

These meeting minutes were approved
at the October 26 meeting.

**Spiritual Growth and Liturgy Committee
Minutes of the meeting of 28 September 2006**

Participants: Gary and Kay Aitchison, JoAnn Dalhoff, Bill Haas, Bob Hauser, Carolyn Johnson, Father Ivan Nienhaus, Sue Stanton, Cyndi Volcko, and Jacque Zbaracki

A. Call to Order/Prayer

Bob Hauser called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 pm and led the committee in the Prayer of the Day from *Daily Prayer 2006*, Liturgical Training Publications.

B. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed, amended and approved.

C. Liturgical Ministries

1. Eucharistic Ministers –

After discussion, the committee decided to try distribution of communion at six stations at the 10:30 Mass for a trial period of one month.

2. Lectors –

- Bob Hauser reported he is proceeding to replace the present 12-inch microphone at the ambo with an 18-inch microphone. That should provide better sound pickup for lectors.
- It was observed that lectors need formation and training updates for ideal proclamation of the Word of God. JoAnn Dalhoff and Bill Haas agreed to help with this. Bob Hauser agreed to initiate discussion of the matter with the lector coordinator, Mike Vaclav.

3. Servers –

Bob Hauser reported he is planning server training sessions on October 18, 23, 25. For better effectiveness, he plans to limit the size of the training groups to about six.

4. Ushers –

Father Nienhaus reported. The Fire Marshall has put us on notice that our use of chairs for additional seating at the back of the church must be cut way back and chairs may not be used at all in the side aisles.

With the new Mass schedule and limitation of chairs, it is important that the ushers be really effective in seating and concentrating the congregation. They need to start early and stay right on top of it to be effective. We need usher formation and training. Also, all need to know what action to take in the case of emergency. We need a plan. Bob Hauser agreed to look into what emergency response guidance is available from local authorities.

5. Vocations –

Gary Aitchison noted we need a plan of the actions we will take to promote vocations (of all types). The plan might include asking the Archdiocesan Vocations Director to speak at all the Masses on a weekend, using the Called by Name program, etc. Bill Haas noted that the parish council has identified the promotion of vocations as a parish need and he agreed to bring more detailed information regarding planned parish council actions to the next meeting.

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D. Upcoming Calendar

Bob Hauser distributed copies of an upcoming events calendar for October, November and December. Please see page 5 of these minutes. Discussion followed. The following items were noted:

- For the evening All Souls day remembrance service on Thursday, November 2, Bob Hauser asked for help from the SG&L committee members.
- Concerning the Recognition and Blessing of Music Ministers on Sunday, November 19, Gary Aitchison suggested we need a list of the ministries to be recognized and blessed and a schedule for doing so—a long range plan. Bill Haas agreed to send Gary the list of other previously identified groups to be so recognized and blessed.
- Concerning the new Mass times for Christmas, we'll have to get this information out. It was noted that this information is ordinarily shared in the Christmas message mailed to all parishioners and that Bob Hauser and Bill Haas will also provide schedule information on the parish website.

E. Perpetual Adoration

Cyndi Volcko and Father Nienhaus reported.

- 1,300 “How to make a Holy Hour” brochures (50 in Spanish) were handed out after the Masses on October 9/10. On sign-up weekend, October 11/17, 100 sign-up sheets were received; of those, eighty were new to adoration. In addition, five new adorers signed up at the Hispanic Mass. The group is planning to contact all by October 1 and schedule an orientation for the new adorers. The updated adoration schedule should be ready by October 10.
- Therese Baker is helping the group add adorers throughout the year. They have always had a sign-up brochure and information about adoration in the new adorer packets, but they didn't have a good way of receiving that information back if people were interested in signing up. Now, however, the adorer committee receives that information in a very timely way and they are able to make contact and schedule an orientation time very quickly. This helps the group maintain the fullest possible schedule throughout the year.
- Father Nienhaus reported that we're borrowing a monstrance from Jewell while ours is being refurbished. Contributions have already been received for that purpose. Father Nienhaus noted there is a nice candelabrum in the priest's residence.
- The adoration group is working on what will occur for the 10th anniversary of Eucharistic Adoration at St. Cecilia's, December 9/10. It was suggested that would be an ideal weekend to have a blessing at each Mass for all adorers and Cyndi will follow up on that with Father Nienhaus.

F. Gathering Space

A number of items were discussed.

- A crucifix is needed in the vesting area.
- The Milleman family and another family have donated live plants for the Gathering Space.

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- The Aitchisons noted they will soon be putting up some of the art that had been taken down just before construction began. The committee consensus was that it would be good to go really slow on putting things on the Gathering Space walls.
- Father Nienhaus suggested it would be nice to have a table for seasonal displays at the center of the Gathering Space. He envisions something roughly four of five feet square and perhaps 3 feet tall. It should be moveable with relative ease and it should not have sharp corners. JoAnn Dalhoff and Cyndi Volcko agreed to work on what might be possible.
- Bob Hauser mentioned that he had presented the draft **Guidelines for Use of the Gathering Space** at the parish council meeting earlier this week but that the council members didn't provide much feedback. Bill Haas noted that the subject meeting was a very long one and that perhaps there would be more opportunity discussion at the next parish council meeting. The SG&L committee is concerned that wedding reception activities not interfere with regularly scheduled parish liturgical activities such as reconciliation and evening Mass. It was suggested that someone, perhaps Jerry Greving, look into how other Ames churches handle food, drink, alcoholic beverages, music, and security questions for weddings conducted in their facilities.

G. Outdoor Banners

Bob Hauser asked for persons willing to look into the use of banners on the light poles. JoAnn Dalhoff and Cyndi Volcko agreed to do so.

H. Advent/Christmas Environment Sub-Committee

This committee will meet in the Music Room at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, October 10. Bob Hauser invited all to think about this and share ideas. He invited interested persons to attend.

I. Bereavement Committee

Jacque Zbaracki reported. She and Julie Haas have been collecting lots of information and have received a lot of help from Father Nienhaus, Bob Hauser, and members and staff of Saint Thomas Aquinas parish. Father Nienhaus says the committee is doing great work.

J. Centering Prayer Method

Carolyn Johnson distributed a handout containing excerpts from *Open Mind, Open Heart*, a book by Father Thomas Keating. Since it was getting late, Bob Hauser asked the committee members to consider this material for discussion at the next meeting. Bob committed to putting the topic on a much earlier portion of the agenda for that meeting.

K. Liturgy of the Word for Children

Bob Hauser reported volunteers are asking if/when we are going to resume this. The committee responded, Right On.

L. MagnifiKid!

In response to a question, Bob Hauser reported that approximately 60 copies per month are being picked up and we are receiving donations of approximately \$45-50 /month to help defray the cost. It was suggested that the copies not picked up be used in the School and/or

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in the Liturgy of the Word for Children. There was also a suggestion that breaking up some of the monthly packets might encourage people to try them out for their children during the weekend Masses.

H. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at approximately 9:10 pm.

Next meeting at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, October 26, 2006

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Haas

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Spiritual Growth and Liturgy Calendar 2006-7 Upcoming Calendar

October 2006

Sunday, October 1 — Respect Life Sunday

We will address Life issues in the intercessions.

The Knights of Columbus will be distributing roses and accepting contributions for RTL issues.

The ACCW is also planning an action.

Sunday, October 29— Priest Appreciation Sunday

Father Howard is also visiting, and has offered to play a Polka Mass. The group is planning to play in Nevada on Saturday evening; Bob Hauser is trying to line them up to play for one or two Masses at St. Cecilia's on Sunday.

November 2006

Wednesday November 1 — All Saints Day — a Holy Day

Masses will be at 5:30 on the vigil, 7:00 am on the Holy Day, another for the school, and 5:30 pm at St. Thomas Aquinas.

Thursday November 2 — All Souls Day — Remembrance Mass in the morning

Remembrance service with memorial candles at 7:30 pm

Saturday, Nov. 11 and Sunday, Nov. 12 — Anointing of the Sick at all Masses

Sunday, November 12 — Good Neighbor Benefit Concert,
3:00 pm, Northminster Presbyterian Church

Sunday, November 19 — Recognition and Blessing of Music Ministers

Wednesday, November 22 — Saint Cecilia Feast Day

Thursday, November 23 — Thanksgiving Day

Sunday, November 26 — Christ the King

December 2006

Sunday, December 3 — First Sunday of advent — RCIA Rite of entrance

Friday, December 8 — Feast of the Immaculate Conception — Holy Day

Sunday December 10 — 10th Anniversary of Eucharistic Adoration at St. Cecilia

Sunday, December 17 — Hanging of the Greens

Thursday, December 21 — Communal Reconciliation

Sunday, December 24 — Christmas Eve — Masses at 4:00, 6:30 pm, and midnight.

Monday, December 25 — Christmas Day — one Mass at 10:00 am