

St.Stephen Pastoral Council Meeting

August 18, 2022

Opening Prayer: Father Greg Oligschlaeger opened the meeting with prayer.

Present: Father Greg Oligschlaeger , Danny Sims, Eric Keller, Doug Orf , Carol Hagan, Matt Hays, Deacon John Watkins, Rose McNally , and Emily Gares

New Business:

- Chair Doug Orf welcomed Deacon John Watkins and new council members Emily Gares and Rose McNally .
- Father Greg explained how the parish council works through a consensus model and fielded questions about how this works. New council members will be supplied with a copy of the Pastoral Plan and also a copy of the council bylaws if they exist.
- Nomination of officer positions: Matt Hays, Chair, Eric Keller, vice president, Carol Hagan, Secretary
- Knights of Columbus are ordering 20 books on the St. Joseph Consecration and when they have completed their study these books will be placed in the back of church for parishioners to use.
- Rose McNally gave a picnic review:
 - The food warmers didn't keep food hot this year. Mark McNally will try to repair it.
 - There were some glitches in the food delivery system for the carry outs-too many people come in the back door and it creates a bottleneck. Next year a window with a sliding screen or magnet screen will be utilized to pass the deliveries through. The back door will be locked. The fried chicken will also be delivered to a similar sliding screen or magnet screened window on the north side of the gym.
 - It was noted that politicians attending the picnic felt awkward that they weren't allowed to give speeches as in the past. Father Greg clarified that politicians are welcome to attend the picnic, wear their election shirts and visit with people attending the picnic, but that no speeches would be given as this could lead to people giving speeches on the Church steps that support laws and policies not in line with Catholic moral teaching. It could

create a photo op in that in this cyber world that could be embarrassing or used against the Catholic Church..

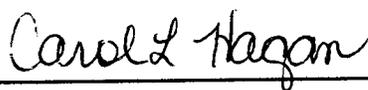
- Father Greg shared some emphasized the need to refer to our parish and Church as St. Stephen Church rather than Swinkey Church. Articles about the Swinkey Picnic in the July 13, 2020 and July 20, 2022 Lake Gazette are good examples of how our parish and church can be portrayed.

Pastor's Report:

- Father Greg reminded the council that Father Stephen Jones will be at both parishes this coming weekend to share information about what it means to be a stewardship parish. Giving of ourselves is the main focus of this model. He will then have a follow up meeting with details on Tuesday August 23, 2022 at 6:30. The meeting will be held in the K.C. Hall. Both parishes are invited to attend this meeting.
- Father Greg talked about the Deanery meetings that are held four times a year in Columbia. The next meeting will be held on October 18, 2022 at 6:30-Lady of Lourdes, Columbia. Carol Hagan and Rose McNally will attend this meeting. The focus of this meeting will be discussion about our Pastoral Plan and implementation of the plan. Parishioners will have an opportunity to fill out a survey regarding the plan, its implementation and possible changes.
- We will proceed with plans for a Virtus training to be held in the gym after mass. A sign up sheet will be available to determine a number attending.
- The parish finance committee has allocated \$20,000 for repairs to the rectory. The repairs will include refurbishing the bedroom area and bringing the laundry up out of the basement, so that it's more accessible. Father Greg discussed the need to keep the rectory updated so that it might be possible for future retired priests to live in our rectory.
- Father Greg thanks Emily Gares for her help in preparing the Diocesan report.

Next Meeting: October 20, 2022- at 7PM we will be looking at year 3 of our Parish Plan

Respectfully submitted,



Carol Hagan, Secretary