

**Pastoral Council Meeting**  
**February 11, 2025**

Members present - Fr. Mike, Chandra Johnson, Terri Hamrick, Nancy Sanders, Jason Drake, Joe Santos, John Thabes, Lynda Thabes

The meeting was called to order and an opening prayer was offered by Lynda on behalf of Michael Bell.

Faith sharing - offered by Lynda. Two readings were discussed - James 4:13 and Luke 12:16-21. Discussion revolved around the gift of today - what can I do today to give the gift back to God? Perspectives of God's will change over time and as we age. Nothing is for certain.

The minutes were reviewed and approved with the following revision: In the Goal Team 1 report, the statement "poses a tripping hazard" (concerning an elevation at one of the church doors) will be removed.

**Goal Team 1 report - Disability Awareness - Lynda**

Michael has been trying to engage a discussion with the building committee regarding input concerning disability considerations. Karen Minno reported to Michael that the committee has already met and plans finalized. Michael expressed his frustration that despite his efforts to navigate appropriate channels, his efforts were not productive. Karen reported that an elevator, automatic doors and restrooms with handrails for persons with disabilities have been included in the building plans. Parking considerations are beyond the scope of the committee and seating can be considered. A cover has also been discussed for the drop off area of the lower parking lot.

Parking - focus will now shift from the front of the church to increasing the number of spaces at the lower level, which has a covered area, automatic doors and an elevator for access to the church level. The church may be accessed without coming in

contact with the elements. Consideration of repainting the handicapped spaces at the front of the church is also encouraged, as these spaces are becoming faded and difficult to see.

Regarding the Audiofetch Express system for hearing assistance, organization is now needed to determine the process which will insure proper functioning for its comprehensive use. This will involve volunteers to test the system in various capacities, help from Fr. Mike by speaking from the altar as if at Mass, and the possible assistance from Ken Obst to set up the system. Barb also showed the system to an audiologist who passed questions along to Michael. It was noted that if this system is effective, it could be potentially incorporated into the new building.

#### Goal Team 2 report - Discipleship - Nancy

Rescue Project - the size of this program necessitates a larger committee for its implementation. St. Peter's Anglican Church is planning on offering the program on Wednesday nights. Perhaps this should be accessible on the website since it is designed for individual viewing with a book that can be downloaded. No Spanish version is currently available. No additional recommendations are made at this time but the question stands - where does the Council see this project going?

Gift Assessment - two assessments are available. Challenges include ease of the assessment, hard copy versus online. Will likely have a link in the bulletin as well as paper copies on the ambassador table. It is felt that this assessment will be very beneficial for future ministry involvement. The future of this project is to be determined - should it be a separate focus of a Goal Team? Useful to other groups? Should it currently be tabled?

Catechesis/Family Education - the first slides were sent to Joe this week. Slated for Divine Mercy Sunday which is April 27. The future of this effort can be discussed after the initial trial based on feedback.

### Goal Team 3 - Ministry Awareness - Joe

The Parish Engagement Day on February 8 was very successful. Photos of all events were shared on Facebook and Instagram with an enthusiastic reception. Projects included the Sleep In Heavenly Peace bunk bed build, a home painting project with Blessings Cup of Tallahassee, Second Harvest's Lott's Garden harvesting project, a roadside cleanup on Fleishman Rd. and Valentine's day themed visits to 3 nursing and memory care facilities.

The Ministry Interest Survey has been finalized and Council members were provided a copy. Both online and paper copies will be provided and the survey will be advertised via pulpit announcements. A question was raised as to providing the survey to new parishioners - perhaps include in new parishioner welcome packets?

Soup and Stations Ministry - the date of the Council's hosting has been changed to March 14. This will be discussed further at the next meeting, including the number of people to expect, varieties of soups to provide, drinks, etc.

#### Upcoming Events -

Foyers dinner groups

Marriage Encounter Tallahassee - Feb. 14-16.

Mother's in Christ - Feb. 27, 6:30-8:30 in lower level of Parish Hall

Men of Good Shepherd Irish Feast - March 8.

Next Meeting - Tuesday, March 11 at 7:00 p.m.

Opening Prayer - John

Faith Sharing - Rescue Project overview

#### Pastoral comments - Fr. Mike

Offered thanks to members for their presence.

Building update - the next phase is to begin soon and disability concerns have been addressed. Input is pending from the Green Team. The 1.5 million dollar match has been met. The project cost is still to be definitely determined. The hope is to begin next year but timing is a big consideration as is asbestos removal.

After a closing prayer was offered by Joe, the meeting was adjourned.