

**ST. BRENDAN PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
COMBINED WITH FINANCE COUNCIL, CORPORATION AND
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF
December 7, 2023**

ATTENDEES:

PASTORAL COUNCIL: Fr. Mark, Fr. Anit, Madeline Dubas, Sandy Esparza, Ada Flores, Ginny Grant, Ron Hickson, Tom Kuncewitch, Deacon Bob McGahran, Pat McLaughlin, Charles McShane, Sandra Nelson, Maury Paslick, Jack Semanko

FINANCE COUNCIL: Joe Butler, Lucille Nazzario, Joe Carpinello, Rob Edwards, Jack Semanko

ADMINISTRATION: Rusty Joy, Matt Kelly

1. Fr. Mark opened the meeting at 9:40 am with a prayer.
2. Ginny Grant requested any additions or corrections to the Minutes of the November 2, 2023, Minutes. One correction: Change Dave Kelly to Matt Kelly. Minutes were approved without Fr. Mark's approval. (Fr. Mark will no longer be approving Minutes prior to distribution to members.)
3. This meeting served as the **ANNUAL MEETING OF SAINT BRENDAN THE NAVIGATOR CATHOLIC PARISH OF SHALLOTTE**. With a voting quorum present, the Directors of the Corporation were elected for the calendar year 2024. They are Most Rev. Luis Rafael Zarama, Bishop of the Diocese of Raleigh, Very Rev. Michael J. Burbeck, Vicar General of the Diocese of Raleigh, Rev. Mark J. Betti, Pastor of the Parish, Jack Semanko, President of the Parish's Finance Council and Ginny Grant, President of the Parish's Parish Council (aka Pastoral Council). Also elected were the officers for 2024: Rev. Mark J. Betti, President, Very Rev. Michael J. Burbeck, Vice President, Jack Semanko, Treasurer and Ginny Grant, Secretary.
4. **FINANCE**—Jack Semanko introduced the members of the Finance Committee. Thanked Rob Edwards for his efforts in preparing for this meeting. Fr. commended the Finance Council on their superior job. Continue to meet financial obligations. In an effort to build up our reserves to a 6-8 week buffer, we will discontinue additional principal payments. Anticipating a 3rd priest in June (if Visa requirements are met), will entail a new rectory which conforms to Diocese requirements. We are pricing out in order to coordinate with the Diocese, we will increase our debt but offset it with the sale of the current rectory. The moratorium in spending continues—emergencies only with the approval of Fr. Mark and the Finance Council. Hall expansion, hall renovation and kitchen expansion are on hold for 5 years. As per plan, parking lot expansion is next.
5. **ST. MICHAEL MINISTRY**—See report attached. It was noted that on two occasions, persons were locked in the church with alarm set. Ron will again remind members to be certain all persons are out.
6. **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**—Report attached.
7. **COLUMBIETTES**—Report attached.
8. **FAITH FORMATION**—Report attached.
9. **LITURGY COMMITTEE**—Fr. approved plan for changeover of Church enhancements from Advent to Christmas.
10. **SPANISH COMMUNITY**—Will celebrate the Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe on December 10 with a program on Monday, December 11. All are invited. At this feast, 5 members will receive their First Holy Communion having been prepared by Raul Ruiz.

OLD BUSINESS:

- No changes, comments or additions to the reports for November 2, 2023, Minutes.
- Pastoral Council Election will be held 12/9-10, 2023, ballots will be counted on 12/11.
- Waiting for artist's rendering of subjects for stained glass windows in St. Patrick's Chapel. New brochure being printed for stained glass windows in Church.

- AED units not purchased. SMM told to order immediately. Finance approved one additional unit be purchased.

NEW BUSINESS:

Roundtable input:

- Father Mark gave Pastor's Incorporation Book to Rob Edwards to update. Father will deal with items to be submitted to lawyer.
- Father Mark is now the Co-President of the Greater Shallotte Ministerial Service.
- AA Meetings will be held beginning in January, 2024, in Conference Room II, on either Tuesday or Wednesday evenings.
- Father Mark is donating his second car to the Diocese for use by the parish house.
- Father Mark is addressing questions in next bulletin to correct rumors.
- In 6 years when hall expansion is complete, there will be additional classrooms and a choir room.
- Presentation given by Charles McShane re. proposal from Lower Cape Fear Life Care (LCFLC), Carrie Dunlap, Community Engagement Coordinator, to present a two session program at St. Brendan which would focus on Hospice and Palliative Care and Advance Directives and Living Wills. See attached Proposal for detail. Program is to be informational only and not a recommendation of their services. Proposal was approved by the Council subject to clarification that their program will be in keeping with Roman Catholic doctrine. Charles will coordinate with Kathleen Brandenburg, Human Life and Dignity. A Spanish language brochure will be made available. During 2nd session, representatives will be on site to assist in preparing documents and notarizing.
- The Annual Summary will be for calendar year 2023. Report to be propagated by Rusty Joy, Knights of Columbus, Columbiettes, the Spanish community and various committees. Report to be published in a January, 2024, bulletin.

The next meetings will be held on: January 4, 2024 and February 1, 2024, following the 9:00 am Mass.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:37 am. Father Mark offered the closing prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary to aid the Council in their work.

PASTORAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS DECEMBER, 2023

BUILDING AND GROUNDS REPORT

December 7, 2023

Existing Projects Status

- Roof leaks in the Gathering Space and the Bell Tower are being investigated and addressed. The leak in the Gathering Space has been slowed but not eliminated. Leaks occur during heavy rains.
- An additional freezer was purchased and installed for Loaves & Fishes.

Looking Ahead

- Monitors will be installed in MJMPC conference rooms to facilitate dissemination of information. Project will be completed when funding becomes available.
- Painting work will occur in several areas of the church and parish hall to repair cracks, bubbling paint, and the like.
- Beginning work on a Reserve Study of the Parish's assets to assist in budgeting for repairs and replacements.

Submitted by:

Maury Paslick
Building and Grounds Committee

St. Brendan Church - Pastoral Council Meeting 12/7/2023 **St. Michael Ministry Report**

- Although we have assembled and trained over 50 Ministers, we are facing challenges scheduling for the Masses, Chapel guard, special Holidays and unlocking and locking Church after Mass.
- Peggy Dotson, coordinator for our Medical Response Team, scheduled a training session to update our Ministers on first aid, CPR and AED utilization. As part of our commitment to keep members of the St. Brendan's community safe, we have invited Robert Hollyfield, the Emergency Services Operations Supervisor for Brunswick County, to assess our needs for training. Our first scheduled training is Monday, December 11th from 10am - 12:00pm at EMS Headquarters in Shallotte.
- As we have had an additional 10 parishioners step forward to join our Ministry since the three initial training sessions, we will conduct another session during the month of January 2024.
- Our Security Team coordinators have been in contact with our Brunswick County Sheriff's office to offer various courses specific to the techniques needed when facing an emergency situation - i.e. Mitigation techniques, Identification of potential Threats etc.

Ron Hickson
St. Michael Ministry Coordinator

Knights Of Columbus - Council 9039 –December 1, 2023

- Fr Anit will conduct a spiritual Reflection on the Miracle Apparition of Our Lady of La Salette on December 1 after the 9am Mass.
- The Second Annual KofC Car show was successfully completed in on November 4 in the St Brendan's Parking lot (after two rain postponements).
- The Semi-annual KofC Blood drive was held on Tuesday November 14 at 11-3 in the Church Hall. 43 people gave blood at the blood drive.
- Fr mark received the North Carolina KofC Priest of the Year award after the 11am mass on Sunday November 19.

- The Knights of Council 9039 was presented with the Star Council Award by the NC KofC State Advocate and District Representatives also after the 11am mass on Sunday November 19.
- First Friday Rosary will be prayed in the church on Friday December 1 at 8:00 followed by Fr Anit's Spiritual Reflection
- The Knights will walk next to the Keep Christ in Christmas float in the Shallotte Christmas Parade on Saturday December 2, handing out Tootsie Rolls to the children.
- The Knights annual Christmas Dinner will be held on Tuesday December 5th.
- The Knights will have cake and tonic, and sing Christmas songs at Autumn Care Shallotte on Wednesday December 6 at 3pm
- The Knights will hold an exemplification on Tuesday December 12 in the Church at 6pm. Two new Knights will be inducted into the Knights.
- We will hold our General Council Meeting on Tuesday December 12at 7pm in the McGivney room.
- The Knights wish everyone a Holy, Happy, Safe and Blessed Merry Christmas
- The Fifth Sunday Rosary will be prayed ½ hour before all masses on December 30/31 in the church proper.
- The Knights will recite the prayer for the Consecration to the Holy Family at all masses on December 30/31 after the Fifth Sunday Rosary

Respectfully
Tom Kuncewitch

COLUMBIETTE REPORT TO THE PASTORAL COUNCIL December 1, 2023

- November 4th marked the closure of the Belk Project to earn funds for our Christmas Family which provided enough to purchase gifts and food for the whole family for Christmas. Items have already been purchased excluding food items which will be done closer to Christmas.
- The Columbiettes assisted in the preparation and serving at the Veterans Dinner the 10th and 11th of Nov.
- Selling of raffle tickets after all the masses in November for the gift card boards which would produce 3 winners to be drawn in December. The gift cards were primarily donated by the Columbiettes.
- A craft show and Bake Sale was held the weekend of the 18th and 19th in the church Hall. The Columbiettes provided a wealth of wonderful home made baked goods. That money will go toward the Loaves and Fishes.
- Hard copy books are still being collected for the Literacy Cou

- It was voted to have a Christmas Party in lieu of a regular meeting in December.. All participants will pay for their food
- Forthcoming projects for January were discussed and voted on to begin organizing. Soup to Go after the Saturday evening Masses thru January.

Sandy Esparza, President
Our Lady of the Rosary Auxiliary #9039 Columbiettes

Family-Centered Faith Formation—2023-2024 School Year:

- December 3 was our Faith Formation session. It was truly a success! 116 happy children attended. We discussed Advent, the birth of Jesus emphasizing “Jesus is the Reason for the Season” and the Holy Family.
 - Once again, Fr. Anit visited with the children. Today he went to the Kindergarten class. The Catechists were so happy....thank you Fr. Anit! We appreciate your visits.
 - We are now in preparation for the Feast of the Three Kings on January 7. The Giving Tree tags were all taken in the one weekend after each of the Masses. People are still asking for more tags! Once the gifts are brought to the Library, a group of “special elves” will wrap all the gifts! More info to follow!
 - Our next session is January 7th.
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Lower Cape Fear Life Care (LCFLC) 2024 - Proposal presented by Charles McShane

Carrie Dunlap, Community Engagement Coordinator

LCFLC offered our Memory Education Session in May which was well received by 60 parishioners. They have called to offer further education on various programs they offer to the community of New Hanover and Brunswick Counties.

My recommendation is we build a 2 session program of about 45 minutes each offered after a 9:00AM weekday Mass in March and May 2024.

Session 1 Focus on Hospice and Palliative Care

- Hospice – navigating needs and support goals of care during last months of life. Only 10% of LCFLC patients take advantage of full Medicare hospice benefit includes ALL medical care, medications, equipment and visits related to diagnosis.
- Palliative Care – help people living with serious illness – example: heart disease, COPD, cancer, dementia, Parkinson’s and ALS. Medicare can help with nurse support.

Session 2 Focus on Advance Directives and Living Will. Give some set-up background in Session 1 allowing attendees to plan for this session to gain full benefit.

- Advance Directive and Living Will – Address healthcare advocate identification that can speak on behalf of a person in declining health. Organ donation and other issues. Healthcare only – NO Financial matters.

LCFLC will provide needed documents and notary for those interested at no cost for 1 or both directives.

