



CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION

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Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) Meeting Minutes September 1, 2026 – 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Parish Hall

Call to Order: Marthann Schulte

Opening Prayer

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

Not Present: n/a

Reading and Approval of Minutes: The minutes for **July 2026** were previously approved via email and distributed to all council members. No additional changes were noted.

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

- **Father Justus**
 - Father Justus is now officially serving our parish. With this transition in place, the parish has reached a more stable position and is well positioned to move forward. This provides a strong foundation for continued ministry, planning, and growth as we look ahead.
 - Buck Nelsen has officially been appointed Chairman of the Finance Council. Father also welcomed Heather Malecha as the newest member of the Finance Council and expressed his appreciation to both Buck and Heather for their willingness to serve the parish and support the work of the Finance Council.
 - A full Cemetery Committee is now in place with six members. The parish appreciates their willingness to serve and looks forward to the committee working together to oversee cemetery needs and ongoing maintenance.
- **Parish Office Coordinator** – no report
- **Trustees** – The Trustees are currently working on identifying a replacement for Steve's position. There is a desire to rotate individuals serving in this role and provide opportunities for new members of the parish to become involved in church leadership. Additional information regarding the role and its responsibilities will be shared in the bulletin. The Trustee serves as an overseer of the parish, attending church and committee meetings to maintain awareness of activities and initiatives across the church. The role helps ensure that the various committees and ministries remain aligned with the overall mission and direction of the parish. The Trustee also works closely with the Father to discuss ideas and opportunities that support the church's mission, serves as a voice for the parish, and provides support to the church's leadership. If interested, please reach out to Father Justus, Steve Zastara or Joe Pumper.
- **Others (Maintenance, Cemetery, Altar & Rosary, Men's Club, Faith Formation, etc.)** – The following committee meetings and upcoming activities were noted:

Altar & Rosary: October 4

Cemetery Committee: November 17

Finance Council: October 27

Faith Formation: Classes will begin October 4

Unfinished Business:

- **Lord, Renew Your Church Campaign** – Planning and project work are not yet ready to begin. The first payment of funds has been received and remains in the parish account. No expenditures are currently planned. Before any funds are used, the parish will review the initial goals and requirements to ensure the funds are spent appropriately and in accordance with the funding guidelines.
- **Safety - Equipment (AED/Defibrillator)** – is in the back of church. Jennifer is working on getting a CPR/AED training date set up and will contact those who have offered to take the training.
- **New Hymnals** – The parish is pleased to announce that the new hymnals have been received and the project is now complete. Thanks to the grant we were able to obtain 100 new hymnals, which include the full Years A, B, and C readings. The hymnals have also been embossed with our church name, providing a meaningful and lasting addition to our parish. We will begin using the new hymnals at the start of the new church year on the First Sunday of Advent. We are grateful to everyone who helped make this project possible and look forward to incorporating the new hymnals into our worship.
- **Father Justus' new duties/schedules – Annunciation and St. Pius (Cannon Falls)** – No changes to the current schedules or arrangements are planned at this time. Father Justus is continuing to become familiar with both parishes and their respective needs. As he gets to know the communities and ministries, he will bring forward any ideas, questions, or suggestions for consideration as needed.
- **Youth Group** – The Youth Group continues to develop and is doing very well. It has been wonderful to see the youth taking ownership of the group, spending time together, communicating well, and growing in their relationships with one another and within the parish. Youth in 8th grade and older are welcome to participate. The group is also planning a service opportunity at Feed My Starving Children. Additional details will be shared through the parish bulletin and announcements as plans are finalized.
 - **Extreme Faith Camp:** Planning is underway for the diocesan X-Treme Faith Camp for students entering grades 6–8. Next year's camp is scheduled for July 10–16, 2027. This will be a great opportunity for our youth to grow in their faith, build friendships with other young Catholics, and participate in a week of faith-filled activities and experiences. Additional information, including registration details, will be shared as plans are finalized. Parish families are encouraged to watch the bulletin and parish announcements for more details.

New Business:

- **Parking Lot Sealing:** Jeff Docken spoke with the county engineer regarding the condition of the parish parking lot and was advised that, with proper sealing, the parking lot could provide several additional years of service. Jeff obtained a bid from Seal King for the work. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to bring the proposal forward to the Finance Committee for review and consideration. Sealing the parking lot would improve the overall appearance of the parish property while also helping protect the surface and extend the useful life of the parking lot.

Announcements

- **Next Meeting:** November 17, 2026 6:30pm

Closing Prayer

Adjournment: Motion made and seconded.

Respectfully submitted by: Christina Nelsen, PPC Secretary, 9/1/2026