

ACC Minutes – November 16, 2021
7:00pm, at Sacred Heart Church
Annunciation, Sacred Heart, St. Francis Xavier, St. Stephen
One in Christ -- Area Catholic Community

A. Welcome & [Prayer](#)

In attendance: Gary Koshiol (SFX), Tom Offerdahl (SFX), Deacon Joe Kresky (SH), Marie Pangerl (SS), Fr. Ron Weyrens, Fr. Tom Knoblach, Stef Rothstein (SS), Joan Krause (SH), Shirley Scapanski (Ann), Dianne Blonigan (SS) Jeff Brunn (SH), Leonard Popp (Ann)

B. 9/28/2021 Minutes [Review & Approval](#)

1. We will begin to meet every six weeks instead of on a monthly basis.
2. Minutes were reviewed.
3. Joan made a motion to approve the minutes, Tom second. Motion passed.

C. A.C.C. Planning Committee Transitions

[Transition inventory](#) -

- Dianne Blonigan was welcomed as a new member from St. Stephen, taking Chuck's Place.
- Tom Offerdahl stated that Mariah Jennissen from St. Francis Xavier Parish has expressed interest in both the ACC committee and the Stewardship Committee.
- Gerry Feld from Sacred Heart Parish Council has volunteered to take on the role on this council as the liaison. He will replace Jeff Brunn.
- Annunciation has not yet designated anyone because there were not enough people in attendance at the last meeting. Chuck Wocken will be taking the place of Jean Bemboom. Chuck is a trustee of Annunciation Parish. These commitments will begin in January, 2022.
- The Transition inventory is two pages. The first being the members when the committee first started and the second sheet is a document so we can see where everyone is at with the future committee. Many of the members currently listed have been on the committee for three years already. Bylaws state that each of the parishes are to have at least two people from each parish on the committee - One representative and one Parish Council member
- The question was asked if there might be a concern if some parishes have two and some have three representatives. Stef shared she did not see this as a concern. We don't come together with our own agenda. We need to have the BIG PICTURE mentality. We need to look at ways we can enhance our connections with one another.

Because we will begin meeting every 6 weeks our next meeting will be January 4, 2022 which will also be the beginning of the years members have agreed to be committed to. Each person was asked to state their commitment to be on the committee.

Stef - It would be wonderful to create other opportunities or ways for people to be inspired and want to be a part of this committee. I enjoy the brainstorming that takes place. When I leave the meetings I feel hopeful.

Jeff - we need to continue to cultivate people to be leaders and to step up. Each parish will need to look around and share with people about this committee and see who may be interested in coming on board. There are a number of people who have committed to one year and if that is the case, we need to start recruiting now.

Stef - when we meet on January 4th, we will see to it that we have the newest information available.

Fr. Tom - Asked if there is a narrative of where we started and where we are now? Something to share with the new people who may not be familiar with what has happened so far.

Joan - Each committee was asked to summarize what the committees have been working on. This might be a good start.

Stef - Father Tom - If you are comfortable, I could do a shared document with you, and if you wanted to type that and I can link the goals so that when it is sent out they would have all our summaries.

Dcn Joe - what has been accomplished and where we are moving forward. I could share information as well.

Leonard - Going back to the SMART goals would also be useful.

There was an overview of how the goals were set to inform the new members that were present. We wanted to stay transparent to everyone by informing them through their parish council, announcements in bulletins, the websites, and parish communications systems such as flocknote, etc.

Summary: Stef will update e-mail addressed to the contact list and will work with Fr. Tom is drafting a summary that will be sent out to everyone from the One in Christ G-mail account.

D . Updates of committee work

Stewardship -

Joan - The committee met in October. Reviewed what's next. There will be an ACC wide Mission scheduled on October 2 & 3. Because of another event happening for Fr. Tom and Fr. Ron, this may need to be revisited. With the Synod Consultations happening, that too will possibly be a way for all the parishes to collaborate in some way. Then there is still hope for a social gathering to build community. Suggestion possibly in January or February, however, that is coming soon.

There was a committee that was working on a "progressive Dinner" event in the very beginning. However, due to Covid, that never took off. We may want to look at something before Lent. Not sure if it would be one event or some sort of progressive event. If we want to do such a thing, we need to get a committee together and start working on it right away.

There is a concern that we should do something with the feedback from the event. WE need to address the ASK sticky notes. Who is going to do something with those notes?

We recommended that a template be designed to give to the Pastoral Councils to engage them in planning based on the feedback.

Stef - We don't want to just report to the PC what we did, but that if there were suggestions, recommendations or questions, that there is some process for it. This is not just a one way flow of information. Instead, it encourages the Council to discuss and brainstorm to think about how that can be taken on in a way that best fits each parish.

Joan - How do we envision that happening?

Stef - We will table that until after we get the committee updates.

Joan - We are starting to share stewardship stories in the bulletin at least once a month from the four parishes. We do feel we are on track for the timeline that was created. The monetary goal is easy to measure, however, volunteering is more difficult to measure. Our next meeting with the Evangelization committee is on November 30. We will look at how we fit together and if our goals match enough, that we can have one committee, maybe eliminate one meeting, and how we broaden the number of members that we have.

Young Adult:

Dcn. Joe - The ministry is going well. Good attendance on Monday. Jason and I met with some young adults in the St. Cloud Area. The Goal of these young adults is to be part of the comprehensive life of the parish. To be involved, not just another committee that meets out in the community. We are looking for a member to join us from St. Francis and St. Stephen to discuss everything from the budget to how we can empower other young adults to become leaders. The Theology on Draft is going well. Things that are being asked are such things as how their voices can be heard in the parish. My suggestion was to get involved in the parish, the parish council etc,

Upcoming events - Advent Prayers, Liturgy of the Hour, the history of the O antiphons, Dcn Terry was doing something on the rosary. This will happen on the 4 Mondays during Advent. There will be a "Turkey Bowl" on Wednesday 23, which is a football game of some sort. Christmas Cookies at the Vikings Game.

Jason needs help in developing a Young Adult Leadership Team that can help with visioning, planning and organizing throughout all four parishes. Jason is doing a great job. As Fr. Tom suggested it would be good to have young adults not only on the Parish Council but also on the ACC committee.

Jason spoke to the Sacred Heart Parish Council, St. Francis Xavier and St. Stephen Parishes and will be speaking at Annunciation.

One of our Goals was to get a Young Adult/Youth Minister and we have met that goal but now we need to support him.

Fr. Tom - We are looking at the younger families. The suggested age range of so-called young adults is 18-39. However, we all know there are people who may be slightly older but who are just starting out and would fit in this group.

Stef - How do we market this? Where is the information for this being advertised so we can point someone in the right direction to maybe research it on their own or help them get involved?

Dcn Joe - Jason has a card that has a QR code that would link them to the information. There is social media, facebook, directly contact him, through the bulletin.

Fr. Tom - the Evangelization goal and this goal can work well together.

Joan - The whole process of building a successful ministry is about building relationships and all of this takes time and people to step forward to make this happen.

Stef - Could we possibly ask our Pastoral Council members to help us with finding those Young Adults? We need to explain to them what they are trying to accomplish and what the purpose of a Young Adult ministry is so they understand what is needed. I do feel in the smaller parishes especially, the PC members know who the young adults are better than those of us who didn't grow up in the area.

Because of the time factor, we may need to table the template discussion that we referred to early for now.

Evangelization:

Shirley: Met on October 26 - We are reading Start with Jesus. We discussed hospitality, and how do you create disciples? Do we know them by name? How do we get the young people to return to church? Start Simple - join them and share your own faith with them. Listen to their story. Share your story. We need to write our own story.

We ran out of time to discuss our Smart Goals so that is on the agenda for when we meet in November and finish up the book. Both the Stewardship and Evangelization committees will be meeting on November 30th. This may take a little more time. There may need to be some subcommittees established etc

Worship/Spirituality:

Jeff - On October 20th we met and discussed our original smart goal. Leonard put together options if no priest was available. Now we are reaching out to the retired priests. We talked about a Communion Service with a Deacon or Lay person presiding.

Fr. Tom - Presented a booklet that will be used in case there is no priest to preside at Mass in the event of an emergency. We want to get people from each parish who could be prepared to preside at a Sunday celebration. We also need a communication tree of some sort and to give people an option to attend the service or attend a Mass elsewhere. This would be a contingency plan in case of an emergency. How do we communicate to the people? Through Flocknote, MyParish, or a phone tree of some sort? To let people know options as to where Masses are available.

Technology is not used by everyone in the parish. How do we get in touch with them?

Jeff - Whatever we use, the message must be consistent throughout all four parishes. There may be multiple ways we communicate. We build a plan, so when it happens, we are ready and that is how we communicate it.

Fr. Tom - At one point, we talked about a designated Communications person. This would be one example of a centralized role done by that person. This is a start of one of the duties on the job description for that person.

Leonard - One more point is the worship committee needs to become more spiritual. How do we worship? Some are more inclined toward the logistics than we are for the spiritual process. It needs new blood.

Fr. Ron - One Example - Holy Week. Do we do some combined services among the four parishes? Example: last year each parish had Tridium Services. Is that realistic down the road?

Joan - That could be one of those committees. The planning of the services for the different parishes should be those who have the information and knowledge of what needs to happen and what has been happening throughout the four parishes. It would also be good to have one person from the ACC council on that committee.

E. Parish council Updates

Annunciation - Nothing for ACC. We discussed a number of internal needs

Sacred Heart - Shared what we covered and asked for a volunteer to take over, that is where Gerry Feld stepped forward.

St. Francis Xavier - We shared with the council the efforts of all the parishes to try to rebuild the time and talent and the need for that. We are trying to get back to normal

St. Stephen - We talked about more internal items. We are still looking for someone to fill the PC position that Dianne has taken. I am drafting something for the bulletin.

Stef - Not sure when the next Parish Council Meetings are for the different parishes. However, I would highly recommend that our ACC PC representative share our discussions with the members.

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 4, 2022 7:00 pm St. Francis Xavier Parish Gathering Place
Minutes Submitted by: Aggie Schulte