

Lumen Christi Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes—September 16, 2025

Present: Fr. Matthew Jacob, Fr. Michael Courchaine, Jim Ott, Mary Tobin, Lisa Wright, Manny Martinez, Dan Van Housen, Bob Meyers, Pat Sheehey.

The meeting began at 7:06 with a reading and reflection of the Gospel of Luke 16:10-13.

August Minutes Approval

Manny Martinez made a motion, and Mary Tobin seconded that motion to approve the August meeting minutes with no corrections.

Financial Update

- No change from last month.

Commission Reports:

School

- New Spanish teacher for K5-8th grades.
- The school has new desks.
- Letter grades are now being used in Grade 5.
- 374 students up from 365: 20 new families, 51 new students. 3k -1st are full.
- Security was an order of business. Security commission looking into a school security officer - limited amount of time on campus for 20 hrs./week. This will come before the Pastoral Council for review.

Prayer and Worship

- Jim Ott shared the new announcements prior to mass welcoming visitors.
- The new version of the message includes the following language: "If you are a regular visitor, please consider joining."

APC: Definition and Overview

- Archdiocesan Pastoral Council: This is comprised of leaders of the Deanery.
- A Deanery is a regional group of parishes.
- On October 8 at St Eugene Church, there were 22 parishes in attendance representing Ozaukee Northeast. Two people represent each deanery at the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council
- Each member of the APC needs commission letters
- The Archdiocese hired a consultant to review the diocese's organizational structure.
- There are 200 deacon members. In the last five years, there has been a double-digit increase in the group of members.

Pastoral Update Planning

- Pastoral Council members all completed an input form in September and October
- At the September meeting, the Council focused its discussion in two areas: engagement with young parishioners and engagement with families. The following ideas were shared:
 - Fr. Matthew suggested looking at the families in the pew for involvement and to encourage them to find an area of interest
 - New Parishioner Breakfast: focus on young families and adults in serving as greeters, ushers, and lecturers.
 - Dan Van Housen commented on the number of new students (50) and new families (20), yet only 25-30% attend mass
 - Want to drive more involvement through the School Commission
 - Parent-to-parent encouragement in weekly communications at school
 - More crossover between Church and School
 - Pat Sheehy commented that he didn't understand the depth of our ministries before serving on the Pastoral Council. To help drive education and awareness, the Parish could create 30-45 second "explainer videos" featuring what it is like to serve in different ways (e.g. the role of an usher.) The video should be conversational and approachable in tone.
 - To increase involvement of teens and their families, Mary shared an idea that there be a confirmation requirement to attend and participate in Mass. Fr. Matthew will talk to Meaghan Turner.
 - As part of our overall review and discussion in preparation for pastoral strategic planning, Fr. Matthew asked us to take a broad view of overall cultural aspects when considering what we want to become as a community.
- Catherine Orr has sent a ministry survey. There will be some overlap with the Pastoral Council input document. The Council will review the next items on its list and Catherine's survey in October.

Meeting ended at 8:35 and vespers followed.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Wright