NW8 Joint Pastoral Council Minutes
Thursday, June 15, 2023 – 7:00 PM
Holy Redeemer, New Bremen

NW8 Unified Parish Council meeting began with Beacons of Light Prayer

NW8 Staffing & other Updates:

- Fr. Ken offered thanks as we near our first year as NW8. Worship and needs seem to be provided for, a lot of good cooperation, and general sense things are going well.
- Nick Wilker part time Pastoral Associate/Director of Worship & Sacraments for the NW8 family of parishes while continuing as Director of Liturgy and Music for Holy Redeemer. Official start date is August 1, 2023, but will transition over the summer.
- Leslie Tyler will serve as part time Northwest 8 Business Manger while continuing as St. Augustine Business Manager. Our NW8 Finance folks have been working together since April 2022 with a working expense sharing agreement and coordinating other financial repsorts. Leslie will be a helpful resource person as we continue to rely upon financial staff in each of our parishes and engaged Finance Councils to help oversee local finances.
- Chris Wibbenmeyer will serve as a part time NW8 Communications Administrator while continuing as CRE for St. John's. His role is to collaborate with all our staff developing a unified communications plan that will include website, social media and other digital communications.
- Kathy Pape is retiring as CRE for Pre-school to 6th grade after 19 years of service at Holy Redeemer. Hiring process underway with anticipated hire by July 1st.
- Paul Gagel retired as St. John's Business Manager May 5th after 50 years of service and Joan Heitkamp recently announced her resignation as Marion Cluster Parish Secretary to work full-time in a family business. Hiring process underway for a part time St. John's Business Manager taking on financial duties previously handled by Joan. Will assess is additional secretarial serves are needed. Anticipated hire by July 1st.
- Hiring process underway for a part time Parish Accountant at St. Augustine to assume financial services by the Parish Business Manager. Anticipated hire by july 1st.
- We have been advertising for a Marion Cluster Youth Minister and talking to some folks, but no applications so far. We will keep working at it, but may need to put together some kind of volunteer setup for a while.

Stewardship is the realization that all that we are and all that we have are gifts from God and we say thanks to God by sharing a portion of our time, talents and treasures with others. We are beginning the process of developing a NW8 Stewardship Commission. Deacon Brad is our Stewardship point person. We have a lot of resources from the Archdiocese and that Fr. Ken helped develop over the years in the Celina Cluster.

Naming of NW8 Family of Parishes - Nomination forms due June 18th, top 3 to 4 names presented in July, voting first week of August.

Vision Retreat Day planned for early September 2023, gathering 60-70 parishioners across NW8. Subgroup meetings October and a convocation early November. Goal is to develop a Vision Statement and further guidance for NW8.

Respect Life information sessions on the proposed amendment to Ohio's Constitution and the special August election are being held Tuesday, June 27th 7 – 9 PM at the Minster KC; June 29th 12 – 2 PM at Precious Blood and July 13th 7 – 9 PM at Holy Redeemer.

Beginning discussion for a NW8 Vocations Committee and workshop August 5th.

Family of Parishes Unified Pastoral Council

- Consensus among all councils that in addition to a Unified Parish Council, individual parish councils are necessary for each parish for the regular operation and upkeep of each parish.
- Discussed that there are a variety of different organizational structures among the NW8 parishes and that it will be a work in progress determining consistent structures for all parishes as a Unified Parish Council. May consider using the 6 Beacons of Light parameters as possible groupings.
- The usual range of Pastoral Councils are seven to 15 members, including Pastor. There may be other clergy and appointed staff. The size should be small enough to allow for a sense of community among the members, and, at the same time, large enough to reflect a good representation of the Family of Parishes. The size may also be affected by the number of commissions that are operative in the Family of Parishes.
    - General consensus that two members from each individual parish council would comprise a Unified Parish Council along with the Pastor.
- Meetings are recommended 3 to 4 times a year, coordinated with meeting dates of individual parish council meetings.

NW8 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas Schedule

4th Sunday of Advent

Saturday PM, December 23
3:00 PM – St. Augustine
3:00 PM – Precious Blood
4:30 PM – Holy Redeemer
5:00 PM - St. John
5:00 PM - St. Augustine
7:30 PM - Nativity

Sunday AM, December 24
8:00 AM - St. Joseph
9:00 AM – Precious Blood
10:00 AM – Holy Redeemer
10:00 AM – St. Augustine
10:30 AM - St John

Christmas Eve

Sunday PM, December 24
3:00 PM – Precious Blood
3:00 PM – Holy Redeemer
4:00 PM – St. Augustine
5:00 PM – St. John
5:00 PM – Holy Redeemer
7:00 PM – St. Augustine
7:30 PM – Nativity
10:30 PM – St. John

Christmas Day

Monday AM, December 25
8:00 AM – St. Joseph
8:00 AM – St. Augustine
8:30 AM – St. Sebastian
8:30 AM – Precious Blood
10:00 AM – Holy Redeemer
10:00 AM – St. Augustine
10:30 AM – St. Rose
10:30 AM – St. John