

Wednesday August 19, 2009
Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Opening Prayer: Kevin Dean

Present: Father Bill, Kevin Dean, Marilyn Wickel, Mike Mastro, John Cole, Phyllis Baker, Eileen Papson

Absent: Pam Casserly, Bill Harrison, Roger Malone

Guest: Dr. Rose Fay met with the Pastoral Council to provide an update of the religious education program. The religious education board is looking for new members. They are investigating new options for children's religious formation. There is a possibility of Whole Family Catechesis with an option of a summer program. This would save the cost of renting Valley View. The current Handbook for parents was reviewed. Adult education was discussed along with the lack of participation. Dr. Fay sees the need to promote the communal life of the parish: people gathering for study, outreach, formation and fun.

Pastor's Corner: (Father Bill)

Father Bill showed a video made by Rob Bell. Rob has a series of videos that explore the teaching of Jesus with a fresh approach.

Father Bill invited all council members to attend a "Vibrant Pastoral Council" workshop on September 19, 2009. "10 Signs of a Vibrant Parish" was distributed. It was decided that each month a different sign would be discussed as to how St. John's compares.

Father Bill mentioned that he would like to form a committee that would assess if St. John's meets expectations.

Business Items:

An updated contact list was distributed.

A letter from Earl Roberts inviting past pastoral council members to be a part of the Connexions Ministry was reviewed.

While discussing the council's "vision for the year", the five year plan was mentioned and the council's roles and responsibilities as it relates to it. As each ministry presents to the council, it will review the 5 year plan to see if that ministry is on target. Next meeting the council will review its role and how to evaluate its progress and actions.

New Business:

The Lectio Divina method of prayer was introduced. The council will use this method starting with the October meeting. Marilyn has agreed to lead the prayer in October.

The Parish Picnic will be October 4th, the Food Fest October 23rd.

A variety of topics were discussed as to a topic for the fall Town Meeting. No decisions were made.

Next meeting: to be determined. An additional meeting may be needed in September, due to the Vibrant Pastoral Council meeting on the 19th.

Closing Prayer: Kevin Dean

Minutes prepared by Eileen Papson on 8/23/09