**St. Maria Goretti**

**Pastoral Council**

**Meeting Notes**

**September 7, 2016**

Members Present: Father Chung, Deacon Peter Niche, Kim Staudt, Megan Szewczak, Maria Richardson, Douglas Smith, Janna Kerr, Cheryl Ryan, Dave Mazeroski, Bic Nguyen, Linda Hudak, Ron Boak, and Charles Amuso. Member Excused: Huynh Kim Saner.

Father Chung opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:00 p.m.

Reports:

1. Parish Update
   1. Father Chung reported that the Our Lady of La Vang feast day will be celebrated on Sunday, September 18th by the Vietnamese Community with a procession and Mass at 2:30 p.m.
   2. Father also reported that the new chair for the celebrant in our sanctuary is the chair made for Pope Francis by inmates at the Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility for his visit to Philadelphia. Father Chung arranged for the chair to come to our parish permanently.
   3. Parish members numbering 550 have responded that they will attend the Parish Picnic on Saturday, September 10th.
   4. The local Senior Club has disbanded and contributed its funds to the St. Vincent de Paul Society.
   5. The Legion of Mary, while it will continue to meet and pray, will no longer be affiliated with the National Legion of Mary because of the requirements to maintain the affiliation are too difficult for our local group to maintain.
2. Committee Reports
   1. Janna Kerr reported for the **Long Term Planning Committee** on the plans for implementation of the Pastoral Plan. She led a discussion of how the updates of progress will be delivered to the parish members. The Council members decided that updates will be provided quarterly in the bulletin and the Constant Contact email. Annual updates will be provided at Mass on one weekend.
   2. Kim Staudt reported for the **Development and Fundraising Committee** that the Parish Raffle was a success again this year and worked better to hold the single final raffle in June.
   3. Meg Szewczak**, Director of Religious Education**, reported that the PREP Program is expanding the types of programs that will be offered for 2016-2017. There will be a Sunday PREP class for both students and families following the 9:30 a.m. Mass. There will also be an Adaptive PREP Class for students who have been diagnosed as persons on the Autism Spectrum. This will be the only such class in our region. The PREP Program will begin on Sunday, September 11th.
   4. Meg also reported that there will be a **Ministry Month** in October. Our Parish ministries will be meeting with interested parishioners in the Narthex. The hope is that more parishioners will understand the ministries and come forward a volunteer for a ministry.
   5. Linda Hudak reported that the **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd** will begin classes on Sunday, September 11th. This program is for 3 to 6-year-old children. There will be two sessions on Sunday mornings, one at 9:15 a.m. and the other at 11:15 a.m. Each session will have a certified instructor and either an adult or high school student aide to assist. The 9:15 a.m. session is over enrolled by one, but the 11;15 a.m. session has open spots remaining.
   6. Maria Richardson, **Director of Family Faith Formation**, described the many programs planned for young parishioners and for families in the near future. Those include the Sacramental Scavenger Hunt, the Bethany Music Ministry and Holy Hour on September 18th, the Bible Study for middle school students, in addition to the many other activities planned.
   7. Kim Staudt, coordinator, announced that the **Friday Morning Bible Study** currently has 30 enrolled. Additional participants are welcome.

Father Chung closed the meeting with a prayer at 8:00 p.m.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 5th.