

### **CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION**

4996 Hazelwood Ave, Northfield, MN 55057

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### **Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) Meeting Minutes**

**July 7, 2026 – 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Parish Hall**

**Call to Order:** Mike Wallin

#### **Opening Prayer**

**Roll Call / Attendees:** Marthann Schulte, Mike Wallin, Darlene Pumper, Christina Nelsen, Deb Becker, Father Justus, Jennifer Malecha (Office Coordinator) and parishioners.

**Not Present:** Joe Pumper (Trustee), and Steve Zastara (Trustee)

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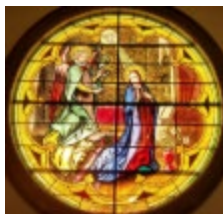
#### **Reading and Approval of Minutes**

- The minutes for **May 2026** were previously approved via email and distributed to all council members. No additional changes were noted.

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#### **Reports: (officers, committees, ex-officio, etc.)**

- **Father Justus –**
  - Father expressed his heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped make the celebration of his Silver Jubilee so special. He appreciated all who volunteered, attended, and supported the event, sharing that he felt truly blessed by the generosity and spirit of the parish community.
  - Effective July 1, Father has been appointed to a six-year term and will continue serving both Annunciation and St. Pius in Cannon Falls, with his pastoral responsibilities shared equally between the two parishes.
  - Father shared his appreciation for the continued growth of the youth ministry. He recognized Andrew for his leadership in developing the program to help youth build relationships with one another while growing in their faith.
  - Father also reflected on his first parish festival, sharing how much he enjoyed seeing the collaboration among parishioners and volunteers. He thanked everyone who helped make the festival a success and appreciated the strong sense of community it demonstrated.
- **Parish Office Coordinator**
  - Catholic Mutual provided the annual parish safety report. The requirement for transportation compliance applies only when transporting more than 11 children in a parish-owned vehicle, which does not apply to our parish as we do not have a vehicle of that capacity. It is recommended that we obtain an AED (defibrillator) which is now located in the back of church. Sidewalk shoveling guidelines have been reposted, and Catholic Mutual training (CMT) has been distributed to volunteers. Smoke alarms were



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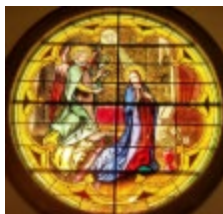
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- reviewed and found to be in compliance. The clothes dryer vent is required to be metal and will be inspected to confirm compliance.
- **Trustees** no report
- **Others (Maintenance, Cemetery, Altar & Rosary, Men's Club, Faith Formation, etc.)**
  - **Cemetery** – next meeting July 21<sup>st</sup> at 5pm
  - **Faith Formation** – Plans are underway to meet with the Youth Ministry Director from Cannon Falls to explore opportunities for collaboration between the two parishes' youth ministries. The goal is to share ideas, strengthen current programs, and identify new ways to increase youth participation and engagement. We are also looking at other parish programs for inspiration and new opportunities to continue growing and enriching our youth ministry efforts.

#### Unfinished Business:

- **Lord, Renew Your Church Campaign** – The initial pledge campaign has been completed, although parishioners are always welcome to make a new pledge or increase an existing one. The parish has already begun receiving funds from the campaign. These funds are being held in a separate account and will be used for the projects identified and approved by the parish.
- **Safety - Equipment (AED/Defibrillator)** – in in the back of church now. August is anticipated as the training time. Watch the bulletin for details.
- **New Hymnals** – The updates are currently in progress and are anticipated to be completed in time for the start of the new liturgical year. The hymn board is being reviewed if it can be modified to accommodate five number slots, allowing both hymn numbers and Scripture readings to be displayed. Once the changes are complete, new number sets will be produced as well.
- **Father Justus' new duties/schedules – Annunciation and St. Pius (Cannon Falls)** – Establishing the Mass schedule continues to be one of the most challenging aspects of serving both parishes. Father is carefully considering the feedback received through the parish survey, along with the needs of both Annunciation and St. Pius, to develop a schedule that best serves each parish community. While this process takes time, every effort is being made to arrive at a thoughtful and balanced solution for everyone.
- **Parish Festival Wrap-Up – July 26 after Mass:** The festival was a great success, with all 300 tickets sold, making it the parish's largest fundraiser of the year. A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who helped with planning, setup, worked the various areas during the event, and assisted with cleanup. This celebration would not be possible without the dedication and generosity of our volunteers. Thank you to all who contributed to making the festival such a wonderful success!



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#### New Business:

- **July 26 – Youth Group** – After mass. See the bulletin for more details.
- **Finance Council** – Buck Nelsen has been appointed Chairman of the Finance Council. Father also welcomed Heather Malecha as the newest member of the Finance Council and thanked both for their willingness to serve the parish.
- **Outdoor Mass** – The continuation of the outdoor Mass is currently being reviewed. We value the sense of community this celebration provides and appreciate the opportunity it creates for parishioners to gather together. At the same time, we are evaluating how this option best serves the needs of the parish, with the understanding that it may be most appropriate for those with extreme medical conditions or special circumstances. We are also considering other ways to support those unable to attend Mass, such as Eucharistic Minister visits or opportunities for visits from Father. We ask everyone to prayerfully consider this as we discern the best path forward for our parish community. Please watch the bulletin for additional information as we continue working through this process.

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#### Announcements

- **Next Meeting:** September 1<sup>st</sup> 6:30pm

#### Closing Prayer

**Adjournment:** Motion made and seconded.

**Respectfully submitted by:** Christina Nelsen, PPC Secretary, 7/7/2026