JPIC Meeting Notes – Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Committee Members Present: Kathy Fischer, Lee Ann Sticha, Joann Weber, Florian Ledermann, Jan Duhnke, Beatriz Hadler and Polly Stephens (by phone), Father Dan (Parish Council Rep)
Absent: Sister Rita, Julie Desautels, Ruth Grundman, Al Schmidt

Opening Prayer: We prayed together the *Living Water – A Prayer for the Season of Creation*.

Recurring Agenda Items

Sanctity of Life: No report
Food Shelf: No Report
Prayers of Intercession: Kathy asked Father Dan if the JPIC Intercessions should be sent to him. He said yes. We asked Father Dan to give us some tips on what he wants with our submitted intercessions. He said he has a format and will send that to us.
Bulletin "About Life" Column: Volunteers needed for the October columns.

October 3/4 LeeAnn
October 10/11 TBD
October 17/18 TBD
October 24/25 Jan - Migrants & Refugees

Wild Prairie Walk:

We started with the Wild Prairie Walk update from Florian. To date, we have44 adults and 14 children registered for the walk. Joe will send Florian the final numbers on Thursday, 9/10.

Florian handed out a map for the walk that follows a clockwise-only path. The biggest change from last year is that we will have 10 minutes at each station on the walk. Leaders of the 4 groups must keep to the 10-minute schedule!

The four stations along the walk are: **Prairie Grasses/Flowers-**Jeff**, Bees-** Joel & Becky**, Trees-**Lora**, Water and Earth-**Al. After each presentation at each station, the **group leader will read a prayer** written especially for that station by Joann. Walkers will receive an envelope for gathering seeds at the last station.

Joann gave an update on the harvest meal – she will be making the chili and provide the dishes and water. Kathy will provide the hot dogs, buns and condiments. Jan will provide a large relish tray. Guests can purchase pop and/or wine if they want.

Pastoral Council Liaison:

Father Dan was appointed to be JPIC's liaison on the Pastoral Council. He said that we should think about anything relevant that he could bring to the Parish Council on our behalf.

Father Dan told us that he had met **Dennis Preston**, a retired minister, at a recent ministerial association meeting. Dennis ministers at First Lutheran and is involved in a Care for Creation group. He is interested in collaborating with our JPIC group for events and sharing of resources. His contact info is: dennispreston@gmail.com, 320-491-2422. Florian will invite Dennis to the Wild Prairie Walk.

Intercessions: Regarding our questions about Intercessions, Father Dan emailed the below information to us after the meeting:

> *There have been questions about how the petitions have been going. I appreciate the content and issues that are addressed in them. I do, however, often edit them so that they are formatted to fit the*

norms for the universal prayers at Mass. One thing is that the prayer does not need to be addressed to God, as it is part of a series of prayers addressed to God by the priest's prayer at the end. So, instead of starting "merciful and ever-loving God," the prayer should just begin with the petition. Usually it is addressed "for" a group or specific intention. It also could start with "that."
Some examples are listed below:

For all immigrants, that they find shelter and support from our local community. Let us pray to the Lord.

For all of us here, may we be strengthened in our commitment to care for the earth and all that inhabits it. Let us pray to the Lord.

That world leaders may strive for peace and unity. Let us pray to the Lord.

Guatemala Mission:
LeeAnn reported that Cassie Klimek will lead the next mission trip to the San Lucas Mission in Guatemala on February 5-12, 2027. The trip is not a "youth" trip. It is for all parishioners and Cassie is the contact. So far, Cassie has signed up 5 adults and 4 youth to go to San Lucas in 2027.

The St. Mary's Stewardship Newsletter had a great article about the Hoffman family and their connection to the San Lucas Mission. It's an inspiring intergenerational story about stewardship that Lee Ann thought could be replicated in a future Stewardship Newsletter about the intergenerational story of Burr Vineyard.
Fall Festival: Jane Richmond will be serving lattes this weekend at the festival. This is a great fundraiser for the San Lucas Mission**.**

St. Mary's Ministry Fair – September 19 and 20:
Lee Ann asked Kathy Fischer to respond that JPIC wants a booth at the Ministry Fair again this year and to ask for our same location as last year in the Great Hall (at the back, in front of the old cry room).

Setup: Lee Ann and her husband will set up the booth, which will include the JPIC information and Guatemala Mission information and coffee cart. Jan will bring the Coffee/Tea drawing box and other JPIC items similar to what we had at the booth last year.

Booth Volunteers: Bea and Jan volunteered to work the booth after the Saturday evening Mass. Lee Ann and Mark will be there for both the 8:00 am and 10:00 am Masses on Sunday. **We need more volunteers at the booth!!**

Closing Prayer: We prayed together the St. Mary's Stewardship Prayer.

Minutes Submitted by Jan Duhnke, 09/10/2026