

St. Gabriel the Archangel Church
Approved Parish Council Meeting Minutes September 19, 2018

Members Present: Eric Schrenger, Kathy Stivers, Brittney Brown, Mark Frederick, Evie Yaden, Deacon Stephen Bowling, Donna Hansen, Jay Blair, Dave Gnadinger

Members Absent: Miranda Wantland, Deacon Mike Fitzmayer, Lauren Gunter

Special Guests - Amanda Wolz, Marcia ^{Bryce} Bright (representing Admin committee on behalf of Maria Dawson)

Opening Prayer – presented by Kathy Stivers

Closing Prayer – presented by Kathy Stivers

New Business/Updates:

- Lauren Gunter will no longer be able to be a member of Parish Council. We wish her the best on her new adventures and will miss having her as a member.
- Amanda discussed the Catholic Services Appeal. This has been largely internally/staff run but the want is to involve more people. Idea is to remember to be the “saints next door” and to try to reach out to more people in Archdiocese. The CSA “benefits individuals, clergy, families, parishes and schools through the work of archdiocesan agencies and office. For example, 1500 Catholic school educators attende dover 67 professional learning session.” Some of our teachers were involved in these classes. The ministries and Archdiocese helped 67 women who were part of human trafficking. Migration and Refugee services also benefited from this, see below for more discussion. Goal is \$3.9 million and 394 households; church goal of \$86,400. Want is to create an Appeal team, which would include at least 1 Parish Council member, that will pray for CSA success, coordinate timelines, and work through social media.
- Marcia and Amanda discussed the proposal of migration and refugee services through our Parish. A potential program that relocates families in the US. We are one of the top cities for refugee relocating and have recently had Congonese persons relocated here. Families have had to flee from countries to refugee camps where they await relocation. The US government and UN have seperate strict process for approving relocation of refugees and these screening process take many years. The process of getting into the US is extremely difficult and only 1% usually make it. Once approved through screening processes, Catholic Charities has ability to assist families; including finding them homes jobs, paying 3-6 months rent, utilities, food, etc. There are 2 basic options for involvement:
 - 1.) Create a Sponsor group to assist with relocation process, transportation, social , furnishing apartment, providing toiletries, etc. Goal here is to provide family with ability to be self sufficient after the 3-6 month commitment. As an example, St. Agnes commits to 1 family per year, with a sponsor group of about 60 people
 - 2.) Idea to take 2 of the 4 houses we own and rent them to Catholic Charities to use for refugee families. Our property management group, Robert Massey, would handle the properties. There are 2 sides here, the business side and helping others side. We would have ability to use all of our network, including St. Vincent de Paul. Many questions raised at this option though, including there already being a clearly laid out plan for this land, will this be a long or short term commitment, etc.

Decision made to discern and discuss options before making a final decision. Will request more info from St. Agness regarding their process and experience. Will also request more info from Catholic Charities and how they handle these processes, for example renting, etc.

Ongoing Items

- Discernment Process: Deacon Stephen provided final report handout (followed up by digital file via email) showing status updates. Deacon Stephen requested us to review information and provide feedback, also to take time to thank Therese Brennan for all the hard work she has put into this process. Discernment Committee is to meet sometime in October and Parish Council will discuss updates at November meeting. Groups need to be “un-merged” and renew focus on service/outreach and faith/formation.
- Strategic Planning: Tink Guthrie, Father John and Eric met to discuss ideas/tips regarding Strategic Plan and creating new one for next 4 years; Tink’s feedback included using a smaller scale survey, using discernment ideas and discussions in new plan. Discussed doing pre-work between now and Christmas, then taking Feb through June to look at starting steps for new plan. Idea proposed to decrease term, for example 3 years. Ideas up for discussion.
- Retreat - looking at mid November/early December. Eric will send out a survey to all PC members to see what dates would work best for everyone. Will attend mass, have team building exercise(s) and discuss finalization of Bylaw revisions. Considering having retreat at Ministry House. Will confirm date at next meeting.

Committee Reports:

- **School** - See below
- **Faith In Action** - See below
- **Worship** – No report at this time
- **Administration** – Update provided at meeting: Committee now fully staffed. Should have a representative at each future Parish Council meeting. Current focuses: Multipurpose Redesign Plan, Safety and Security Development plan, St. Gabriel Park development plan: drafted request for proposal, 6 architect/engineering firms responded
- **Finance** - No report at this time

Proposed topics for next meeting:

- Update regarding discernment on Refugee proposal
- Committee Reporting update
- Further discussion on Retreat-date finalization
- Bylaw revisions review

Next Parish Council meeting – will be held on October 10th 2018 at 6:30pm in the Ministry House; opening prayer will be presented by Donna Hansen and closing prayer will be presented by Eric Schrenger.

Submitted by Brittney Brown, Secretary of Parish Council



Date: September 19, 2018

Committee: School

Submitted by: Kathy Stivers

RECENT EVENTS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- 68 students in grades 4-8 qualified for the SHINE program. SHINE is an enrichment program for the schools in our region. Scores on Terra Nova determine which students qualify.
- 43 seventh graders qualified for the Duke Tip program. This is a talent search for gifted students. Students score in 95th percentile on standardized achievement tests to qualify.
- 600 students are enrolled in grades K-8 this year. 87 students are enrolled in Pre K.
- Student orientation was held for children in grades 1-8 who are new to our school. This was facilitated by Student Council.
- Meet your teacher night was very successful. 16 parish committees were represented.
- Signs were placed in yards of new families to welcome them to St. Gabriel.

UPCOMING EVENTS/PLANS:

- PTSO Walkathon will be September 28. Money raised will be used for Green Ribbon Initiative, blinds for classrooms, and supplies for teachers.
- We will be having an open house for prospective families in October.
- We will be working with the Kentucky Center for School Safety to do an assessment of our school.

- Instructional Leadership and Innovation Teams have been developed and will meet monthly.
- Professional Learning Communities will be meeting monthly. Lower grades are by grade levels. Upper grades are by departments.
- Faculty Prayer Groups are meeting monthly.

NEEDS/REQUESTS FROM PARISH COUNCIL:

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Date: 2018 September

Committee: Faith in Action

Submitted by: Therese

RECENT EVENTS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

RCIA –

- We're evolving into a large group this year! Exact numbers will be available by the end of September (hopefully).
- Sponsors – this year we had a great response from people willing to be sponsors. It remains to be seen if we'll have enough. Note: Some people already have someone from the parish whom they wish to be their sponsor.
- Meet & Greet held Aug 26 went very well.

Annulment Work: Continues

Respect Life Committee (From Peggy Boone)

- Plans are being developed for the October Right to Life month. I've encouraged leadership in St. Gabriel's Respect Life committee to consider participation in some of the events sponsored by the Archdiocese.

SVdP Report (from Judy Hellmann) - Due to changes in structure, this is it's own report. See the end of this report.

Fern Creek Highview United Ministries aka FCHUM

- Hunger Awareness Dinner on Sept 22 at Summit Heights United Methodist Church

- Purpose of the Community Hunger Walk is to raise awareness about the increasing level of hunger in our community. Monies collected is divided between FCUHM and Dare to Care. All food items collected go to FCUHM.

Catholicism 101 – Canceled. Only two people registered and they are willing to wait until next semester. A couple of adults needing / wanting Confirmation will be participating in RCIA. Note: The Catholicism 101 works well for adults wanting Confirmation if they have been actively participating in the Church and celebrating sacraments. If they are uncatechized or need support to grow in faith, RCIA is the better option for them.

Facebook Live – Anna Peterson, Youth Minister and I decided to wait until the Facebook merge occurs. This is combining all Facebook accounts under one St. Gabriel Facebook page.

UPCOMING EVENTS/PLANS:

Financial Peace – Class begins Sept 6th. Parishioner Chad Cureton is excited about facilitating.

Funeral Planning Workshop – Plans are evolving for the held Tues & Thurs, Oct 16 & 18 workshop.

Men's Retreat – Facilitated by Gary Montgomery this will be held Oct 12-13 at Mount St. Francis.

NEEDS/REQUESTS FROM PARISH COUNCIL:

St Vincent De Paul Council Report for September, 2018

Report Written by Judy Hellman

There have been some changes for SVDP this quarter. The attorneys of the National Society of St Vincent de Paul in conjunction with the attorneys for our Bishops, decided that they wanted each of our SVDP conferences that are attached to parishes to remain as before -- a viable part of the parish community doing outreach work and supported by the parishioners; however, **it was directed that we were to manage our funds independently from the parish accounting dept.** Before, all our donations went into the large parish operating account with each parish group like us having our own sub account. When we needed funds to help others, we requested a transfer out of that account and into our checking account which also was under the supervision of the parish accounting office. We accounted to Pam for every check we wrote with detailed email requests from the requesting agencies or churches for the funds we gave and/or our president's approval to spend the money when there was not a chain of emails but rather a phone call for a request. Invoices were also sent to back up any operating expenses etc. The church allowed us to hold a balance of 2500 in checking and when it dropped much below, the treasurer requested money to be moved from the sub account into the checking to bring it back to 2500 to continue operation with documentation for how that money had been spent.

The attorneys decided for reasons unknown to the treasurer at this time, we would handle our own money in a totally separate account no longer under the church. We now have the same checks and balances and supervision in place that we had to work out on our own. Supervision and auditing was an appreciated help that we received from Pam's office. As always, no money is now handled or spent without two individuals being involved and detailed emails and back up paper work being saved for an audit. This has been our policy and will continue on.

The transition took a while to get the new bank account opened and to get all the money transferred from the church accounts to our new one. We had to close operations in August to handle the transition so we gave out no funds and Fern Creek Highview United Ministries whom we support regularly each week, held their requests until we could write checks in Sept. We are now opened for business and in the **first week of September have already spent \$2593.58** for assistance to Fern Creek ministry and others in the area who needed our help. At the writing of this report on Sept 8th so far this month we have given money to assist 46 families for a total of 114 people. **Out total balance is now \$10,022.67**

We are quite blessed to have such generous supporters at St Gabriel. Some churches around us run quite low on funds and people have to be turned away or the churches are limited in what they can give. We are grateful to be able to assist in the needs of our community and to continue this work of mercy in the name of St Gabriel's conference of SVDP.