

**St. Edwards Pastoral Council Minutes  
August 18, 2011**

|    |                  |    |                  |    |                 |
|----|------------------|----|------------------|----|-----------------|
| X  | Fr. Kopacek      | X  | Milt Dakovich    | Ex | Fred Freese     |
| Ex | Becky Hargreaves | X  | Brian Harrison   | X  | Jolene Kneeland |
| X  | Jim Koch         | Ex | Regan McLaughlin | X  | Cristina Ortiz  |
| X  | Vicki Parsons    | X  | Kathryn Pranger  | X  | Sean Schott     |
| X  | Dawn Smith       | Ex | Marilyn Thornton | X  | Mark Wall       |

**Call to Order**

Milt Dakovich called the meeting to order. Opening prayer was led by Kathryn Pranger in the absence of Regan McLaughlin. The roll was taken by Gladys Oppold. The June minutes were approved with the correction that Kathryn Pranger was in attendance at the June meeting.

**Discussion items/action/education**

- **Guest Speaker:** Ron Paar-Fall Festival Co-Chair  
Mr. Paar reported that all plans are moving forward smoothly for the upcoming Parish Festival, October 9<sup>th</sup>. The raffle letters will be mailed within the next week. An event being added this year will be a 5K Fun Run Walk held on Saturday, October 1st (the weekend before the Parish Festival weekend). More volunteers are still needed for the Kids Cafe, the Kitchen and dining room, and some of the other activities. Ron urged Council members to give him names of persons who they feel would be ready to step up and help out. Council members thanked Mr. Paar for his volunteerism with the preparations for the Parish Festival.
- **Guest Speaker:** James Larsen-CVCS Campus Minister  
Jim Larsen shared some of the duties he performs as CVCS Campus Minister. He, as Liturgist, prepares the monthly liturgies, the Monday morning 7:30 prayer services, spontaneous prayer services for special occasions, reconciliation events, team Masses for athletics, and works with the Theology classes for special liturgies. He is involved with faith sharing small groups and reflections, oversees the service club, coordinates the Right-to-Life plans, helps the liturgy committee with plans, and collaborates with the Senior liturgy team for renewal days and other activities in the school. He was responsible for creating the theme for this school year: "TRUST – we work from our hearts for Christ and each other." Mr. Larsen is the chaperone for Young Leaders in Action. With the Home Ec teacher he and the students prepare pumpkin, banana, and poppy seed bread for the priests who are available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Presently, with the construction, Mr. Larsen has been helping with the parking problems at Columbus. He was happy to say it is moving well, in that the lot is emptied in fifteen minutes. A goal this year is to have students stay involved with their individual parishes. Council members thanked Jim for his presentation and wished him a successful school year.
- **Youth Report:** Kathryn Pranger  
Kathryn reported that school has started. Efforts were made to welcome the freshman class and help them bond with one another and with the rest of the student body. This year's first youth group gathering is set for Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30. The summer sessions held at either Subway or Sonic have ended.
- **Bylaw for hiring of Director of Faith Formation**  
A bylaw dealing with the future hiring of any Parish Faith Formation Director (formerly Directors of Religious Education) was presented to the Council for consideration and discussion. The Archdiocesan policies and procedures for the firing process will continue

to be followed but this bylaw clarifies the makeup of the hiring committee. Several items for further clarification will be given to Jim Koch, who is the council liaison to the Faith Formation Commission. Jim will report back at our next Council meeting.

- **Pastoral Committee Liaison**  
Dawn Smith has agreed to be liaison from the Council to the Stewardship Committee.
- **Church Building Security Implementation:**  
A Church Building Security draft policy continues to be under study. Additional input is being gathered from staff. The policy is still a work in process..
- **Perpetual Adoration Volunteers for September:**  
4-Dawn Smith; 11-Brian Harrison or Jolene Kneeland; 18-Mark Wall; 25-Cristina Ortiz
- **School Mold Situation – Father Kopacek**  
Father explained the process thus far of how mold was found in the parish school building, how the air was sampled throughout the building and found to be of high levels of the penicillium mold, and what steps were immediately begun in getting the building cleaned. School had not been able to open and will not be opening until Friday, August 26<sup>th</sup>. Testing will be done after the cleaning is complete and see what the levels are at that time. In the future dehumidifiers will be used and an air conditioning unit placed in the school basement. The cost will be a parish cost as the school buildings remain the property of each parish. The Archdiocesan Insurance does not coverage mold situations. Father mentioned that he would be explaining the mold problem to the entire parish at the weekend Masses. He also mentioned that he was impressed by the manner in which Pam Schowalter, School Principal, and Jeff Frost, CVCS Director, took the necessary steps and coordinated the process.
- **Continue Review of Priest Wellness Document:** Pastoral Wellness Section-C Item  
This month discussion centered around the pastor's expectations of his role as priest and the parishioners expectations of the priest's role in the parish. This included the number of meetings, adequate time for prayer, study and preparation for liturgical celebrations. Father Kopacek explained how he balanced the demands of his job demands and felt that he had reached a workable schedule. He again shared his appreciation for his dedicated staff members.  
Vicki Parson shared her graphed results for all the Masses for 2009, 2010, and thus far in 2011. Attendance at the 5:15 Mass remains steady, the 7:30 Mass increases in summer, and the 11:00 decreases in summer. More study will be done of trends.
- **Status of a Marketing Committee:**  
Jim O'Connor and John Wilmer will chair this new committee. The two met for preliminary discussion and now need to form the committee membership. They will lead discussions on how to create new ways to tell the St. Edward story, continue to find the many good things about St. Edward Parish that need to be published, and work with persons in positions who can give us coverage.
- **Calendar:**  
September 15 - Guest Speaker will be Deacon Rick Lynch

#### **Other Business-**

- **Committee Reports**  
Reports received: June 6 and July 11 of Building and Grounds, July 25 of Parish Community Life, and the Cedar Valley Catholic Schools Report.
- **PR Related Ideas**
- **Upcoming Events**
- Cristina Ortiz reminded members to bring 2 dozen cookies for the Parish Community Life Picnic set for August 20.
- **Correspondence:**

-Sympathy card and Mass stipend from the Pastoral Council to Becky Hargreaves on the death of her mother, Shirley Nemmers. (Policy from 2006)

**Pastor's Comments – Father Kopacek**

1. Father received a letter from the Archbishop asking him to be Dean of the Deanery.
2. A huge turnout (700-800) was seen for the Irish Fest Mass Lincoln Park on August 7<sup>th</sup>. Father Wilgenbusch was the celebrant.
3. At the end of a fiscal year each parish submits a Parish Status Report for the Archdiocesan Office. Father noted some interesting statistics in that study from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011:
  - 49 Baptisms (37 were infants, 7 were age 1-7)
  - 42 First Communion
  - 32 Confirmations
  - 6 Weddings
  - 55 deaths
  - 1,587 households (3,936 parishioners)
4. Father Hemann continues Chemo treatments. He will be a presenter at the Summer in the cellar entitled "What It's Like to Know You are Dying." Please continue your prayers for him.
5. Father Lou Jaeger is struggling with CIDP (Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy). He continues to do all he can but often in great pain. Prayers were asked for him also.

**Closing Prayer**

The meeting ended at 8:35.

**Next Meeting – September 15, 2011, 7:00; Opening Prayer: Sean Schott**

