

Spirit of Life Parish Council Minutes
May 5th, 2011 (Special Meeting)

Present: Fr. Chad, Dan Leingang, Shirlene Schafer, Pam Treib, Bonnie Volk, Sandy Swallow, Don Hruby

Absent: Pam Mack, James Gustafson, Joey Vandervleet

Others in Attendance: Cheryl Hansen, Tony Ternes

- I. Call to Order by Dan Leingang
- II. Opening Prayer was led by Fr. Chad
- III. Review of Agenda –Meeting was called to discuss the summer mass schedule due to changes in Priests assignment.

IV. New Business-

- a. Summer Mass schedule- At this week's priests retreat, the new assignments for the upcoming year were announced. Fr. Josh has been given the pastoral assignments to the churches in Menoken and Wilton. He will also remain at St. Mary's as he currently is.

It was also announced that Spirit of Life has been given a full time associate pastor. Deacon William Rouelle will be ordained in Mid June and will start sometime in July. A specific date has not been discussed at this time.

During the summer, Fr. Chad will be the only priest assigned to the 3 parishes with a total of 6 masses every weekend. We will need to look into a substitute priest for sure. This is getting more difficult with resources of priests very limited.

Substitutes may be priests from the Abby

Fr. Schumacher- St. Joes

Fr. Gross- Cathedral

A new music director has been hired this week. She is young and very interested in the youth of the parish and involving them more in the music ministry, especially for the life teen service.

Fr. Chad has indicated the Deacon William Rouelle is also very excited with the youth and doing something with them.

The proposal at this time, is to suspend the Life Teen service during the summer. While it is being put on suspension, this would give time for Nikki the new music director, Fr. Rouelle and Tony Ternes to work with this program to renew the foundation of the Life Teen program for the fall.

It would be important that the parish assure that some Life Teen activities continue to occur throughout the summer. The fear is that if nothing is available for the youth that they will lose them to alternative programs in other churches. This would especially important after the Steubenville trip. Tony and Cheryl will work with the Life Teen participants and come up with some ideas from them.

It is important that Fr. Chad talk with the Life Teen members about this and why it needs to be done at this time and the benefit they will see in the fall. Encourage teen leaders to come forward to be a part of building this program.

It is important that the program is done well, not just surviving. We want the teens to benefit from this ministry.

There were several ideas for discussion on how to accommodate the masses and none were acceptable.

Dan asked for a motion to be made on this issue. Motion was made by Don to suspend the Life Teen program from May 29th to Sept. 4th. The motion was seconded by Shirlene. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

V. Closing Prayer- Was led by Fr. Chad

Next regular parish council meeting will be May 18th, 2011

Respectfully Submitted
Pam Treib
Secretary of Parish Council