

# St. Therese Parish Council

## Meeting held June 17, 2009

(No meeting in May)

Meeting called to order at 7:30 by chairperson Laura Biskupic

**1. Opening Prayer** - was led by Fr. Bill.

**2. Attendance** -

Present were: Fr. Bill Hoffman, Barb Miller, Maria Patricia Huff, Richard Schreiter, Nancy Bourassa, Jeff Steward, Laura Biskupic. Guest: Jackie Couillard.

Excused: Carlos Herrera, Joni VandenHeuvel, Andy Somers.

Absent: Freddy Orozco, Omar Chacon, Juan Huerta.

No rep at this time for Christian Formation or Stewardship.

**3. Approval of Agenda and Minutes** - approved as published

**4. Unfinished Business** -

*A. Picnic in the Park* - Fr. Bill.

July 5th at Erb Park. Liz Villagomez is in charge, Fr. & Carlos will confirm use of the pavilion.

Fr. will have Chrissy mention in the bulletin.

*B. REP program update* - Fr. Bill.

St. Gemma Therese, SSND will be our new director next year. She was formerly full time with two parishes, so this is downsizing for her. She is getting up a proposed schedule, watching out for Packer games. She is excited about trying to grow the program.

**5. New Business** -

*A. New recording secretary needed*

Ellen is retiring, so we need a new recording secretary. Fr. has an idea of someone to ask; Laura has a person in mind also. We will try to have that person on board by the next meeting - July 28th cookout / pot luck & short meeting.

*B. Election of new Trustee-Treasurer* - Fr. Bill

This is Dick Schreiter's position; he has served his two terms. This election will be held at the annual parish meeting on Aug. 20th at 6:00 pm. James Zimmer has thrown his name in the hat, any other interested persons? A notice will go in the bulletin asking for names. Feel free to nominate someone, or ask them if they're interested in running.

**6. Pastor's Report** - Fr. Bill

*A. Stewardship seminar*

Tuesday, July 21 from 6:30-8:00 there will be a workshop at Nativity Parish in Green Bay on "Best Stewardship Practices". We would like one or two people to attend this presentation by Dr. Charles Zech.

Maria Huff volunteered to go.

### ***B. Immigration Prayer***

We received an email on June 8th from Steve Harrell of the Social Justice group in the diocese. They have an action prayer that they would like handed out. We will print them up and have them available on the tables in the back of church.

### ***C. Additional Spanish Mass?***

The Hispanic Pastoral Council met and asked about the possibility of an additional Spanish Mass on Sundays. There is standing room only at the 11:00 Mass now. This would be an early morning or early evening time slot. The plan is to survey the Hispanic community first to see if there is a need, and what time is best, and see if there is enough interest to warrant adding a Mass. In any case, it would not affect the 9:00 English Mass.

### ***D. Expanded bulletin or re-instate the LifeLine?***

Fr. Bill sees a need for this. VIA is currently discussing possibilities.

### ***E. Faith to Face Poverty Week.***

This happens in October through Project Promise. The kickoff event is Wed., June 24, 7pm at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Laura will go. This is associated with the group Common Ground.

### ***F. Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine*** - see attached flyer

Sept. 14 & 15, will visit the shrine in LaCrosse, plus other activities. Fr. Bill is going on this.

### ***G. Collection for seminarians - Aug. 15 & 16***

The second collection that day will go to the diocese. We have an additional three seminarians this year.

### ***H. Visiting Missionary Appeal - July 18 & 19***

The second collection will be for the missions. A Kaukauna native will be our speaker for the day.

### ***I. Olive wood sale to benefit Catholics in the Holy Land - Aug. 1 & 2.***

This is our yearly sale of wooden carved items.

### ***J. Fr. Michado returns on July 29 & 30.***

He will be hearing confessions and celebrating Masses.

### ***K. Patronal Feast - Sept. 13***

Currently being planned. Carlos is helping with this.

### ***L. Parish Fundraiser 2010***

What follows years of Germanfest, and last year's Mardi Gras? We need to begin talking about this now. Suggest 2-3 Parish Council people form an ad hoc committee and tap others – think outside the box – maybe sell one hundred \$100 raffle tickets??? Let's brainstorm at the cookout in July. Suggest we all think about this ahead of time and write down ideas to bring to the meeting.

## **7. Committee Reports**

Reports attached for VIA, Worship and Hispanic Ministry, which were sent out earlier.  
Christian Service was handed out tonight.

Some confusion about the programs used to generate the reports and who is assembling the packets.

— **Please convert all reports to PDFs and email to Laura, who will assemble the packets.** —

*Note from Nancy: the ESTHER events are important - driver's cards and immigration reform, etc.  
Please keep these in prayer.*

## **8. Finance Council Report - Dick Schreiter**

The investment portfolio is slightly up recently.

We can't take any money out of the Endowment Fund - we're at least a year away from doing that.

Pretty sure we will end the fiscal year in the red because of dropping revenue. We will need to dip into our savings about \$30,000 worth - which we have.

Next year's budget, recently passed – we will have to watch the numbers.

We met our goal for the Bishop's Appeal, and we would get 1/2 of anything over that.

The Hispanic second collection on the 1st of the month will go into the building fund, now that the Bishop's Appeal has been met.

We're doing OK for now. We have been blessed with several bequests recently that have been really helpful.

## **9. Chairperson's Report - Laura**

The Health Fair in October at St. Thomas More will not be bi-lingual. A summary will go in the bulletin.

## **10. Open Discussion**

Sunday, June 28 at 12:30 Fr. Tom Muelemans will celebrate his 50th Anniversary as a priest with Mass and a small party.

On that same day there will be an interfaith celebration at the mosque in Neenah - the Fox Valley Islamic Society Interfaith Gathering. Talks from 3-5, dinner at 5:30.

Monday at 5:30 at Harmony Cafe there will be an ESTHER sponsored program about Health Care reform.

**11. Next meeting** - Cookout / Pot Luck / short meeting on July 28th at 6:30.

**12. Next prayer leader** - Maria Patricia Huff

**13. Adjourn** - at 8:57

Respectfully submitted,  
*Ellen Vissers*

