**Christ our Hope Pastoral Cluster Council Minutes**

**Tuesday, November 19, 2013**

**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 Tuesday, November 19, 2013, 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.

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|   |   | Member | 8/1/13 | 9/5/13 | 10/10/13 | 11-19-13  |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| SM | 2016-2 | Hemesath, Ken - Chair | P | P | P | A  |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| SL | 2013-2 | Franzen, Jim – Vice-Pres. | P | P | A | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| SM | 2015-2 | Dietzenbach, Cathy - Sec. | P | P | P | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| ABVM | 2014 | Reicks, Carl replacing Throndson, Renee | na | na | na | A |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| ABVM | 2015-2 | Kuennen, Mike | P | A | A | A |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| ABVM | 2016 | Barloon, Gary | P | P | A | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| HT | 2013-2 | Swestka, Joan | P | P | P | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| HT | 2014 | Dietzenbach, Donna | P | P | A | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| HT | 2015-2 | Shindelar, Allan | P | P | A | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| OLMC | 2014-2 | Lynch, Pat | P | P | P | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| OLMC | 2015 | Babcock, Claude | P | P | P | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| OLMC | 2016 | Sheridan, Patrick | P | P | P | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| SJN | 2014 | Kriener, Brenda | P | P | P | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| SJN | 2015 | Thuente, John | A | A | P | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| SJN | 2016 | Schmitt, Steve | P | P | P | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| SL | 2014-2 | Franzen, Renae | P | P | P | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| SL | 2015 | Langreck, Kerry | P |  A |  A | A |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| SM | 2014 | Burke, Carole | P | A | P | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| LOC |   | Achen, Tom | A | A | A | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |

Others present were:

Rev. Nick March, Pastor, and Riley Meirick for his Senior Careers requirement.

The meeting opened with a prayer led by Rev. March at 7:00 p.m.

The pastoral cluster council reviewed the minutes. No changes were noted. Father will work on the meetings calendar once the deanery full court meetings are set. We will try and go back to Thursday meetings.

Rev. March went over the Light of the World (LOTW) retreat that was held on November 1-3 in the Protivin Community Center. The Protivn campus worked out very well for small group, large group and church access. The LOTW outside retreat leaders stated that they saw more participation and support of each other this year compared to last year. There was more reflection and insight with participants. The retreat consisted of around 50 people with 30 new participants. There will be 6 follow-up meetings that will be held in December and January and small groups can form after these meetings. Father would like to have a retreat sooner than in a year from now. He is looking at a retreat on the first weekend of April. This time would be between school sports and before spring planting. There is no perfect weekend to choose. Father is also working on the mission of Spiritual Growth with a series of talks scheduled for early June through July. This will give our parishioners a slate of opportunities for spiritual growth.

Father briefly discussed the pastoral planning meetings in Decorah and how they are progressing.

Farther Salz is driving and will go to 3 masses a weekend in December.

October mass attendance was reviewed. These counts show the previous October at a 962 average to this year’s average at 957. Last year, there were 6 masses per weekend and this year there were 5 masses. Each parish also completed a weekend count for all masses from last October to this October for additional data for Father March. Father answered questions from the council on mass times, mass locations and switching of mass time.

The Council covered the third chapter of the book “Forming Intentional Disciples”.  The discussion questions were: “Do you think God has given you specific gifts to use in the Church and in the world?” and “Do you know hot to find out what they are?” The council broke into 3 small groups for discussion. After the small group discussions, the council discussed their answers with the whole group.

Chapter 4 (Grace and the Great Quest) is the most theological chapter in the whole book. The reading of this chapter is an option. Our next assignment is to read Chapter 5 (Thresholds of Conversion: Can I Trust You?).

Father informed the council that he emailed an explanation of the cluster balance prior to the meeting. The council picked up the COH financial statements as they exited the meeting.

The meeting ended at 8:22 p.m. with the “Our Father”.

In the order stated,

Cathy Dietzenbach