

Good Shepherd Pastoral Council
February 5, 2024 - 7:00 PM
Mary of Magdala Chapel



“Good Shepherd is a Christian, caring community, nourished by a joyful spirit-filled liturgy, that inspires our daily lives. We strive to welcome, accept and love all people as they are, and through our ministries, reach out with active concern to those in need.”

2023/2024 Goal: *“Work with Commissions, Staff, and parishioners, in the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to implement actions surrounding the two focus areas of the strategic 3-5 year plan.”*
(1. More vibrant mass. 2. Attract more young families and involve more youth)

Attendance: Tammy Hernke, Joan Plumley, Ron Leonhardt, Steve Grieb, Ryan Goss, Craig Tautke, Patrick Young, Tim Ehlinger, Alicia Levin, Lisa Nimmer, Sheri Young

(January minutes were approved by consensus via e-mail)

Opening Prayer - Steven Grieb (Great Job)

Welcome Tim Ehlinger and Alicia Levin - Updates on Music Ministry

Alicia Levin moved here 3 years ago and is now active in the parish. She is a lifelong musician in music history, piano, taught in universities and schools. She found her way since then to be at Good Shepherd.

Tim Ehlinger gave a description of what we are looking to do going forward and explained the process that we have been through this last year. He spent 33 years at UWM with complex ecological systems to make them work and grow. His experience and the use of a concept called “Ecosystem Mapping Process!” helped him formulate this future plan for the music ministry of Good Shepherd. He talked about the need to realize the gifts that God has given us to support us with our faith. It started with the loss of a music director. Lots of tension. With all the churches that need a director, he talked with Deacon Sandy and came up with this plan. Thus, the Good Shepherd Music Ministry Collaborative Leadership Initiative was formed.

He explained that we have resources from within our parish that we can use. We sent out surveys, presented them to the parish, and made it cooperative with the hope of all getting involved. Working with the music ministries to see what the roles are, and needs, and who do we have for the desire, and spirituality going forward rather than looking at what we are missing, (SOAR) Strengths, Opportunities Affirmations, and Results

He brought up a few important facts. People are there because it provides them with a community and belonging. It gives them opportunities for personal growth, and sharing new skills. At Good Shepherd, We really have a strong tradition for prayer and music. It has become vibrant, with a diverse selection of music. We are encouraging new members in a welcoming way, building a community around that group using technology, and increasing the professionalism of the program and relationships.

Music can not be done for the community, It has to come from our community. It must be from our spirit and grows from us. We are always looking for people who want to build on that and move forward.

A potential way to put a structure in place to allow us to grow is to use this framework that as we move into the next phase, it provides the guidance that we both can have a solid anchor as an individual or individuals to allow the creativity to flow and move forward.

There will be a director of liturgy music. The parish director of liturgy and music delegates to coordinators of the prayer and worship commission.

Tim's diagram on page 3 of his handout breaks down into roles, and responsibilities. Some of the roles may be someone who can take a lead in vocal coaching, someone who works with small groups in choral development and someone who selects and plans liturgies. There will be someone who does communication and logistics with the over 30 groups. As well as someone who does a collection of music, and online organization of it, and updating music access and copyrights. Finally, someone who will work with cantors for funerals needs to continue.

Now it's up to the leadership to continue the path and move forward. Some fiscal responsibilities are ready to be recognized. If we want to have growth with youth choir, ensembles from out of the church and other musical events, we need to have a coordinator for that.

A possibility of creating a budget for the music ministry. Monitors, microphones, cables etc. were brought up too.

Questions:

- Lisa: What would Tim's role be this next fiscal year?

Alicia is learning a lot of things. As time passes, maybe she can take on more things with Good Shepherd. Deacon Sandy says she is a motivator, a people person, and good for our parish from the transition of working with Alicia to grow more on her own with the already established people in place.

Document Storage for Pastoral Council - Tammy and Ryan

- Update
- Moved to next month

Town Hall 2024- All

- Dates : Sunday, February 4th (after Mass) & Wednesday, February 7th @ 6:00 PM (on Zoom)

Comments on Sunday Town Hall (2/4)

Overall impressions: The slides were followed. The time frame was well adhered to. Should we change the graphic for the pie slide with the budget? Deacon Sandy: Why did we spend so much time on last year's budget? We should spend time on July 1st into this year's budget. Ryan thinks that a lot of the issues would be addressed if they get the information more often or really emphasizing the fact, if you have questions, let us know ahead of time. Lisa told us that Corina asked why we are doing that now in February. Why can we do it at a better time,

maybe October. The reason we moved it to the first of the year is because we had the past year over and we could address the finances by reporting them to the parishioners.

Some suggestions were created or brought up by around 100 in attendance. Maybe have a survey put out in some way or fashion so they can give us feedback. Maybe try to have other things at night for those who want to join a book club and have it at night for them to possibly participate.

Some suggestions or changes for Wednesday's meeting were as follows. Continue to click through the slides for Lisa. Deacon Sandy suggested he would say "Next slide please!" Craig will monitor the chat window. The financial stuff we may need to cut short. They may continue to be dragged on and on. Not all the questions were answered. Half of them were answered and half of them were not.

[Town Hall Notes\(Submitted by Ryan Goss\)](#)

[Town Hall Notes \(Submitted by Ryan Goss 2\)](#)

Suggestion from Parishioner - Ryan Goss

Not all the questions were answered. Half of them were answered and half of them were not. Next step: We need to send these questions to Marge for the Finance. Ryan said that they already know so the finance council will be talking about it at the next meeting.

Ryan also thought it would be good to get people to tell them their story about themselves and their families.

Pastoral Council Terms

In case you were wondering how you may get involved in the Pastoral Council, by February we get nominations for the Pastoral Council. We educate the parish about what Pastoral Council at mass with a bulletin or flier. The process of this takes 2 weeks. Maybe someone could create a timeline for all of this. In May, you have the Discernment process. We don't want to run the trustee election at the same time as the Pastoral Council nominations. It can get confusing.

The process for the trustee takes around 6 weeks. A timeline for the Pastoral Council should be first. Then we figure out the timeline for the trustee election and how we want to stagger that.

Parish Director Report - Deacon Sandy

Deacon Sandy was giving a little clarity on retirement. He is retiring as Parish Director and is not retiring as Deacon. He says he is a "Deacon for Life!" The new archbishop could impact the timetable as to when he will retire. He stated it will be no earlier than June 2025 and no later than June 2026.

In addition to Ryan's well done notes, Deacon Sandy wrote some notes to Finance Council this morning, and had several of my own observations and notes that I am adding here in addition to Ryan's notes:

His First Observation: The overwhelming majority of Q&A at our Live Town Hall was on the subject of communicating our financial status more often and more clearly to the parish. This will be addressed at our February Finance Council Meeting. There will be changes made. We got the message.

We should be prepared to address the questions about finance on the Wednesday Zoom meeting Finance. Historically, finance is the number one area for questions from parishioners.

I suggest in future Town Hall's that we do not review the prior fiscal year budget that is seven months old when we have the Town Hall. Since we report the prior fiscal year to the parish in Stewardship Mailing to every parishioner home, direct mail, and all through the year when the Finance Council does pre-mass, let's stick with reviewing the current year financial performance.

The person who drove the financial discussion had received the numbers well in advance of the Town Hall. Next year let's emphasize that parishioners can submit questions in advance. If we had known the questions the parishioner asked in advance we could have had more specific answers ready for the Town Hall.

Did the Pastoral Council assign a note taker? If so, who was it? If not, thank God Ryan did such a great job tracking notes! Who is the note taker for the Zoom on Wednesday?

Are we clear how we are preparing to post publicly the Town Hall questions asked and update with responses? Given Bryan Ramsey was with us, I feel sure he will be all over this area. Let's follow up with Bryan to be sure we know how questions and responses will be tracked.

I wish to acknowledge the great job Greg Goss and Lisa Nimmer did staying calm and responding in a professional manner to an extended period of challenging (uncomfortable) Q&A.

Strategic Planning - All

[Strategic planning power point.pptx](#)

- Please ask Commissions to have this as an agenda item every month:
 1. How to increase Vibrancy of Mass
 2. Ways to engage Young Families and increase participation
- Encourage discussion and ideas in the Commission you are on
- What, if anything, can the Pastoral Council do to support new or current initiatives?

Commission/Committee Questions- All Commission Liaison's give a report

Please review the minutes from each Commission (sent to you by Bill Gaynor) prior to the meeting and come with any questions you have. **** If you are on a Commission and met this past month, please plan to give a short update.**

- Finance Council Update

Items From the Floor:

- Pre-Mass: February 17th and 18th (Bill Gaynor)
- Request from P & W for 2 Pastoral Council members to administer ashes on Ash Wednesday (February 14th @ 7:00 PM)
- [GalileeU Schedule](#)
- [Emmaus-90.htm](#)

- Parish Council Retreat
- Bulletin Articles needed:

Open Discussion

- Schedule Next Commission visit - Christian Formation
- Update on proposed budget items

Closing Prayer - Deacon Sandy

Next Meeting: March Prayer Leader - Patrick Young

Important Dates:

February 17/18 - First Sunday of Lent

March 24th - Palm Sunday

March 28th - Holy Thursday

March 29th - Good Friday

March 30th - Holy Saturday

March 31st - Easter

April 21st - Good Shepherd Sunday

Agenda Items for next month:

- Discussion on Pastoral Care Commission
- Trustee and PC Spring elections/nominations
- Budget Ideas for Pastoral Council created and given to Marge?