

Holy Apostles Pastorate Council Minutes

4 November 2025

Members: Fr. Tom Clement, Fr. Jim Friedrich, Fr. Gary DeRouchey, Deacon Joe Tegethoff, Jim Werkmeister - St. Paul the Apostle, Armour; Tricia Neugebauer – Saints Peter & Paul, Dimock; Brenda Millar – St. Ann, Geddes; Diane Sandhoff – Sacred Heart, Parkston; Darrell Mueller, St Peter the Apostle, Platte; Robert “Buzz” Durham – St John the Baptist, Wagner

Absent: Russel Gall – St. Mark, Lake Andes; David LaCompte – St Paul, Marty; Bud Koupal - Assumption of the BVM, Dante

Staff Members: Sr. Maribeth Wentzlaff, Discipleship/Evangelization, Bailee Mogck, Business Manager, JoNell DeHaan, Pastorate Administrative Assistant/Communications

1. Fr. Tom opened the meeting with the Rosary
2. Clergy Day highlights from Bishop DeGrood were presented
3. The Pastorate Initiatives report was available for all the members
 - a. A summary of the 2025-26 Pillar goals is available on the holypostlessd.org website
 - b. There are 2 sessions of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd that will be held in Wagner
 - c. Sr. Maribeth has 8 people currently requesting OCIA with sessions starting soon
 - d. The Cradle Catholic sessions will be held in Dimock, Platte and Wagner 1 time per month with all 3 sites having the same lesson.
 - e. There was discussion on ways to help those in need of assistance
 - i. Food – most parishes have food pantries in the area, Tribe offers “meals on wheels”
 - ii. Shelter – more information is needed
 1. Drugs have an impact on options
 - iii. Sister Miriam Shindelar may have more ideas on how to assist
4. Fr. Tom reflected on the leadership retreat that was held in September.
 - a. One aspect of the retreat was to have a similar meeting format so that when priest are assigned to a pastorate, they will be familiar with the structure of the meeting.
 - b. The importance of including prayer in the meetings.
 - c. Presented the 4 different models for meetings.
 - d. Understanding that implementation is a process and we are at the beginning.
5. Fr. Tom reviewed the Pastorate Team Decision Handout with the responses the team had come up with.
6. Thematic Goal
 - a. Explained that the team divided up the goal into a focus for Advent, Lent and a final theme goal.
 - b. “Carry the light to those in darkness” is currently underway. A candlelight service has been held for the deceased during the past year. Advent calendar daily and weekly reflections will be passed out to parishioners the first weekend of Advent.
 - c. Members were asked to pray for inspiration for the Lent season. Possible theme would be “Come back to me with all your Heart”
7. The next meeting is scheduled for February 3, 2026
8. Deacon Joe closed with a prayer.