

# The Pastoral Advisory Council of Saint Luke Church

Westport, CT  
15<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
13 January 2009

## MINUTES

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**WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER:** *Jeff Ford*

**SECRETARY FOR THIS MEETING:** *John Revay*

**IN ATTENDANCE:** *Msgr. Andy Varga, Jeff Ford, Mary Hanrahan, Katie Garvey, Jean Fredricks, John Revay, Bill Valieant, Paul Bowlin, Steve Violette, Sharon Carpenter and Missey Moe-Cook.*

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES:** The minutes from last two month's meeting were approved.

### REPORTS

Pastor's Update (Msgr. Andy Varga);

- Financial Update;
  - Msgr. Andy commented that he was pleased with the results of the Offering Campaign; Msgr. Andy referenced the financial report that was included in this week's bulletin and further commented that the increased offering has helped close the operating short fall. Msgr. Andy noted that we should be alright for now.
  - Jeff made a recommendation that the PAC and Finance committee craft a thank you message. Msgr. Andy – referenced a comment in the bulletin referencing the generosity.
- John Krubski – program to get people involved;
  - There was discussion about this program to get people involved.
  - Jeff, Msgr. Andy and Steve are planning to meet with John.
  - It was noted that so far 10 people have given their email addresses.
  - Msgr. Andy and Jeff noted that there are several "events" planned to get people involved.
- Gathering Space Usage;
  - Msgr. Andy commented about use of the Gathering Space after Mass. He commented that many people were not rushing to leave Mass and instead people were staying and talking with fellow parishioners.
  - Jeff noted approximately 100 people were gathering in the Gathering Space after a recent Mass.

Family Life Report (Paul Bowlin);

- Christmas Caroling;
  - Paul noted that over 35 people attended the event.
  - Paul plans to make it an annual event.
- Easter Bunny Breakfast;
  - Planned for March 29<sup>th</sup>
  - Needs to be added to Parish Calendar.
- Toboggan Bingo;
  - There was discussion about having a fun family bingo event.
  - The timing and theme are still to be determined.
  - Steve agreed to informally inquire with state officials to see what constraints we may encounter.

- Saint Patrick's Day Dinner;
  - Sharon lead a discussion about the venue and size of this proposed gathering/function;
    - Church Community Room, or one or several parish members' homes

Communications Task force (Missey Moe-Cook, Bill Valieant & Mary Hanrahan);

- Ministry feature in the church bulletin; Missey continues to work on featuring various church ministries in the weekly bulletin. In particular, she is working with John Francis to feature the church ushers.

Shepherd Program (Mary Hanrahan & Sharon Carpenter);

- Mary provided an update regarding the "new to the area" program.
  - Mary will feed articles to Msg. Andy for publishing in the bulletin.
- Mary & Sharon spoke about successes they have had with visiting parishioners (e.g. simple gestures of talking with people and leaving a plant).

Old Business;

- Parish Covenant;
  - Jeff led a discussion regarding the Parish Covenant. We have decided to use a shortened version modeled after the draft originally submitted by Steve.
  - Steve agreed to review the draft and make some additional improvements.

New Business;

- Nominating Committee – Jeff commented that six PAC members will be rotating off of the PAC, adding that the process for nominating new members will commence shortly and that he wanted people to start thinking about names of potential new members.
  - Bulletin announcement – Msg. Andy was planning to make and announcement in the bulletin about the nomination process.
  - PAC Alumni group – Jeff briefly discussed the concept of forming a PAC Alumni group.
- Church Grounds / Maintenance – Jeff commented that one parishioner approached him expressing a concern that the church grounds were not properly maintained. After a short discussion, the PAC members agreed that, generally speaking, the grounds were properly maintained.
- Saint Luke Reads program – Sharon discussed starting a Saint Luke Reads program.

Adjournment – 9:15PM

The next PAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday February 10, 2009.