investigate.
* Beautification-Eloy is going to get some helpers but has not been able to arrange it yet. Kim is looking for someone to trim the bushes that will do it free of charge. This person has pruned the bushes in the past but it hasn’t been done for at least two years. Father said he will take care of cutting the bushes himself if Kim is unable to reach his contact. This issue will be tabled.

Litugy

* **Servers**-Terri Mounce has 65 children to send letters to ask for volunteers. Terri is just waiting on Father Johnson’s signature. There are 15 Hispanic children that are regulars. The high school students will be trained. Terri would like to find a way to offer a scholarship for 4 years of serving. The younger CCD students will be receiving training after school starts. The students will receive training once a month. Terri is meeting with Holly Frye to set up the expectations for training.
* The new servers’ robes will be available after August 20. Holly Frye is cleaning and ironing the robes.
* Father shared that the servers will be available for all Masses.
* Jim said that there is a possibility to have a $400 scholarship for students that serve all four years of high school.
* **Music**-Father asked people to volunteer for the choir at the previous Sunday Masses.
* **Welcoming**-Alan said he has spoken to the person that he wanted to help with welcoming committees. This person wanted to talk with their spouse. They haven’t answered yet.

**Hospitality and Outreach**

* **Women’s group**-Terri reported that approximately 20 ladies attended the last meeting. Currently, the group is learning about the variety of ministries. Terri believes that people are afraid that there will be too big a time commitment. Her hope is to share the variety of small tasks/ministries in which people can support the Church. Terri would like to have a ministry fair to let people know the work that is available. They will present to attendees and give them postcards which can complete and dropped in the collection basket.
* **Fr. Johnson Reception**
  + Announcement-The Announcement is in this week’s bulletin. It will be for August 20.
  + Food-Kristen Beck has ordered the donuts. Alan will pick them up. He will set up and have name tags. We will have separate name tags for Parish Council.
  + Fr. Johnson appeal-Father will speak about offering time for serving the church after communion. He doesn’t want to discuss it during Donut Sunday. Father has asked that CCD class be informal that day. Jeff asked what is a good way to ask for people to volunteer for ministries? Don said we need a general list asking for name phone number. People can be asked what special skills or talents that they can offer the church. Alan liked Terri’s approach to asking people to do small tasks. It is important to ask people to do something they do well and not ask too many times. Jim said that we need to make sure we are addressing the people on Saturday. Father agreed that we need to have fellowship to bring people together. Jeff asked what could we do for the Saturday, August 19? Don said we can have the lector announce for Saturday. Jeanie suggested that we provide pizza. Alan said we just need an estimate of how many people. We could provide soft drinks. Father said we can have some of the Hispanic group to help set up. Don said there are typically 45 people at Mass. Jeanie believes we will get approximately 20 people. For Doughnut Sunday we typically get about 30%. Jeanie suggested we plan for 30 people.
  + Sign up for specific tasks-Father will take about this during Mass

**Hispanic Community** Update-August 20 Mass will be celebrated at Point Park at 12:00. Jeff expressed how the Hispanic community likes to have the whole church community to attend. Father agreed that we should welcome everybody. The newspaper has it printed for 11:30 but Father feels this will not be a problem.

**New Business:**

* **Parish Vision**-Jeff felt since this is a new council we need to look at what we need to do to have a thriving parish. Jeff asked for each person to think and share. Jeff envisions many people stepping up to do small jobs as needed. Don would like to see more younger people coming into the church. We have only had one new family coming into the church in the last two years. Our parish is dying off. We struggle with loyalty, donations, willing wealth to the church. Father said he supports the servers group to build that attachment to the church. It will slowly build. Jim said the Synod document is about bring youth back to the church. The Pope said we have to change to get the children back to the church. Jim would like to see lively music and a celebratory Mass. Tom expressed that we need to provide fun and social activities for the youth. Father shared that when he was in France that parishioners were not bringing their children to the church and the children were not staying with the Church. We need to help parents realize that bringing the children to Church provides a foundation. That will encourage them to belong to the Church. Alan shared that we need have the center aisles and side aisles joining Mass. We are all there for each. Kathy believe that we need to focus on more fellowship, outreach, working with youth. Brian wants our church to be the most inviting place to worship in town. Brian wants our visitors to wish they were part of our parish. He wants it be more welcoming. Jeanie wants to see the Liturgy to be something that everyone participates in. There is more inclusion of youth with Jacob Mounce playing. The youth choir playing. Jeanie wants the music to be lively. To get the young people into church we need to work on the music. Jeff shared that with prayer and guidance of the Holy Spirit we can work on these goals.
* **Communication ideas**-Jeff asked if there are things we are not doing now. Alan said that we would benefit from a plan. Facebook has been a positive addition but it doesn’t work for all things. Jeanie said at another parish they used a One Call system for immediate communication. Jim said with that the newsletter it become unclear what we wanted to communicate. Jeff agreed that we might want to look into doing a communication plan. Alan stated that we should have a long term planning calendar. Tom shared that this is how CCD approaches it. Alan suggested that part of Parish Council time be working on a planning calendar at each meeting.
* **Wi-Fi in Parish Halls Downstairs**-What would the cost be for a Wi-Fi extender? Don shared that we have Wi-Fi in the building. Father said we can give password to leaders. Brian said we can do a second router. Brian said he would work on that if the council decides. Jeanie agreed that Wi-Fi would be good to use for RCIA. Brian will test to see if the Wi-Fi can be accessed downstairs.
* **Adult Formation**-tabled

Parish Council will start meeting on the 1st  Tuesday of the month

**Jeff asked for ideas for next meeting agenda**

**Diocesan report**

Jim will be sharing theSynod document “Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment” in the future. The focus of the document is youth is the priority of the church. Jim shared that the diocese is checking that all parishes have updated by-laws. We are okay because we are updated on our bylaws.

**Pastor’s Comments:**

1. We achieved our target for DPAA. Transfigurations has not achieved its goal. Father asked that the amount required be reduced. There will be an appreciation dinner for DPAA August 24 at Reservations in Erlanger.
2. The tree in the parking lot has died. That will have to be removed.
3. Father suggested that there be a Men’s group.
4. We need to ask ourselves, “What can we offer to the Church?”
5. The date for Confirmation is April 30

**Closing Prayer:**

Father Johnston

**Adjournment: Jeanie motioned to adjourn and Alan seconded.**

**Next meeting will be September 5, 2017 at 6:30.**