**Christ our Hope Pastoral Cluster Council Minutes**

**Thursday, June 12, 2014**

**Protivin Community Center, Protivin, Iowa**

The Pastoral Cluster Council of six parishes: Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Little Turkey (ABVM), Holy Trinity in Protivin (HT), Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Lawler (OLMC), St. John Nepomucene in Fort Atkinson (SJN), St. Luke in St. Lucas (SL), and St. Mary in Waucoma (SM) held its meeting on Thursday, August 7, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. at the Protivin Community Center in Protivin, Iowa. Attendance is below.

Attendance: \*2 – Denotes they are no longer eligible for re-election.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Member | 8/7/14 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| OLMC | 2016 | Sheridan, Patrick - Chair | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SL | 2016-2 | Franzen, Jim – Vice-Pres. | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SM | 2015-2 | Dietzenbach, Cathy - Sec. | A |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ABVM | 2015-2 | Kuennen, Mike | A |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ABVM | 2016 | Barloon, Gary | A |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ABVM | 2017 | Busta, Steve | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| HT | 2015-2 | Shindelar, Allan | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| HT | 2016-2 | Swestka, Joan | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| HT | 2017-2 | Dietzenbach, Donna | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| OLMC | 2015 | Babcock, Claude | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| OLMC | 2017 | Kout, Julianne | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SJN | 2015 | Thuente, John | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SJN | 2016 | Schmitt, Steve | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SJN | 2017 | Vsetecka, Barb | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SL | 2015 | Langreck, Kerry | A |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SL | 2017 | Larson, Pete | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SM | 2016-2 | Hemesath, Ken | A |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SM | 2017 | Schmitt, Wayne | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| LOC |  | Achen, Tom | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

The meeting opened with a prayer led by Rev. March at 7:03 p.m.

Rev. Nick March welcomed the new members and asked everyone to introduce himself or herself and tell a little about themselves.

Election of Officers followed: Chair is Pat Sheridan, Vice Chair is Jim Franzen and Secretary is Cathy Dietzenbach.

The pastoral cluster council reviewed the minutes. No changes were noted.

Rev. Nick March mentioned there might be less future meetings in the coming months.

Pete Larson stated he covers the cluster web site.

The new hire process is still ongoing and is getting closer to a final candidate. The council will receive an email to announce the new secretary/receptionist.

The budget was reviewed for fiscal year 2014-15. Projected budget and comparisons from last year were reviewed. Rev. Salz’s retirement means there is no longer a salary or medical insurance to be paid for him. The annual financial reports from 2013-14 and 2014-15 were also discussed. The payroll salaries will include Grace, Terra, Deacon Jim (part-time) and the new secretary/receptionist. The budget will be close to the previous one.

Rev. March commented on stewardship – becoming followers of Christ and sharing of time, talent and treasures. It varies in the cluster parishes but at times is hard to find leaders. More volunteers are needed. The focus this year will be “How can Christ Our Hope help it’s members grow in their stewardship of time and talent?” At the next meeting, Rev. Nick March will have a set of questions for the members to ask in their parishes. This way some ideas may arise to change people’s responsibilities to volunteer more and accept leadership without always being asked. We might place a note in the bulletin from a parishioner’s perspective of what stewardship means to them.

Rev. March mentioned that a nationally known speaker, Rich Currans, will speak at the Generations of Faith on Wednesday, November 19. In addition, he will speak to the cluster staff and council members.

The stewardship of treasure has started with automatic withdrawals now having 23 households participating. There are payment forms available for this. Lawler, St. Mary’s and St. Luke’s are the first parishes to do this.

Seminarian Ralph Davis had an enjoyable experience this summer in our parishes. He was impressed with everyone’s hospitality and kept quite busy. Since he was gone with the youth the last week, there was not a farewell reception.

Rev. March commented that Rev. Salz likes his new home and was very thankful for his wonderful farewell.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 9, 2014, at 7 p.m. Rev. March led us in an “Our Father” for a closing prayer.

In the order stated,

Donna Dietzenbach