

**Come To the Water ACC Pastoral Council Meeting**  
**St. Nicholas Church, Belle River**  
**October 10, 2023**

Present: Father Matthew Kuhn, Father Rick Aubol, Todd Wentworth, Darcie Boogaard, Tonya Marthaler, Terri Anderson, Bruce Pederson, Tim Baas, Nathan Eisel, Mary Gorghuber, Jake Mach, Randy Kinney, Josh Waltzing, Adrian Panther, Rodney Roers, Francie Peterson, Mark Maloney and Carol Gaffaney. Absent: Margaret Zidon and Dwayne Waldorf. Also present: Holly Kulzer and Christine Olschlager.

1. Opening prayer.
2. Terri Anderson was welcomed as a new council member from Immaculate Conception Church. She will complete the term of Bob Kulzer who stepped down.
3. Minutes of the Last Meeting – The minutes of the September 19, 2023 meeting were approved by consensus.
4. Agenda Additions – Two additions: Neighborhood communities/New Member ideas and ICC listening session.
5. ICC Listening Session – There was discussion on the listening session held at Immaculate Conception Church. Father Ed Vebelun and Brenda Kresky led the session.
6. Neighborhood Communities/New Members- Discussion on objective #1 in Goal 2 of our ACC Strategic Plan (“Develop formal plans to welcome new parishioners into our ACC community and build parishioner sense of belonging”). Thoughts were shared on finding ways to connect people within neighborhood communities, helping them feel a part of our ACC, getting more engaged, build relationships and ways to move forward. A sub-committee was formed to study this further: Josh Waltzing, Father Rick, Francie Peterson, Rodney Roers and Todd Wentworth.
7. Todd’s Topics
  - The Come to the Water ACC will have the opportunity in February to meet with Bishop Neary. The goal is to share how and what our ACC is doing, listen to other ACCs and learn from each other. This will also be a great opportunity for Bishop Neary to learn more about each ACC in the St. Cloud Diocese
  - Facility Update – Two coolers were broken down in the Saint Mary’s school kitchen; they’ve now been repaired. We are still awaiting materials to do the roofing project at Saint Mary’s Church. Power washing of Saint Nicholas Church has been completed to remove algae and dirt and new storm windows have been installed. Immaculate Conception is getting a second quote on a tuckpointing project on the church.
  - Saint Mary’s has filled part-time positions in food service and Kid Care
  - Todd will work with a diocesan attorney to update the HR handbook as the State of Minnesota continues to add/pass new bills that need to be included.
8. Pastor Perspectives
  - Father Matthew reported that the trip to the Holyland scheduled to leave October 16<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled.
  - Memorial services for All Saints and All Souls Day will be held at each of our parishes. The bulletin and social media will inform people from all three parishes of a Service of Remembrance scheduled for Sunday, November 5, 4:30pm at Saint Mary’s Church. Families from Saint Nicholas, Immaculate Conception and Saint Mary’s who have lost loved ones over the past year will receive individual invitations.

- Our parishes have had 11 funerals and 3 weddings in the last ten days. Thank you to all the volunteers that work behind the scenes to minister to our ACC families.
9. Upcoming Events – Mary Gorghuber reviewed several upcoming events scheduled at Saint Nicholas, Immaculate Conception and Saint Mary’s and asked members to attend and spread the word to others, encouraging them to take part in the various ACC activities.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm with a closing prayer.

Carol Gaffaney  
Recording Secretary

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