



## PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES ACTAS DE LAS REUNIONES DEL CONSEJO PASTORAL

### Minutes

Chair: Buster Brown

Date: 2.27.2025

Location: Church Hall

Time: 6: 14 pm

Additional Details:

#### Participants (P – Present; NP- Not Present)

Rev. Patrick Cahill (P)	Rev. Dr. Mike Zboyovski (NP)	Rev. Dr. John Langlois (P)	Buster Brown (Chair, 6/25) (P)	Abel Lomeli-Garcia (Vice Chair, 6/26) (P)
Laurie Zone-Smith PhD (Secretary, 6/26) (P)	Dr. Shawna Hoffert (6/25) (NP)	Charles James PhD (6/25) (NP)	Laura Morales (6/25) (NP)	Joe Stritch (6/26) (NP)
Michael MacCauley (6/26) (P)	Ginny Raviotta (6/27) (P)	Noe Valdez (6/27) (NP)	Dr. Daniel Frayne (6/27) (P)	Terry Ryan (6/27) (P)

**Guests:** MaryEllen Shepard Parish Life Coordinator (NP); Amy Arias-Cordova Dir Religious Ed. (NP)

#### Discussion

- Call to order at 6:14 pm. Buster Brown
- Opening Prayer Deacon John
- Welcome & Introductions Buster Brown
- 1.28.25 Minutes Discussion Buster Brown
  - Minutes were approved by: Ginny made motion to approve and Michael seconded, approved.
- Special Presentation: Dan Frayne introduced Chandler Carriker with ABCCM to explain their new initiative on Storm Recovery. He is ABCCMs Church Engagement Officer bringing together church faith community on restoration idea new ministry of ABCCFM, this initiative is called "Faith 360: Recovery & Restoration Network of WNC" ministry. Staffed by grant of State Employees credit Union, Western Community Foundation; Youth World Relief and others who are investing.
  - Group shared their experience from church perspective of actions immediately post storm. School made donations; parish families lost restaurants, and they were used for catering to have work; Knights of Columbus response; Catholic Charities response. FEMA said will be 10 years ahead of this community to be recovered and restored. Faith 360 to help with care coordination to meet needs, helpful hub to find a place to volunteer, holistic wrap around clinical care and resources. This is a network to help restore and recover this community.
  - Goal: 10 years later no reporter could find someone who didn't have their needs met. Connecting with churches to find people in need to provide support, resources, and help to build the community back better. The ask is for churches to register to be onboard so Faith360 Restoration knows they can call this church.
  - Platform called "NC Cares 360" NC platform is used to record an encounter with a need and can make referrals by telephone in the network to a care coordinator who can check if need (referral) is filled. Church can be on the network, case managers to be on the platform and tie the community together. Whole person/whole family support.
  - Want to be here for the long term and for the next disaster. ABCCM.org serving as the connector from churches to Faith 360 to fill needs. Can support needs from St. Vincent de Paul. Consultants

presented in November 2024 from the United in Crisis group to offer recommendations to build a recovery network.

- Council supported registering with Faith360. Terry made the motion, Buster seconded and was carried. St Eugene will be able to tap into this network.

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## 6 Commissions

- Buildings & Facilities

Joe Stritch

- Joe Stritch provided written summary of Building and Facilities Commission including updates for ministry fair, HVAC, Roof, Solar Panels, Verizon Contract, Sanctuary Beautification, five-year building and facilities plan with alignment to ACS.

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- Education & Formation

Abel Lomeli-Garcia

- Planning in progress. Sent Amy the suggestions the council provided in January. Fundraising ideas. Planning for Retreat at end of March (3/29/25 9:00-5:00pm) for 78 students for confirmation sacrament. Synod suggested focus on Youth mental health. Theme: "Let There Be Hope" in the Year of Jubilee. Attendance is a requirement for confirmation sacrament at the retreat. Confirmation is scheduled for 10/22/25 at 7:00pm. Life Teen camp in July strongly encouraged. Youth Group attendance on Sunday at 4:00pm. Notification systems for parents and youth – REMIND app, text reminders.

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- Evangelization & Communications

Charles James

- Report next meeting.

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- Liturgy & Worship

Rev. Dr. Michael Zboyovski

- Deacon Mike and Father Pat are looking for a sacristan for mass at 11:30am; holy days rotate sacristans. Coordinate liturgy behind the scenes, role is like a stage manager for the 11 people supporting mass activity.
- New liturgical norms for diocese, signup for a liturgical ministry (celebration of the mass) is a 3 year term; if continue need to have liturgical training continuing education.

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- Outreach (Ecumenism)

Ginny Raviotta

- Ginny made contact with each of the leaders of the ministries in the commission last fall and will again this month.
- Walking Together in Hope – 4/5/25 2:00pm is the Bereavement ministry memorial service. Father Pat to let the families know of those who were deceased in the last year.
- Beloved long-time choir member Sharon Killian's funeral will be Monday 3/3/25 at 10:00 am.

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- Parish Life

MaryEllen Shepard

- Racial Justice ministry organized and planned the Pre-Lenten retreat last weekend at St. Eugene's. Everyone loved that it was at our home church with English and Spanish speakers. Facilitators in the groups were bilingual and able to interpret for the group sharing everyone's testimonies. Everyone wants more retreats. Loved the speaker Father Roberto from Immaculate Conception. Final number of participants = 90. Executed so well, great responses and very grateful.
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- Lenten series starting on Thursday 3/13 6-8pm every Thursday through 4/10 in lent located at the social hall (soup/supper). The Speaker will start at 6:45. Donations will support the youth to attend camp retreat for confirmation.
  - 40 hours Adoration – Signup between 9:00 pm on Wednesday 3/5/25 through to 5:00pm Friday 3/7/25. Sign Up booklet in the Narthex; 2 people per hour.
  - Terry Ryan suggested adding Annual Parish Retreat in 2026 to the strategic plan to respond to more adult education. Laurie suggested consider adding retreat activity into the day of the parish picnic in the newly renovated large open Eden Hall space.
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## Old Business

Buster Brown

- St Eugene Capital Improvements Fund
 

Buster Brown

    - Shared a handout on the capital improvement fund. No campaign for 5 years peer the diocese. But we can verbally ask if anyone would like to give to the St Eugene Capital Improvements Fund. Father Pat shared a list of capital expenditures that are coming due in the next year or two. The parishioner families have already pledged \$50k over the next 5 years! Donations can be made to St. Eugene and mailed to the parish office c/o Mechelle Kobar Parish administrator.
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## New Business

- Parish Planning
 

Terry Ryan

    - Internal assessment completed (faith formation to clergy to improvements) over the next 5 years. Synthesis of what challenges we have and prioritize to address. Steering committee in April sends summary to the parish council, then gives to finance council and gives to clergy to take to the diocese. Budget recommendations to go to Father Pat before June 30 for start of FY. April meeting will be a finance council meeting.
    - Terry comes to parish council to brief council on financial position. End of FY – over expected \$157k even with the storm. Doing well. Need funded and unfunded line of strategy (e.g. middle school instructor- part time); grants and possible offset of capital improvement funds. Potential to provide funding for other needs such as to register your child for faith formation, to make it free. Currently, \$150 to join faith formation.
    - Working on the 5 year strategic plan to move forward with parish activities.
  - Stain glass at front of alter: Half of the faux stained glass is up but Allison (music ministry director) is requesting to do 2<sup>nd</sup> stain glass faux panels erected on the left side of the alter because is now unbalanced and will assist with reducing glare for the musicians and pianist. Council approved to make it balanced on each side of the alter. Michael brought request forward.
  - Father Pat shared a summary comparison of Catholics in 1965 and in 2023 the Bishop shared with the clergy. In 1965 - 45M Catholics; in 2023 52M (Up 14%); Shared statistics of baptisms 1965 1.3M down to 527K in 2023; Catholic weddings 1965 - 420k and in 2023 down to 111k; Seminarians in 1965 were 8300 and in 2023 = 2900; priests, religious sisters weekly mass attendance all down. Need to develop strategies empowering the laity into evangelization to connect people back to the church.
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- From the Parish – Suggestion Box
 

Laurie Zone-Smith

    - Suggestion to add confession during a weekday in the daytime when possible. Father pat to review how to offer.
    - Communion for the homebound – Deacon Mike is the contact.
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| • Closing Prayer               | Father Pat   |
| • Meeting Adjourned at 7:50 pm | Buster Brown |
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## **Next Meeting:    March 25, 2025**

*If you have any questions or need additional information about the minutes, please reach out to a Parish Council member. Parish Council members' information is posted on the Pastoral Council bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.*

### **2025 Parish Council Meeting schedule (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday) @ 6:00pm in the Parish Hall:**

Tuesday 3/25/25  
Tuesday 4/29/25  
Tuesday 5/27/25  
Tuesday 6/24/25