

THE ONE IN CHRIST AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY *(Summary)*

Purpose and Powers

Section 1. The purpose of this group shall be to provide planning for and envisioning methods by which the member parishes can work together to accomplish the goals of the gospel and address the pastoral concerns of parish members.

Section 2. The members of the Council will work together with the pastor or pastors of the member parishes and the respective parish councils to accomplish these goals and methods.

The Council shall be responsible for fulfilling its purpose by fostering common goals and procedures in its member parishes in the areas of stewardship, evangelization, young adult ministry, worship, and such other areas that in the future it believes are in the best interests of the ACC. The responsibility of the Council is to propose these plans and procedures. However, the ultimate implementation of these plans or procedures is the responsibility of the pastor(s) and the individual Parish Pastoral Councils.

Organization

MEMBERSHIP

The Planning Council shall consist of the pastor or pastors of the member parishes and an equal number of parishioners from each of those parishes. The members from each parish shall be selected by that parish's pastor after consultation with the Parish Pastoral Council.

Consideration should be given to the overall diversity of the Planning Council in terms of gender, age, and talents. All members shall represent the interest of the entire ACC.

TERMS

The term of the members, other than the pastors, shall initially be for three years. Terms are renewable. After the initial three-year terms expire, terms will then be staggered (1, 2, or 3 years) for new or renewing members to provide for continuity.

Qualities of an ACC Planning Council Members:

- Registered and participating members in the ministry of their parish
- Regularly participates in the sacramental life of the parish
- A universal vision of the Church
- An ability to listen to the needs of all parishes and parishioners in the area
- An ability to communicate openly and honestly
- Able to see beyond the need of the parish boundaries
- A desire for spiritual growth
- An openness toward study and reflection
- An eagerness to carry out the mission of Jesus Christ
- An ease in working with groups
- An availability of time and energy