

**St. Francis of Assisi Faith Formation Council Minutes  
October 17, 2019**

Council members present: Steve Heddinger, Jason Collins, David Dickson, Linda Gust, Nicole Saegh, Mary Wieser

Council members absent: Alison Zirbel, Kevin MacFerrin, Jason Nurre

Clergy and Staff present: Fr. Ray McHenry, Faye Akers, Christy Peletz

Staff absent: Christen Cota

Pastoral Council liaison present: Charlie Graham

1. Call to Order-6:29 by Steve Heddinger
2. Opening Prayer-led by Fr. Ray
3. Divine Renovation Discussion-Chapter 1, *House of Prayer*, discussion of need to include those 'outside the walls'-newcomers, single adults of all ages, gay and lesbian, newly divorced, minority peoples, RE families, and parish school families. Discussion of need to support grandparents who bring their grandchildren to RE. Discussion of need to address folks who come to Mass for several weekends then leave because they weren't welcomed. **Read Chapter 2, *Rebuild My House*, pp. 27-41, look over reading guide, pp. 7-9, and be prepared for discussion at November Faith Formation Council meeting.\***
4. Open Forum-none
5. Approval of agenda-Nicole moved to approve agenda, Jason seconded, motion passed.
6. Approval of minutes-David moved to approve minutes, Nicole seconded, motion passed.
7. Pastoral Report-
  - a. Fr. Ray: Parish Mission-pleased with mission, received one complaint that perhaps the mission was not welcoming to the mentally ill; Security update-south hallway is now locked during preschool hours, accessible only by fob; Special Needs Coordinator-Molly Stempin resigns effective November 6, looking to fill void; Director of Operations-15 applicants, vetting candidates, interviews in November; Ordination of Bishop Joensen-went well, Bishop and others expressed thanks to SFA staff and volunteers; 90 Minute Meetings-all Council and major committee meetings will be held to 90 minutes.
  - b. Charlie Graham: Pastoral Council discussion of Divine Renovation book included removing barriers, helping committees and welcoming newcomers.
8. Staff Reports-
  - a. YFF/FFO Report-Faye reported that the structure of the new parish website and some of the website links aren't in place, FFO staff have identified these and are working to fix what they can.
  - b. HSFF Report-High school lectors are being sought for training to read at youth Mass; Catholic Youth Camp plans to have two individual weeks of high school camps next summer.
  - c. AFF Report-Winter study 'Good News People' which is a catechism-based study on virtues that allows participants to share their faith story offered during the Wednesday and Saturday study groups beginning in January, this study includes a call to action where DMARC will present their hunger simulation at the end of this study; regarding Fr. John Riccardo's December visit to Des Moines, his people have not responded to our parish yet about possibly meeting with Fr. Ray and Faye to discuss bringing Acts XXIX to our parish; registration open for Alpha on Sunday evenings beginning in January; family fellowship groups (formerly Christian Family Movement groups) are forming, several new groups in addition to existing groups; clarification of parish demographics include 60% of our parish is under age 50 and two-thirds are married; Faye asked all council members to complete comment card for Parish Mission.
9. New Business-a. Subcommittee Report-
  - i. AFF Advisory-none
  - ii. Parish Mission-positive feedback thus far especially from Sarah Drey and the youth

event, approximately attendance-400, subcommittee will continue planning for next mission in two years.

iii. Alpha-ongoing, Dave Dirks has been helpful with team.

iv. Retreats/CRHP-17 women and 11 men attended fall CRHP retreats with 14 women and 11 men proceeding with formation; the continuation committee is looking at new ways to invite spiritual directors.

v. YFF Advisory-tabled until Christen Cota returns.

10. Old Business-none

11. Chairman Report-

a. All-Council Divine Renovation book discussion scheduled for Thursday, May 7, 2020; refreshments at 6:00 pm, book discussion 6:30-8:30; **attendance strongly encouraged.**

**Mark your calendars.\***

b. Coffee and Donuts after 8:00 and 9:30 Masses on December 15-volunteers from this Council needed. **Check your calendars and be prepared to sign up at next Council meeting!\***

c. Next meeting November 21, 2019, at 6:30 pm, 90 minute maximum

12. Closing Prayer-St. Francis Prayer for Peace

13. Adjourn 7:54 pm

\*Please note action items, in bold text for next month's meeting.