**Church of St Patrick**

**Parish Council**

**MINUTES: September 21, 2023**

**Members Present:** Fr Kuss, Liz Gerlach, Bernadette Daly, Mike Weibel, Grace Hansen, Lisa Romain, Allison Schmidt, Zach Neuman, Carrie Miller, Carley O’Brien

**Members Present via Zoom:** Bill Schnobrich, Jim Swanke, Ivan Pittaluga, Daniel Farris

**Members Not Present:** Terry Kapsen, Roseanne Strand

**August 17 Meeting’s Minutes Approved**

**Carley on Faith Formation Ministry**

* The main focus of her approach is to develop relationships.
* She hopes to engage and inspire youth and give them a safe space to share.
* Confirmation is when she embraces her faith. Her leader inspired her.
* The number of participants is small now, but she is not discouraged by that and hopes for growth.
* She is interested in volunteer opportunities and getting the youth more involved.
* The Council is excited about her energy and enthusiasm. She asked for our prayers.

**Updates On Events From Carrie**

* Carrie presented a 2 Year Calendar listing upcoming events on the schedule.
* Oktoberfest will be taking place on October 7 in the parking lot. This is not a fundraising event but for fellowship. She has had very good help from volunteers in setting this up. More volunteers will be needed to run it. She laid out things that will take place. These include-
  + Tots and Trucks
  + The Teddy Bear Band
  + A Beer and Wine Garden
  + Bingo
  + Pull Tabs
  + Two Food Trucks
* There will be a Women’s Club Luncheon on October 2
* The Annual Gala will take place on December 2. We need a 2nd Chair. We will also need volunteers to lead in various areas, like auction items, sponsorship, decore, and workers at the event.
* There will be a Women’s Retreat on October 14.
* In 2024, Fr. Kuss will have his 40th Anniversary in the Priesthood. He has yet to determine how he would like to celebrate this with the Parish.
* Meg manages the calendar for events. Leaders of different groups need to contact her.

**3 Year Strategic Plan**

* Liz presented a Charter and Project Plan and draft questions for the Parish Survey.
* Main goals were laid out for several upcoming months.
* The Council approved the plan.
* Aspects for the Parishioner Survey and Community Outreach were laid out. There will be external and internal approaches.
* The Council approved the questions drafted for the Parish Survey.

**Updates from Fr Kuss**

* Fr. Kuss will attend Rome and Egypt for a Study and Retreat. He will be gone from October 22- November 20.
* The Ministry Fair brought in many new volunteers.
* Fr Kuss is hoping the Creche will be completed by early December. It will be in the Celtic Center, open to several groups. Fr Kuss has funded this project. Proceeds from the free-will offering box will go to the Good Samaritan Fund, which he set up to help parishioners and visitors in need.
* He asked for input from the Parish Council for suggestions for Vice Chairs.
* We will need a new Chair for next year’s Garage Sale.

**8:00 pm Adjournment**

**Respectfully submitted by Lisa Romain**