

Minutes of Pastoral Council Meeting
Sept 18, 2015

Attendees:

Father Lito
Father Roger
Father Jimmy
Lou Hinds (Chairman)
Kathy Greene (Co-Chair)
Ben Gutierrez
Ivan Deanda
Jennifer Langley
Jack Pierson
John Tyson
Christine Waldenmaier (taking minutes)

Chairpersons of the many Ministries.

Lou Hinds thanked everyone for attending and Ben Gutierrez translated. Lou announced that we would each report for 2-3 mins. for each ministry. Lou announced that the purpose of the meeting was to say goodbye to Fr. Lito and say hello to Fr. Roger and Fr. Jimmy.

Opening Prayer: All joined in the opening prayer lead by Lou Hinds translated by Ivan Deanda.

Approval of the minutes - Jack Pierson moved to accept the minutes from the July meeting. Kathy Greene seconded it. All voted in favor of approving the July 8 minutes.

Presentation to Fr. Lito - Jack Pierson presented to Fr. Lito the Key to the Town of Onley. Jack promised that someone in the Parish in Onley would be praying for Fr. Lito every time he looked at the key. Fr. Lito responded that he would now be the Vice Mayor of Onley.

Ivan Deanda translated for the following Introductions of the Parish Ministries.

Family Interaction Group (FIGS) – Jennifer Langley. Jennifer introduced herself as a Parish Council member and explained that with her husband they lead up the FIGs group. She also is a Religious Education Teacher and helps Shirley Hirsch to mend the albs for the priests.

Hispanic Coordinator - Ben Gutierrez - Ben introduced himself and said that the Hispanic ministry heads have two meetings per month. Ben said he was pleased to work with everyone and that it can be difficult, but with God nothing is impossible. Ben said that his mission is to serve.

Sanctuary Care and Internal Church environment - Josephine Nardone - Josephine decorates the Church and leads Adoration each month.

Hispanic Baptism ministry - Juana Gutierrez - She is the wife of Ben Gutierrez and she is in charge of the Baptism of children.

Hospitality Group – Ines Castañeda – She serves with her husband and daughter in this ministry.

Hispanic Eucharistic Ministers - Angelica Zuniga - She said that she is very happy to serve and hopes that all goes well.

Hispanic Women's Emmaus Walk - Yolanda Vasquez — she is one of two coordinators for this retreat which women attend once a year.

Quinceñera coordinator - Maria Deanda. She is in charge of the paperwork and rehearsals for those quinceneras that occur in the summer.

Archive Ministry - Shirley Hirsch. Shirley works with Barbara McNally, but this has been delayed due to illness in Barbara's family. Shirley thanked Jennifer Langley for all her help with the Albs.

Choir minister – Erin Diez - Is a member of the "Jesus Esta Vivo" choir, one of four choirs. He is also a member of the Youthful Image choir.

Hispanic Bible Study - Mario Cota – Is in charge of the Little Rock Bible study. The 4th session will be held this year.

Finance Council - Mary Volz – Mary excused herself from talking about money at this large meeting.

Justice and Peace - Sr. Margaret Schmidt. Chairperson of the Office of Social Ministries. They see people 1-2 days per month. They spent \$22,000.00 this past year helping folks.

Bereavement Committee - Elaine Brehm - There are 5 members in the committee at present. When a parishioner or loved one of a parishioner dies they visit them and give them a packet of booklets and check on them every 3 months at least for one year. At the end of the year they present the person a crepe myrtle to plant in memory of the loved one.

Migrant Ministry – Kathy Bredimus. Their Mission is to bring the Catholic Church to the migrant workers in the camps as a welcoming face and to let them know that we appreciate the hard work that they do. Kathy thanked everyone who helped this past summer especially those who helped with translation.

RCIA program - Peter Regan and Jane Merrill - In addition to welcoming and instructing new parishioners, they also present to the tribunal in Richmond for annulments. Reita Schmidt is also a member.

Office Manager - Joanne Boyko. Worked with Fr. Lito and now Fr. Roger and Fr. Jimmy to coordinate meetings and keep things running smoothly in the Church.

Ladies Auxiliary of Knights of Columbus - Rose Pierson – At the present time they are setting up activities and fundraisers for this year.

Children's choir – Alex Cruz - He is working with a children's choir. They have had three practices so far. They hope to be ready by Christmas time, but if not they hope to be ready by April.

Hispanic Men's Emmaus Walk - Mario Lucas – Mario is one of two coordinators for this ministry which holds a retreat once each year. They just held the retreat in August. Fifty People came from many States.

Sacred Heart Choir - Mani Gomez and Chavez Escalente – They work very hard getting the music right for the Masses.

Coordinator of Hispanic Ministries - Severiano Ventura – Coordinates the Hispanic ministries along with Ben Gutierrez. He is also a member of the Jesus Esta Vivo choir. He led a round of applause for Fr. Lito's return and for Fr. Roger and Fr. Jim. He also welcomed everyone and offered his help to anyone who might need it.

Hispanic Charismatic Community - Vinicio Diaz – They meet on Saturday at 6 pm. He asked for the Holy Spirit to help him to serve the Lord.

Hispanic Marriage Preparation Classes – Elda Roblero – She works with Basilisa and Fidel Martinez to prepare Hispanic couples for the Sacrament of Marriage. She is also an Extraordinary Minister with her husband. Her oldest daughter who has been an altar server is preparing to be a lector for the Mass.

Adult Faith Ministry - Tom Familiar - The group leads Catholic discussion groups and Bible Studies. They have brought the presentation of the Shroud of Turin and a Seder supper. They are currently studying the Gospel of John and have formed a Catholic Catechism discussion group. They are working to start a Financial Peace workshop and in the future to participate in a CHERISH marriage retreat and a healing service.

Knights of Columbus - John Tyson. John stated that the Knights are here to support Frs. Roger and Jimmy and the Parish in any way that they can.

Parish Life Ministry Committee - Reita Schmidt – This ministry supports the parish with activities, fellowship and prayer. During the past year they sponsored Simbung gabi where they fed over 200 people. They also sponsored the bus that is going to the Papal Mass in Philadelphia on Sept 27th.

Extraordinary Ministers - Charlie Schmidt – Charlie announced that they are always looking for new people to train to be extraordinary ministers.

Pastoral Council Member – Jack Pierson. Jack is also a member of the Knights of Columbus and he thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus - Kathy Greene is the current treasurer.

Pastoral Council Chairman – Lou Hinds. Lou thanked everyone for keeping the ministry reports to 40 minutes.

Fr. Jimmy – He announced that he is from El Salvador. He was ordained on Dec. 6th. He is happy to be with us and is working hard to learn English. He mentioned that his grandmother made sure that he knew that as a priest he would have to work very hard.

Fr. Roger – Arrived in the United States on June 25th, spent one month in Bristol, VA and then arrived in Onley on August 1st as Parish administrator. He said that Fr. Lito had been his mentor while he was in seminary in the Philippines. He reminded everyone that our job is to serve God and his people. Just live out the words of St. Francis to go out and share Jesus with others. Through our Ministries we are the voice to other people to share the words of Jesus. He said let us work, journey together and share the Word of God.

Fr. Lito – When the Diocese presented to him the pastor of St. Peter the Apostle, he felt no hesitancy. He knew the he had to challenge himself to be a Pastor. His only goal was to unite this Parish as one community. Tonight is the evidence that his goal was reached. The Anglo and Hispanic meeting together tonight may show that it is time for him to leave. Fr. Lito said that he has become a better person, a better pastor and more Americanized and Hispanicized with our support.

Lou Hinds asked that we do what Fr. Lito has asked us to do to stay together as one community. Ben Gutierrez thanked Fr. Lito. He said that he had learned a lot with Fr. Lito and that Fr. Lito will teach more people wherever he goes. Ben asked that we all pray for Fr. Lito. He also wanted to tell Fr. Lito that he is not alone that he will still be in our heart. Peter Regan reminded Father that he has the key to Onley!

Fr. Roger told Fr. Lito that this is his second home and that he is welcome any time. He commented that we are only 1.5 hours apart. He also said that it is not easy to follow in Fr. Lito's footsteps, but that he and Fr. Jimmy would try. Fr. Lito thanked us for the love, support and blessings.

Our next Pastoral Council meeting is on October 14th at 7 pm.

Ministry Update – September 10, 2015

Name of Ministry _ADULT FAITH MINISTRY_____

Current Activities or Status __Currently we are having the Bible study on the gospel and letters of John. This will run for 3 sessions._A new discussion group has started on the topic the Catholic Catechism . The Family Budget program is in the sign up stage.

Ideas or Visions for the future

A C.H.E.R.I.S.H. retreat for married couples. Working on bringing a healing service to St Peters

Ministry Update - September 10, 2015

Name of Ministry: Eucharistic Ministers

Current Activities or Status

- Currently, there are 21 Extraordinary Ministers serving at our Masses (Saturday 5 pm, Sunday 8 am and 10:30 am).
- There are sufficient EM's serving at the Saturday Mass.

- One additional person will soon start EM training to serve at the Sunday 10:30 Mass.
- On October 13th at 7 pm, an EM meeting is scheduled to give Fr. Rodgers an opportunity to meet with the EM's.
- Since last year's Retreat was well received, a November Retreat is again being considered for all the Ministries that serve at our Masses.

Concerns or ways we could improve

- Having a few additional EM's for each of the Masses will help cover for the times the EM's are traveling; and especially during the Christmas and Easter seasons.

Ministry Update – September 10, 2015

Name of Ministry __Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus__

Current Activities or Status

Our first meeting after a summer hiatus is planning a calendar for our 2 fund Raisers for 2016 and submitting this calendar to Fr. Roger for approval. We are also planning to visit the GF Horne facility in December to bring hand knitted scarves and a little Christmas Cheer in addition to end of the year donation to the Lighthouse Ministry and the Pregnancy Center.

Needs, Concerns or ways we could improve

We are in the process of getting a proposal to clean and finish the Church Hall floor prior to our first fund raiser, our Card Party in February. We are also open to supporting Eastern Shore Charities that need our assistance.

Ideas or Visions for the future

The vision I see for the Auxiliary is the inclusion of Hispanic women to our group, truly making a representation of the entire parish.

Ministry Update – September 10, 2015

Name of Ministry MAINTENANCE ART MATTHEWS

Current Activities or Status ONGOING OVERSIGHT OF THE NEEDS OF THE PARISH FACILITY AND TAKING REMEDIAL ACTION AS NEEDED TO CORRECT THE PROBLEM.THE STAFF CORRECTS ANY SMALL PROBLEM THAT WE HAVE THE CAPABILITY TO HANDLE AND I OVERSEE THE WORK OF CONTRACTORS THAT ARE NEEDED FOR LARGER PROJECTS.

Needs, Concerns or ways we could improve

1. THIS PARISH HAS TO TAKE SECURITY MORE SERIOUSLY. THERE ARE MANY TIMES THAT THE FACILITY IS NOT PROPERLY SECURED AT THE END OF THE DAY BY USING GROUPS. THIS HAS TO BE CORRECTED. SOME OF THE PROBLEMS INCLUDE DOORS NOT LOCKED LIGHTS LEFT ON HEAT AND AIR CONDITIONING NOT RESET JUST TO NAME A FEW. THIS IS COSTING THE PARISH MONEY THAT WE DON'T NEED.

2. UP KEEP OF THE FACILITY IS ATTROCIOUS. BATHROOMS ARE NOT CLEANED AND SUPPLIED AS NEEDED AND THE SOCIAL HALL NEVER GETS THE CARE THAT THE FLOOR REQUIRES. THIS IS A HOUSEKEEPING PROBLEM NOT A MAINTENANCE JOB.

Ideas or Visions for the future

GET A FULL TIME HOUSEKEEPER FOR THE BATHROOMS AND SOCIAL HALL.

Ministry Update – September 10, 2015

Name of Ministry St. Peter the Apostle Parish Migrant Ministry

First, a big thank-you to all the people who worked hard with us during a very busy and exciting four months, including: Our new friends at St. Andrew's, Chincoteague who participated in many Masses in the camps, fiestas, and our Baptism ceremony. Our St. Peter's Hispanic ministries who pitched in and helped provide music at Masses, fiestas, and our Baptism celebration, transported tables and chairs for those events, cooked and served food at fiestas, provided needed translation services at Mass and regular weekly camp visits. To Ivan Deanda and his youth group who were regular participants at activities always ready to lend a hand. Our core group of parishioners who have been involved in Migrant Ministry for years, especially Shirley Hirsch who has completed her 11th season. To our priests: Fr. Lito who mandated a weekly Mass in the camps and celebrated the first one early on and to Fr. Mike who carried on throughout the summer. To Fr. Roger, who celebrated our Baptism Mass and Fiesta Mass, and to Fr. Jimmy who barely arrived on the Shore before he was celebrating Mass at KMC camp by himself with a Filipino charismatic choir from Annapolis. And finally, thanks to the groups from the Tidewater area who visited, brought Mass, donations of clothing and bedding, food and music as well as their enthusiasm and energy, and to the groups who have never been into a migrant camp, but nevertheless have clothing drives for us each year and send us their bounty.

Current Activities or Status Because the planting season was late this year, people working for Pacific Tomato and Lipman/Kuzzens are still on the Shore (Del Monte left at the very beginning of this month) and will be here well into October. We have a Mass in the camps scheduled for this Sunday, September 20 at 5:00PM, four First Communions and a wedding scheduled for next weekend, and we are delivering blankets to the remaining camps in our geographical area. We received 50 school backpacks from Ascension Church, VB, and we have been delivering them to children in camps and neighborhoods. This Sunday, after the 12:30PM Mass, we will have winter clothes for children and adults, including winter jackets out on tables for folks to take as needed. All parishioners are welcome to shop. All is free. On October 3rd, GOT SOLE, a ministry that collects new and like new shoes and offers them free to men, women and children will be at St. Peter's. Again all are welcome to shop. On October 9-11, a youth group from St. Gregory the Great will be lodging at St. Peter's and working on winterizing homes on the Shore. This group is headed by a professional builder and has been doing this service for needy families for several years now.

Needs, Concerns or ways we could improve

We are always in need of volunteers. It is not necessary to speak Spanish or French Creole. There is much you can do as far as sorting donated items, bagging them and making up welcome bags for initial visits to the camps. You can visit the camps with other volunteers and put out on tarps the donated items and help camp residents "shop". You can help with visiting youth groups, helping with "drives" for specific items, transporting camp residents to doctor and clinic visits, or helping with Mass in the camps

and/or fiestas. When the summer season ends (this year about November) we start our Immigrant Family Ministry which involves food distribution during October and November and Christmas present distribution in December. These are very rewarding projects.

We are in need of a place to house visiting youth groups, parish groups and visiting priests. It is not always possible to use the rectory and/or the hall for extended periods of time. The diocese is encouraging parishes in the Tidewater area who wish to befriend in some way the migrant farmworker to spend some time learning about their situation. We are happy to help guide these groups to meaningful activities, but housing them during their stay is a problem in a parish as busy as ours with our limited space. We have brought this need to the attention of the head of the Office of Social Ministry for the diocese. He will help us formulate a plan that meets the requirements of the diocese with regard to obtaining a place, which could then be used for other parish needs in the "off-season." We definitely need prayers for this.

Our ministry will continue to grow and change as we welcome the input of parishes from off the Shore and cooperate more with other migrant ministries existing on the Shore. The diocese is initiating new migrant ministries in other parts of the Richmond Diocese which have always had migrant populations, but have not had migrant ministries. The Eastern Shore is being used as a model, as our migrant population equals that of the rest of the diocese. Our camps are closer together and closer to our parishes, so getting to them and getting services to them is easy. Some E.S. camps house families whereas camps in the rest of the diocese house only males. A camp with women and children provides a more desirable experience for visiting youth groups. All of these qualities make the Eastern Shore a good teaching venue. Migrant Ministry has been operating on the Shore for more than thirty years pretty independently of diocesan input. The immigration problems and the changing demographics of the Catholic Church have brought migrant issues into the spotlight and the diocese is keeping parish migrant ministries and our new director, Fr. Michael Imperial busy.

Ideas or Visions for the future

At the parish level: In the near future we will be having a raffle of two new girl's bikes, a new skateboard, and a Donny Sparrow framed print. The proceeds from this raffle will go to our Immigrant Family Ministry.

Eastern Shore Migrant Ministry: When the summer season began Fr. Michael Imperial announced his intention of bringing the sacraments into the camps. Communion had always been a part of Mass in the Camps, but this year twenty-four children in KMC Camp, Cheriton, aged 4 months to 9 years were baptized in the camp by Deacon Guillermo Gonzalez from the diocese. By next week five people will have made their First Communion and one couple married in the Catholic Church. I am sure next year will see even more Catholic migrants receiving sacraments and reestablishing a connection with their faith. We are excited to be a part this evangelizing.

As more and more Haitians enter the migrant farmworker population on the Shore, it becomes evident to us that we have to expand our services, such as Mass in the Camps to include Mass in Creole, too.

We will spend the next months using resources from parishes with active Haitian ministries to translate the ordinary of the Mass, Sunday readings and our announcement flyers and notices into Creole and we plan to celebrate a separate Mass in Creole in the two camps in our area that have a considerable number of Haitian residents.

As bigger and more urban parishes become interested in migrant issues, our ministry will expand to include new people and new ideas, new projects and new goals. We are adjusting to accommodate this expansion and welcome the benefit it will bring to the migrant population we serve.

Parish Council Report for September, 2015 - Parish Community Life Ministries (PCLM)

"Parish Community Life Ministries are those organizations who gather as a community for fellowship, prayer and activities that support the Mission of our parish." This definition is a Quote from Fr. Merlito Abiog.

Committee Chairperson: Reita Schmidt

The Chairperson is to assist sub-committees in all activities as needed

Sub-committees Chairs:

Celebration co-ordinator: Betty Chemi

Maintains supply closet and orders supplies as needed for events
Schedules the meatless suppers during Lent and assist the weekly scheduled ministry on their appointed day to set up, provide papers supplies and assist with clean upclean up.

Co-ordinate special parish celebrations events, as directed by the pastor, such as, Sambang Gabi,

Provide for community Celebrations, such as, Father's birthday, Deacon Dan's Farewell, welcoming of Fr Roger, etc.

Assisting but not sponsoring, the Annual Parish picnic and annual parish council Christmas event.

Other events, such as obtaining a Coach bus for the Papal Mass | which is being celebrated on September 27 of this year, as requested by Fr. Lito. The bus is full!

Comment [1]:

This committee, in the last 17 months, has sponsored or helped in the following activities:

- Organizing two sewing events to support the Eastern Shore Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ESCADV) by
 1. making young girls dresses
 2. Tote bags for victims to use to carry their belongings.

This committee and all PLCM activities are defined in an agreement as directed and signed by Fr. Lito. This agreement is available in the Parish office.

Welcoming and a Fellowship of New Parishioner co-chairperson/s
Judy and Patrick Manning

Preparation of information packets for new or returning Catholics
Provide food and fellowship after Mass on Sunday as necessary to introduce the new members to the Parish.
Remain in contact with the new members -- providing a friendly relationship and informative contact for three to six months as necessary

Activities over the past 15 months have been multiple, more than I can list today. This committee and sub committees stay very involved with community activities. I would like to suggest, not this year, but next year, consideration be given to sponsoring a Living Rosary on a Sunday in October, as it is the month of the Mary and the time to encourage the saying of a daily rosary.

Sincerely,

Reita

Ministry Update – September 10, 2015

Name of Ministry Religious Education Program

Current Activities or Status __We are beginning a new school year. Sept. 13th we will have the Class Registration Picnic. Before the Picnic, we will have a Mass of the Holy Spirit at 3:00pm. We will pray for a successful school year.

Confirmation classes will also be registering at that time.

Luz Maria Vasquez will announce this on her radio station.

Classes will begin on Sept. 20th, 9:15-10:15.

We are looking forward to working with Ivan's Youth Group when we have the Haunted House on Oct. 23rd.

Needs, Concerns or ways we could improve

We continue to have a problem with children receiving First Communion and not returning the next year. We are looking for ways to keep the older children interested in classes. This year we will be emphasizing the mass in the upper classes. We are hoping that a better understanding of the mass will lead to more children wanting to be altar servers.

We also need to improve communication with the other ministries that also use the religious education building. Last year we had a problem with people using the class rooms. Someone took the name tags off the first grade table several different times. This upset the children because it was very important to them to have their name tags on their table. Please don't take the name tags off the tables. Also, please don't damage the children's artwork. If you have any trash, such as soda bottles or food, please don't leave it in the classrooms.

Ideas or Visions for the future

We want to continue to blend the different cultures in our church to form one community. We also want to emphasize the importance of attending mass because some families bring their children to religious education, but do not attend mass. We hope by getting the children to attend some of our activities, such as the Halloween party, that we will encourage a feeling of community that will lead to a more deeply spiritual church family.