

**St. Eugene Catholic Church
Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2008**

Members Present: **Father Joseph** **Father John** **Carol Ours**
Carol Adams **Jim Polito** **Mary Castleberry** **Gail Hernandez**
Bruce Tarnaski **Renee Nilles** **Jim Polito**
Meeting was opened at 7:00 pm
Father Joseph led the opening prayer
Minutes from November 27th were approved as amended.

Committees:

New Facilities:

On December 11th, we had a presentation from Fredrick Taggart. He is the president of Frederick & Emily's Church Renovations. He was here to offer his services and to give us some ideas. The presentation was open to all members of the Steering, Building and Liturgy committees. While his presentation was very good and gave us a number of things to think about, I am not sure we can afford to pay for his services.

We had a meeting of the Steering Committee following the presentation. We received an update from the building committee.

1. Packages have been sent to 11 architects. They have each been asked to submit bids by February 15th.
2. The Building committee will then review the submittals and check their references before narrowing down their list to about three architects to interview.
3. The Building committee will then conduct the interviews using an evaluation sheet that has been used in the past by Carlos Asencio (Member of the building committee and the chair of the St. Eugene Finance Council).
4. The Building Committee hopes to submit a recommendation of which architect we should hire to the Steering Committee by about May 1st.

We looked at the year-to date offertory records. They looked very good.

We postponed discussion on what we will be presenting to the diocese on January 28th, until our next meeting.

Larry Schug resigned as chairman of the Building Committee. We accepted the resignation and thanked Larry for all of his hard work. We decided not to name a new chairman until our next Steering Committee meeting. Sam Fish was named as the acting chairman until our next meeting.

Our next Steering Committee meeting was on Tuesday, January 8th.

1. After much discussion, Sam Fish was named as the new Building Committee chairman and he will replace Larry Schug on the Steering Committee.
2. The Feasibility Study was reviewed and edited. We need to present this document to the diocese on Monday, January 28th.
3. Offertory continues to look very good. We now have \$1,057,491.97 in the bank for the new facility. In the second quarter our average weekly offertory collections were:
 - a. October - \$7,872.38
 - b. November - \$8,835.63
 - c. December - \$9,395.80

Our goal is \$8,810 per week based on our current budget.

Elections:

It is time to think about parish council elections. Proposed timeline: February 9 & 10, Nominations on the weekend of February 16 and 17th. Elections held on March 29 and 30th since Palm Sunday and Easter are so busy.

We have about three or four seats to fill. Pictures will be posted in the church and the names will be included in the bulletin.

Soup Supper: Need someone to head up the Soup Supper on February 13th for our group. Russ has chili and will look into soup.

Lenten Supper dates and sponsors:

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------------|----------|-----------------|
| February 13 | Pastoral Council | March 5 | TYM |
| February 20 | Knights of Columbus | March 12 | Choir |
| February 27 | Ladies Guild | March 19 | Finance Council |

The meals will consist of soup, bread, and a drink, no dessert. Each group should plan to prepare 15 gallons of soup and the appropriate amount of bread, coffee, iced tea, and punch. All paper products needed for the meal will be in the kitchen.

Liturgical Committee: Meeting for February will be moved to March 18th.

Lenten Series – Soup Suppers on each Wednesday during Lent (2/13, 2/20, 2/27, 3/5, 3/12 & 3/19) followed by Lenten Service. {Fr. John to discuss with members of C.I.C.M. in Arlington, Va.}

Religious Education and Faith Formation:

Mary Castleberry reviewed the minutes of their last meeting. (see attached)

Next meeting is scheduled for May 5th at 7:00.

Family Life: Prayed, watched movie, Novena. The committee will provide refreshments and meet on 2/9 for Father's presentation on Dreams. Bruce honored Father's Birthday on 1/17 by providing refreshments after the meeting.

Parish Community Spirit: Bruce is handling refreshments for Aurora while she is out of town.

Buildings and Grounds: John Mitricska was not present at the meeting. Father reports that he comes to a weekday mass and helps repair items at the church. He has repaired lights at the statue, mens' room and other areas. Three new HVAC units were installed in the church by Quality Control Systems and should be energy saving. The education building units will be replaced this spring.

Evangelization: Facilitators' meeting on 2/15. Good response to the pulpit plea to head up neighborhood groups. The facilitator's training for Disciples on the Journey was held on 1/15. Sign up weekends: January 26/27 and February 2/3. Tables will be set up showing the day and time for each session so there will not be crowding. Two facilitators will work the tables to answer questions and hand out books. 150 books were ordered which is an increase over last year.

Safe Environment: Safe Environment position needs to be filled. We need to train adults who work with the Youth Choir. Mary will get a date for Joe for March training.

Food Festival: Last bill paid last week. Turned over to the parish about \$40,000.00 to the Food Festival Savings Fund. Retained \$10,000.00 as seed money for next year's festival. Could be used for other needs if needed but would like to make sure that it is designated. Parish Council donated a portion of the proceeds from FF to Fellowship of Churches to give back to the community that supported us. \$1,000 will be donated to the Fellowship of Churches from the Food Festival Savings Fund mentioned above.

Social Ministry: Carlos Alvarez was not present. Ruth wants to return to this ministry. Father would like to see 3-4 meetings per year.

Stewardship: Proposed dates for the Sunday brunches for 2008: 2/17, 5/18, 9/14, 11/16. BAA will be announced on 1/20. Carlos Asencio will coordinate the Hispanic BAA \$45,498.00 increase of about 6,000 which we surpassed last year.

Hispanic Ministry: Guadalupe celebration culminated on 12/12. Some complaints from neighbors to the police about the noise at 5:00 am. Las Posadas were held the following week which dramatize the search of Mary and Joseph for a place to stay. Christmas masses were overflowing with folks standing outside. Uriel Valles is the new director of the charismatic group. A new director will start developing additional activities for the youth. The Hispanic choir will participate in the MLK breakfast. The Lenten activities will follow a shortened Religious Education program. Father John will leave in February for his home and return in May.

Youth Ministry: Gail reported that the Pancake Breakfast will be on 3/1, Brunswick Stew on 3/15, Easter Egg Hunt and refreshments on Easter Sunday. Fees for retreats have increased to \$95.00. YES group will lock-in this weekend in the church. They will also participate in the Disciples on the Journey. Kids are interested in attending the Hockey Game. Tickets are \$25.00.

Knights of Columbus: Basket of Cheer won by Steve Sledge, good profit. Kof C will consider a donation to the Fellowship of Churches. Superbowl chili will be sold after the masses prior to the Superbowl. Hockey Game 2/16. Phil Tarnaski will coordinate tickets. Price is \$25.00. The Right to Life March was attended by four Knights from St. Eugene.

Ladies Guild: St. Eugene's Ladies Guild held their Christmas Party at Fargo's Steak House in Zebulon on Dec. 5. Approximately 45 attended the event. The Christmas Cookie Sale was held on Dec. 15-16. The ladies of the parish were very generous in responding to the request for donations of favorite Christmas cookies. On Dec. 19, the guild decorated the church and rectory for the Christmas season. Monthly meetings were scheduled for Feb. 5 and March 4 during the Lenten season. April 4 was selected as the date for our Tricky Tray. The Ladies Guild has replaced all server robes. Next project will focus on rectory which needs repainting, tiling back splash, dishwasher replaced, also vacuum cleaner. Carol reported that residents in the rectory need to use the dishwasher so that it does not break down. The LG have planned their soup supper and the salad luncheon on Wednesday of Holy Week.

Deanery Update: Met on 1/15 to plan the Lenten Penance service and schedule priests. February 10 is the next Deanery meeting.

Administration:

Saint Eugene Parish staff meets two times a month; the next meeting is 2/15. Father would like the minutes of the pastoral council on the website so that our parish will be informed of decisions and work of the council. The Council approved a motion to change the format of the meetings to approve minutes for the council business and then to omit any confidential information and approve those minutes for publication to the website. The deletions will be hand done on the evening of the next meeting, given to Gail to correct for the webpage.

Triangle East Fellowship of Churches: MLK celebration breakfast will cost \$2,600.00. We are honored that the Spanish choir was included. Fifty tickets were given to each member church for distribution to their congregations to attend the breakfast. We will also participate in the Lenten Reflection and Luncheon.

Finance Council: The Stewardship committee will remind parishioners of their pledge for offertory that were made last year. The council will wait until after the BAA. Increases were due in March of this year, however many folks have already increased their offerings.

Other: Father handed out The Word Among Us for Lenten Reflections: Be Renewed! The Knights will sponsor Patrick McLaughlin for the priesthood. Family Life Group sponsors a child from another country.

Next meeting: February 19, 2008 at 7:30.

February and March meetings will be on Tuesday due to soup suppers.

Closing Prayer and Happy Birthday was offered by Bruce

Attachments:**REFF Report****Religious Education: Trish Clemmer**

PK- Confirmation

180 students registered

8% over last year

22 confirmation

15 First Communion

1 in RCIC

1 who has been baptized and will go through Reconciliation and First Communion

Focus for lent: Rice bowl/Samaritan's purse with Buy a Heifer or BAIA with Congo.

Youth Retreat: Eric Goldman was supposed to get in touch with Trish on 1/7/08

Trish has made a back up plan (Vollmer Farm) if the big group plan does not work out.

ACC: Michelle Freer/Dan Strain

This committee will be disbanded as most of the initiatives have been implemented by other committees.

AFF: Marguerite Ambrozevitch

Attendance down quite a bit this fall from last 12-15 first session, 7-8 second session.

Starting back in April. Each Sunday will have a different liturgy topic and tie it to the building program. The diocese recommends that there be some liturgical education with the building program.

Repeat of the Marian Series during May on Saturdays or weeknights so that more folks who are involved in Religious Education and choir can attend. Tentatively scheduled for 5/31.

Marguerite will develop a flyer to invite parents.

Confirmation: Carmen Rodriguez

Trish shared for Carmen: 22 students enrolled in English
Candidate interviews on 3/2, Confirmation on April 8.

Cursillo: Beth Adams

2-15 English folks per month

After the meetings, both English and Hispanic meet together. Per cursillo phase,
Group after 10:30 fizzled, after 8 am mass about 4-18 folks participating. Feedback: like the
faith sharing Sundays and it gets them through the week and guides their ministry during the
week. The group prays for RCIA.

Disciples on the Journey starts the Sunday before Ash Wednesday and will complete by Palm
Sunday. There will be training for the facilitators January 15th.

Gail requests copies of the sign up sheets and facilitators so she can answer questions.

RCIA: Carol Ours

Six in RCIA in various stages. Last year we had six, before that three and before that 12.
Barbara is relocating to Tennessee, Carol is retiring so she is giving advance notice that we will
need to find someone to take over. RCIA is very selective in who they “recruit” to be a sponsor.
They really need to be living their faith. Carol will include “sponsor responsibilities” in her
blurb.

The letters “RCIA” stand for the “Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults”. The RCIA process is a
series of carefully planned stages, marked by liturgical rites in the presence of the whole
community, in which adults come into full communion with the Catholic Church. These adults
must be at least 17 years of age and have not been baptized or who are Catholic but have not
received all the sacraments.

Classes are scheduled on Sundays at 9:10 am – 10:20 am.

Catechists are Barbara Alston and Carol Ours.

YES: Laura Doherty and Dan Strain

14 members have joined, 11-12 regular attendance, meets bi-weekly. Would like to participate in
Disciples on the Journey and may meet each week during Lent.

Lockin in rooms 4/5 on January 18th at 8:30. God Can (When you can't, God Can)

Challenge Retreat coming up.

TYM: Gail Hernandez

10 kids graduated out of TYM last year. 12-14 new kids, confirmation, and kids who joined this
year. 28-30 kids come each time. 22 Back to Earth Camping Trip (got rained on), helped
Knights with spaghetti dinner, Knightdale Christmas parade, 18 participants in the TYM mass.
Soup suppers will be scheduled this week and they will help out. Pancake breakfast, Brunswick
stew, About six kids attended both Connections retreat and Search Retreat, 6 kids trained as
table leaders and facilitators.

BIG John 6:45 scheduled for 9/26, 27, 28 2008. Food Festival is scheduled for the weekend
before, and the Back To Earth is scheduled for the second weekend in October.

Planning meeting on 1/20 with the kids to plan the rest of the year.

Beth Adams shared about a brown bag program. Volunteers prepare hot meals twice a month
and serve it at Moore Square. They also prepare brown bag lunches for needy in downtown
Raleigh. Father suggested that Beth find out when Mary Beth could present to our TYM and
YES groups. Possible date is 2/3 for the presentation.

The meeting was adjourned.

Father gave tickets to the MLK breakfast on Monday, 1/22 at Wendell Baptist.

Father closed the meeting with a prayer.