

MINUTES

St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Faith Community Pastoral Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting Monday -- November 13, 2006 -- 7:00 p.m.

Present: Don Whitlatch, Dave Johnson, Norah Caton, , Sandra Messer, Cara Husk, Mike Swanson, Bill Keilen, Mary Marsh, Amy Ortiz, Kathy DiNolfi, Ryan Whitlatch, Dolly Echieverria, Marcia Kennedy, Adrianna Amato, Butch Ekstrom, David Runyan, Fr. Rick, Julie Schlarmann

Excused: Joseph Urban

Absent: Tanya Supenski, Bill Serva, Rosie Aldini, Casey Mahoney

Guests: John James, Paul Sandell

Opening prayer and reflection were led by members of the Stewardship Council.

Stewardship Council Presentation – Fr. Rick, John James, Paul Sandell

Council members heard a presentation about stewardship at St. Andrew the Apostle. The Stewardship Council was formed last spring. A calendar of stewardship activities was reviewed. Recent activities include: bulletin announcements; information featuring time, talent and treasure during liturgies; stress on Baptismal call and active discipleship; promotion of key ministries and minister recruitment; occasional speakers giving witness; major effort at development of resources and ministries in *Pastors Forming Pastors*; and a full schedule of second collections for various needs.

Pastors Forming Pastors Discussion – Butch Ekstrom

The *Pastors Forming Pastors* strategic plan from June 2001 was reviewed. Demographic information about parishioners was shared with the group. Butch pointed out a few items of interest:

- In 2003 there were 3,900+ households in the parish, in 2005 there were 3800+, in 2006 there 3,996.
- The parish serves nearly 2,000 additional households.
- The following are the geographical boundaries of St. Andrew the Apostle: from the juncture of Dobson & Pecos Roads -- north on Dobson -- to the juncture of Dobson & Elliot Roads; West along Elliot to its juncture with Price Road; then south along Price to its juncture with Warner Road; then west along Warner Road to its juncture with Rural Road; then from the juncture of Warner and Rural -- south on Rural Rd. -- to its juncture at Williams Field Road; then east on Williams Field to its juncture with McClintock Road; then south along McClintock to Pecos Road; then east to the juncture with Dobson.
- Nearly 80% of parishioners live outside the parish geographical boundaries.
- During late Summer 2006, there were 11,853 parishioners; 7,400 were adults, and 1,763 of those adults were involved in some kind of parish ministry -- which is a 24% involvement rate.
- The parish uses zero-based budgeting. In 2005, the budget was \$2.6 million, in 2006 it was \$1.942 million, and in 2007 it is \$2.26 million.
- There are seven ministry groups.
- Since 2001, parish staff have grown from 11 full-time to 16 currently and dropped from 24 part-time to 20 currently.

Butch indicated that it is important for the PAC to advise pastoral staff about key issues regarding the parish. A few comments and questions about the current strategic plan and a revised plan included:

- Are we creating a new document or updating the current one?
- A new strategic plan is necessary to stay current with the growth of the parish over the years.
- A new plan needs to be backed up by a strong communications plan.
- We must remember that this is an ongoing, spiritual activity.

- Would like to see something more definitive and less broad or something with more direction and more measurable outcomes.
- Need to develop a plan that can be continually updated instead of reinvented periodically.

ACTION ITEM: Butch will check into planning resources that the diocese may have as well as others nationwide.

Council members commented on the state of lay leadership in the parish:

- We have a highly skilled staff and excellent resources for support. Various adult enrichment classes have served ministers well.
- We need to do better with job succession in ministries. We've made progress over the last five years. The liturgical ministries are getting better with leadership succession.
- Would like to see a way to evaluate the life cycle of a ministry. When the goal of a ministry is met should it be disbanded? We also need to be careful since the ministries are mostly run by volunteers.
- Maybe every ministry needs an appendix which is tied to the strategic plan.
- There needs to be a set of criteria developed for new ministries.

Council members were asked to comment on an article about ministries published by the National Pastoral Life Center:

- Regarding the survey of distribution of lay ministers, it would be interesting to see how many are religious educators. This survey only included those who actually are paid, not volunteers.
- The average age of people involved in ministry is 45+.
- With declining clergy, what skills and talents will we need to sustain the parish as we would like?
- Do we ask volunteers to continue or do we hire more staff, such as a Ministry Director?
- Need to look at current departments and see how they are staffed.
- Regarding parish demographics, where are the families outside the parish boundaries actually coming from and why are they coming to St. Andrew?

Finance Update – Don Whitlatch

Although expected revenues were down by 14% in September, they seem to have rebounded in October.

Roundtable/Ministry Reports

- The BOG meeting reports will be published in association with the *Pastoral Pipeline*.
- Another Busy Person's retreat will happen this week.
- Fr. Vernon Meyer is offering another program about Luke's Gospel on November 14th, 28th and on another date yet to be determined in December.
- The Foster Family gathering will be December 19.
- Gifts for Baby Jesus will be collected December 24.
- The Habitat build had been postponed to January 20.
- The Good Samaritan food drive is this weekend.
- There is a planning meeting this week for the January 9th stewardship session.

PAC Comments (Plus/Delta) – Don Whitlatch

Positive outcomes of the meeting included good discussion.

The meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer by Fr. Rick.

Submitted by,
Don Whitlatch, Interim Pastoral Advisory Council Chairperson