Blessed Trinity/St. John Evangelist
Joint Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
September 29, 2026 6:30 pm St. John Evangelist meeting room

Our Mission: *Working for the Salvation of Souls*

Council Members Present: Sarah Schueffner, Rick Michaletz, Scott Birenbaum, Nancy Mathieu, Mary Jo Schultz, Jim O'Neill, Kimberly Hoffmann, Kristine Cvetan, Rita Woodworth, Donna Stieghorst, Anthony B.

Parish Staff Present: Fr. Michael Lawinger and Deacon Justin Spaeth

Absent: Terry Hartman, Siena M.

Call to Order: Sarah Schueffner

Opening Prayer: Fr. Michael
Fr. Michael started with the Holy Spirit prayer and then led a discussion reviewing the Sacrament of Confirmation and praying to the Holy Spirit.

Approval of Agenda: Jim O'Neill moved to approve the agenda as presented. Nancy Mathieu seconded the motion.

Approval of Minutes:
Rich Michaletz moved to approve the minutes of August 25, 2026, Joint Pastoral Council meeting. Scott Birenbaum seconded the motion.

Old Business:
Deacon Justin Spaeth led a discussion on the following ministries:

1. Wednesday night Family Religious Education nights: These gatherings are not only for RE students and families but also for anyone who would like to attend. The gatherings begin with a meal, followed by opportunities for families/ parishioners to share both the positive and challenging moments of the past week. Either Father Michael or Deacon Justin will present a specific theme or focus for the evening followed by the opportunity for small groups to discuss and study scripture. The goal is to offer 24 Wednesday evening gatherings during the academic school year. Suggestion was made to post these Wednesday evening opportunities in the bulletin, email and announce at church again.
2. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Ministry (CGS): an atrium is set up in the Catholic Life Center in one of the classrooms. This is a Montessori type classroom and is currently offered from August until Ascension for 3–6-year-old children. Class size is limited to 12 students and currently 2 sessions are being held. There are 4 levels for CGS but currently we are offering only Level 1. Long range goal is to grow to all four levels. The Parish will be offering training for instructors in July of 2027.
3. Summer RE program: this past summer about 50 students attended a 2-week session of RE instruction. Each day began with Mass and focus for the students to learn more about the liturgy and how to actively participate. For the summer of 2027 the session will be June 14-25, 2027, and include preparation for the sacraments of Reconciliation, Communion and Confirmation for the appropriate age groups.

New Business: No new business was discussed.

Pastor's Report:
Father Michael led a discussion on our parishes and the resources we focus on and how we subsequently bear fruit/ gifts from those actions.

Items for Next Meeting's Agenda:
The next meeting of the Joint Pastoral Council will be October 27th in the BT parish hall. No suggestions made for agenda items.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Michael