

SPCNC PASTORAL COUNCIL

Meeting Notes

February 27, 2025

Attendees: Jim Grant, Francesca M. Eidson, Gerry Wong, Dan Nickerson, Ada Jimenez, Sonya Menapace, Jim Nelson, Pam Hays, Jim Nelson, Teresina Fagan, Larry Renner, Richard Lord, Katie Fleener, Chrysti Anderson, Brother Richard Freitas, Edgar Guzman

Opening Prayer

January 2025 Meeting Notes – approved

Business – There is a member of the parish that was supposed to be part of the council; but never attended a meeting- everyone agreed that this person will be contacted and no longer part of the council.

Reading and Small Group Listening and Sharing (James 2:18)

But someone will say, “you have faith, and I have work.” Show me your faith apart from your work, and I will show you my faith by my work. You believe that God is one, you d well. Even demons believe ---and shudder. Amen

How it impacts our council, shared by council members – Faith is not without works; we need to do work to share our faith, but we have to do it with humility; we need to include the parish/others in our work as a council; to inform our work.

Large Group sharing – Review action items and discuss/land on strategy for moving forward with 3 focus groups:

1. Discuss approach of using three groups to develop strategies and decide way forward.
Refer to Proposed Way Ahead Feb2025

Proposed: Divide strategic planning among three groups to focus on three main areas:

- a) Parish Community Building: Ada, Jim N, Larry, Deacon David, Christopher, Richard
- b) Faith Formation: Teresina, Chrysti, Alberto, Hector, Dan, Jim Grant
- c) Hospitality/ Fellowship: Sonya, Edgar, Francesca, Hector, Pam

d) Additional Pastoral Council Members should volunteer for one focus area

Preference of group was option 1:

Pastoral Council continues to meet as 3 groups monthly (2-3 months)

- a. Focus area groups work on plans each month and share results summary at the end of each meeting with full Pastoral Council
 - b. Groups use time between meetings to enjoin other parishioners to assist or for gathering information (beginnings of Committees)
- First option is preferred - meet as a large group; split into small groups as part of the meeting.
 - At end of meeting progress is shared by each group, so we all know how we are moving forward.
 - Dan suggested we start with #1, but evaluate in a certain time frame to move to #2; gives opportunity to bring more people into the meetings/info.
 - Larry suggested we could do this by adding additional listening sessions as part of that.
 - **Decision:** Commitment for next 3 months –meet as small groups during this meeting and decide whether we want to do it differently at the end of that time;
 - Concern expressed that others may not get ideas/feedback from other groups
 - Idea - whiteboard; use big pads - share that with other groups at the end – put up as a visual
 - Every group should have a note taker– so the notes for the meeting will include everything; everyone gets the notes.
 - Overall note taker could consolidate the small group notes; Need to ensure the entire group stays aware of what the individual small groups are doing.
 - Clarification – we did already develop and approve the council guidelines; now we need to do the work and develop the strategic plan. We need to gather more info from parishioners to make changes/suggest changes in the areas of focus.
 - Larry asked - Do we continue with the reading a reflection, or drop this to allow more time to do the work?
 - don't do a reading to save time and allow more time to do the work;

- or do we want to keep it as it is – do the opening prayer, reading and closing prayer.
- Various opinions were expressed –
 - continue just the prayers and stop the reading;
 - Leave it as is, with prayer and reading
 - Keep the reading – but cut down the time spent.
 - We can modify the reflection to not go through every person.
 - Jim Grant – Reminder: if we going to be synodal – we need to measure how deep we go; prayer time; reflection time is not time taken away from what we are here to do - Pray more, Discern more and Talk less.
- **Decision** – We will try something different next time – we will continue the reading and reflection, but have less sharing time.
- Katie – What do we need from her as we meet in small groups? We need her to work the room, float round – but let her know if we need something from her. Let her know if we need a staff member to aid in our discussions.
- Communication – Use Flocknote for the entire group, for small focus groups regular email can be used.
 - Sonya – update regarding identifying ourselves to parish. Buttons – she created buttons with different sayings, idea is that we can grab them for mass, so people know who we are. Easy to change in the future. Everyone liked the button idea, as far as shirts go – we can do that later. There were no objections to moving forward with the buttons.

Small Groups met to determine Next Steps before March meeting:

FAITH FORMATION (Dan, Teresina, Chrysti and Jim Grant)

- Reviewed feedback from the Pastoral Council goal results
- Developed list of current faith formation ministries and programs that we offer:
 - CLOW 930; 1130 had been requested as well
 - FF&Friends – children and adult sessions
 - Claretian Youth
 - Confirmation classes – 2 Sundays a month
 - OCIA – every Sunday
 - OCIC – during FF&F
 - Familiastry – Tuesday and Friday ; home schooling; meet twice a week for activities together
 - VBS – Faith formation
 - Regina – Prayer and Life Workshop
 - Monday morning mens group
 - Saturday – mens breakfast resuming once a month
 - Bible study starting up – Thursday night
 - Young Adult Bible study
 - College night – Wednesday
 - Joy of Love
 - Lenten Reflections
 - Sr. Kathleen book club – faith based book

Next Steps:

- Look into marketing of our current programs - website updates, videos, etc. How do we market? Dan to meet with Ally.
- Survey of current faith formation leaders
 - Chrysti and Teresina to develop survey and solicit feedback from child/youth leaders
 - Jim – talk to adult faith formation leaders about current programs, will also provide input and utilize survey.

HOSPITALITY/FELLOWSHIP (Gerry Wong, Edgar Guzman, Pam Hays, Francesca M Eidson)

Task: Develop a robust Greeter Ministry to include vision, structure, functions and responsibilities. The idea is to have Greeters at the door before and after Mass welcoming parishioners warmly, thanking them for attending and handing out a bulletin, making a personal connection, informing parishioners of upcoming events, etc.

To do this, we suggest:

- Meet with Alberto Navarro to discuss the vision, implementation, development, etc., of a Greeter ministry
- Will develop a recruitment plan; could include personal, one-on-one recruiting; youth recruitment, RCIA (past and present) recruitment; recruitment of volunteers from regular Mass attendees; bulletin notices; email notices; text messages, etc.
- Assign committee members to make one “connection” each week to result in 4 potential volunteers in a month.
- Ensure that a well-developed, meaningful volunteer experience is fully formed prior to recruitment with specific functions, how-to’s, responsibilities, assignments, etc., are available to the volunteer.
- Develop a training for the volunteers; conduct the training; provide coaches for volunteers.
- Ensure that there is a plan for continuity and consistency is available.
- Check in with the volunteers frequently to ensure they are comfortable and happy with their assignments.
- Ensure there is inclusivity: representation from all age groups, genders, abilities, ethnicities, etc.

TASK: Intergenerational Group – just started the discussion on this topic. Did not have time to discuss at length.

PARISH COMMUNITY BUILDING

Defining Parish Community Building, (PCB): Parish community building involves fostering spiritual, social, and cultural connections within the parish and beyond. It includes engaging college students through outreach and events, aligning ministries with service to students, promoting intergenerational involvement, and collaborating with other churches and faiths. The goal is to educate and involve parishioners in ministries, improve the welcoming atmosphere, and share church history across generations, ultimately creating a united, inclusive community that serves both the parish and the broader community.

This definition is based on the following statements provided by parishioners:

Parish Community Building Campus outreach/ hosting events on campus/ focus on areas of our community that may need more help.

Parish Community Building Increase college outreach on programs or events.

Parish Community Building Ensure all groups/ministries support mission of serving college students.

Parish Community Building Focus on Intergeneration Growth and Involvement.

Parish Community Building More community involvement - sharing other churches and faiths shared celebrations sharing beliefs.

Parish Community Building

Parish Community Building

Parish Community Building Relationships with outside church / Family support- cultural proficiency.

Parish Community Building More ministry collaborative Activities & events.

Parish Community Building Get parishioners more involved in various ministries / to educate the parishioners on how this process works.

Parish Community Building Involve parishioners in ministries.

Parish Community Building Improve welcoming.

Parish Community Building More community building outside of the parish.

Parish Community Building Sharing of church history across all ages in different instructional modes.

The discussion noted the following:

- a. PCB is everything that helps the parish individuals and community flourish both inside and outside the parish.
- b. PCB is about belonging, making connections
 - 1 How do we do that?
 - 2 Outline what we already have
 - 3 Build it into something

- c. Define why we are here as a parish?
- d. Create committees of existing similar ministries that will coordinate with each other.
 - 1 Who is on these committees?
 - 2 **Focus on individuals who are already doing the work**

Proposed Next Steps:

Next Meeting Date – **Wednesday, March 19th at 6:45pm**

Facilitator for next meeting – Ada Jimenez

Note taker for next meeting – Chrysti Anderson

Define communications to go out to parish community – Dan will put together a communication for the bulletin

Closing prayer

Meeting Adjournment – 8:18pm