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Parish Pastoral Council Minutes November 27, 2018

Present at the meeting: Mark Millage, Linda Roghair, Ruth Benedict, Judy Helgeson, Dave Serck, Diane Lyons, Mark Quissell, Merry Jo Escher, John Weitgenant, Fr. Terry and Susan.

Fr. Terry opened the meeting with prayer. The minutes from the October meeting were reviewed. Mark made a motion to approve, Merry Jo seconded.

Father reported for the Building & Grounds Committee which met this month. We are still having issues with the ramp between the school and the parish. Trying to figure out how the water is getting in. We will remove most of the Ash trees, treat just a few that are in the front of the building.

Susan reported for the Finance Council. There is major concern over the finances. The Finance Council is working on keeping the parish informed through different slides but more work needs to be done. The Finance Committee suggested we need to cutback somewhere. The SFCS subsidy is fixed, the only place to get are programs and staffing. Father suggested only going with one priest, no associate. The committee said we are too large of a parish for that. Merry Jo suggested we state our case to the SFCS regarding the subsidy. Judy said maybe we need to go back to envelopes in a box rather than mailing each month. John thought maybe have more free will offerings at events. Mark M. said that the problem isn't the expenses, but income. The Harrisburg parish is up to approximately 130 parishioners, however, many are going there but have not switched. Father said the finances need to be the focus of all committees next year.

Father Terry, along with Rhonda and Riley are going to a communication workshop at the beginning of the year. Hopefully, they will discover new ways to keep the parish informed.

Merry Jo reported for the Social Ministries Committee. The group spent a lot of time working on the Senior Day in October. Only 14 attended. They are discussing whether to have it every other year possibly or partnering with another parish. Social Ministries is working on a family prayer card as well. They are discussing the 5th Sunday Outreach Program. They would like to make it a family day. Merry Jo said that Father Tom would like to hold a hunger banquet as a fund raiser for the Guatemala Water Project. Tickets would be sold but participants wouldn't know until arrival if they received a banquet meal, minimal meal, or nothing.

Father Terry handed out information he received at a pastor's workshop. It states that the Pastoral Council should be the visionaries/dreamers; Finance be in charge of funds; and Parish Staff would implement programs. He asked the committee to look it over for the January Meeting.

Angie sent information on How to Increase Millennial Engagement in the Church. Discussion was how to get them involved in the parish. Perhaps have more on the councils, more contemporary music at some morning Masses. The group will read and bring feedback to the January meeting.
No meeting in December, next meeting will be January 22nd.