

ACC Minutes – August 12, 2025
7:00–8:30 pm at St. Francis Xavier
Annunciation, Sacred Heart, St. Francis Xavier, St. Stephen
One in Christ -- Area Catholic Community

A. Welcome & Prayer (7:00-7:10)

1. Intro of attendee

- Attended: Althea Heim (SFX), Lisa Koll (SS), Fr Ron Weyrens (SFX/SS), Fr. Tom Koblach (SH/ANN), Jackie Popp (ANN), Shelly Pursley (SH), Kurt Stelten (SFX), Chad Braegelmann (SFX), Anita Stoering (SH), Don Burggraff (SFX)
- Not Present: Adam Vange (SFX), Anita Montag (ANN), Jason Prigge (ALL), Dana Howard (ALL), Jeanne Barnaby (SH)
- Visitors: Tom Offerdahl (SFX Pastoral Council & All Things New Planning Committee)

B. [06.10.2025](#) Review & Approval (7:10-7:15)

- Approved by: Kurt Stelten
- Seconded by: Anita Stoering

C. Updates of Committee Work (7:15-7:55)

1. Discipleship (Jackie Popp)

- S.M.A.R.T. Goal: Expand parishioner involvement and understanding in Stewardship by demonstrating stewardship gratitude for parishioners engaged in service ministries both in and beyond parish activities. See handout ([link](#)) for Event date/time/location/volunteer group celebrated in gratitude for their stewardship. Questions from parishioners are anticipated as these events move across each of our OiC parishes, and begin following the Mass time of that parish.
- Anita Stoering clarified that the events are for all ACC as well as the family of volunteers. We especially appreciate adult volunteers who mentor youth.

2. Young Adult (Jason Prigge)

- Bible Study continues to be great
- Mass and a Meal draws new Young Adults
- Volleyball Tournament had nearly 60 Young Adults. Will do again at SFX next summer.
- Bean Bag Tournament was soggy and smokey. Met a lot of new people, which was great!
- Getting ready for regular scheduled programs (Theology on Draft, Praise Nights, etc.). First Theology will be at Beaver Island on Thursday, September 11th, at 6 PM. Speaker is Adam Saltmarsh, "I Believe but I still Believe".
- Wyldlife: We are working on establishing a committee. Once this begins, we'll be more ready to provide a Wyldlife update to the ACC. Camp was extremely successful.
- Youth Ministry: There has been a ton of collaboration this summer between St. Stephen, St. Francis Xavier and Sacred Heart. Seems like this is an area of opportunity and growth.

3. Worship (placeholder)

4. Faith Formation (Kurt Stelten)

- No meeting since last ACC meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for September.
- Faith On Tap Event:
Held at Bad Habit in St. Joe on Sunday July 27th
There were roughly 50 people that attended this event.
Deacon Steve Paraja was the speaker.
He spoke about “hope lost / hope found”
His personal experiences (mother dying at a young age, time as a Chaplain on St Cloud Police force, his own battle with a heart attack).
Next Faith on Tap Event is scheduled for October 4th. Speaker and location are TBD.

5. Communications (Dana Howard) - Dana was not able to attend the meeting but provided an update via email.

- The ACC newsletter went out in July.
- Hopefully you are seeing the updates, articles, stuffers and Flocknotes about the All Things New Planning Process.
- We have switched the bulletin from being prepared in Publisher to being prepared in Canva. It has been a mostly smooth process. Jill Lieser, Becky Dingmann, Carol Hellman and Cindy Gans have been great about making the change. The “new” bulletin had a few cosmetic changes but the biggest change was in the background with the program we were using.

D. Pastoral Council Updates (7:55-8:10)

1. Annunciation (Fr Tom Knoblach)

- Pastoral Council meeting postponed due to All New Things Planning Committee.
- Jubilee Year: On September 27th, planning on having a bus tour some of the shrines in Central MN. Chuck Wocken working on organizing this event.
- Karen Handeland will be replacing Shirley Scapanski's position (Faith Formation Director).

2. Sacred Heart (Fr Tom Knoblach)

- Pastoral Council meeting postponed due to All New Things Planning Committee.
- Women's Retreat to be held in October 2025.
- Mission group returned from Alaska. Our ACC is thinking of donating a new tabernacle for 1 or maybe 2 parishes in Alaska.
- There are three new pastoral council members: Pam Leibl, Dennis Pursley & Rick Truex.

3. St. Francis Xavier (Fr Ron Weyrens)

- Fr Ron was on vacation. There was no Pastoral Council meeting since the last ACC Council meeting.

4. St. Stephen (Fr Ron Weyrens) - Lisa Koll provided update

- St Stephen Women's Bible Study will resume in October.
- September 1 cake donuts & coffee will be offered for workers setting up for the festival in the morning.
- St Stephen Cemetery:
 - The person who was going to fix the statues in the St Stephen cemetery will most likely not happen due to health issues. Instead St Stephen will have someone power wash the statues & then have them white washed. In addition they are looking to have the cross painted.

- There had been a request for permission to drill a hole in the cement ribbon for a pole/flag. It was decided only the military stars will be allowed to be put into the ribbons.
 - No update on parish Trustee.
 - Still trying to figure out how to replace the boiler. Looking at converting from steam to hot water.
- 5. All Parishes
 - Staff Enrichment: Staff from all of the parishes attended this presentation/meeting. Spoke about 4 of 5 languages of appreciation (quality time, words of affirmation, service & gifts). Touch was the language they didn't discuss.

E. Misc. (8:10-8:30)

1. Review accuracy of [2025 ACC Council Member List](#)
 - Replacements for:
 - Anita Montag replacing Chuck Wocken at Annunciation.
 - Dianne Blonigen (St Stephen) – Fr Ron needs to get in contact with Will Hellmann & find out if he will be replacing Dianne's position.
 - Bonnie Dick (note taker) - Still looking for a replacement.
2. [Minutes Contacts](#) review listing for accuracy
 - Shelly Pursley to send out the Minutes Contacts listing to the group & everyone should respond back to Shelly with any changes.
3. ACC Planning Process (Fr Tom Knoblach)
 - Town Hall meetings to be held on:
 - Tuesday, August 19 at St. Francis Xavier, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
 - Thursday, August 21 at Annunciation, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
 - Tuesday, August 26 at St. Stephen, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
 - Thursday, August 28 at Sacred Heart, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
 - At this time NOT proposing:
 - Closing sites
 - Less than 2 priests
 - Single central office
 - Plan on proposing:
 - Mass schedules
 - Things we could do better together
 - Governance
 - The goal of the Town Halls is to present the What, Who, When, and Why of the All Things New planning process, and to hear input from the parishes on the How or details of the plan the ACC Planning Committee will submit to the Bishop before January 1.
4. Next Meeting Tuesday, October 14th, at St Stephen

F. Closing [Prayer](#) (8:30)

Minutes submitted by Shelly Pursley

Opening Prayer

O God of Life,
we seek your guidance
as we face the reality
of transition and change.

Transition is a challenge and can be exciting
as we try to move with foresight into the future.

Change is a challenge to let go.
It takes courage and confidence to move toward a new goal.

Loving God,
give us open minds, kind hearts and clear vision
as together we look to a future in which we can still serve You.
Help us to plan with a "big picture" mentality
to seek diligently and generously
what is in the best interest of all.

May Jesus, our Shepherd and Guide,
lead us in ways that are right and good.

May Mary, Mother of our Church,
encourage our efforts
to listen and learn.

In the words of the prophet Micah,
may we "act justly, love tenderly
and walk humbly with our God."

Amen.

Closing Prayer

O Spirit of God,
we ask you to help orient all our actions
by your inspirations,
carry them on by your gracious assistance,
that every prayer and work of ours
may always begin from you
and through you be happily ended.

Amen.