

Women of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church (WSJ)

May 7, 2023 Parish Center

The meeting began at 0908 when called to order by President Teresa Fiala with twenty attendees.

See attached agenda.

Gayle Schneller opened the meeting with a prayer.

The minutes from the previous meeting were read by Secretary Finny Sechser and unanimously approved by the group following a motion from Gayle and a second from Jan Skott.

Ione Fejfar presented the Treasurer's report with input from Teresa showing a current balance of \$38,853. Our Petty cash has a balance of \$8424.15 and \$20,015.25 in our contingency savings. There are two CD's at First Interstate Bank that will mature in 2024.

Teresa highlighted the income from the Ham Dinner of March 19, 2023- the basket raffle brought in \$1379. The donations from parishioners and guests totaled \$672. Ticket sales for around 180 people totaled \$2815. We gave the Knights of Columbus \$661 which left the income for the Women of St. John's at \$2143. Our expenses from Lynn's Dakotamart were \$293.99 (showing a generous discount from them). The end income from the Ham Dinner was \$1849.01.

Teresa shared that we will no longer save leftover funeral food as it goes to waste in the freezer. Please send any leftovers home with the family of the deceased. If they do not want to take it, dispose of it among the people who worked at the funeral.

The Bake Sales we hold each summer were discussed with this outcome. Bake Sales will be on Saturdays and Sundays before and after Mass with each funeral group being responsible for sales in June, July and September. Chair for Group A is Dee Dahm with the sale on June 17 - 18; group B sale on July 22-23 will be chaired by Dee Hone and Group C will be chaired by Gayle and Karen Larsen on September 2-3. Prices will be determined by the sellers - there is a price guideline on the freezer in the basement of the church. Historically we have made between \$1000-1500. At each sale a sign will be posted indicating where the proceeds are intended.

A lengthy discussion followed a suggestion from Kathy Sales recommending that we offer scholarships to Custer High School graduates in 2024 that have shown involvement in our church, have good grades and have been active with community service. Interest was shared about some sort of focus on music/choir activity. The discussion led to a motion from Gayle and a second from Jeanie Fischer to designate bake sale income from 2023 to go to a scholarship fund for 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

First Communion will happen on June 4, 2023 for Lane Woodford and Eric Estrada with a reception to follow in the church basement. Jill Woodford will make a cake for the two children receiving First Communion; Judy Lacey is coordinating the event at church and Finny offered to organize muffins and juice for attendees at the reception after Mass while Kate Ryan and Karen Larsen will do set up and help with clean up.

A long conversation about honoring the high school graduates who have faithfully served as altar servers over a period of time showed a motion from Joan Vega and a second from Dee Dahm to present a \$100 check to each of the seniors who have been an altar server through their high school years. The motion passed unanimously. Remington Miklos and Jonathan Lewis will be the recipients of the checks.

Graduation in Custer is May 20 with our church's graduation Mass and reception on May 14. Graduating this year are Remington Miklos, Ryken Falkenburg-Brown, Jordan Weiand, Jonathan Lewis and Kylee Dvorak. Joan Vega has once again kindly made banners for each graduate. She and Teresa will host the reception with donuts, juice and coffee following 0800 Mass on May 14.

Jan Skott presented an overview of the summer backpack program that we have participated in the past. She was uncertain of dates open. Discussion ended with a motion from Lone and a second from Kathy Sales to eliminate our participation in this program.

The school year backpack weekend program will continue as evidenced with a motion from Gayle and a second from Leeann Greff to continue it. Approval was unanimous.

Conversation about the Knights of Columbus (KC's) doing food sales during the annual Sturgis Bike Rally led to a motion from Leeann that the WSJ will assist and give all income to the KC's. A second from Betty Zacher showed unanimous approval.

Gayle presented information in the absence of Ann Dvorak about the Eucharistic Procession following Masses on June 10 and 11. This is a world wide Catholic event. The KC's have gotten procession approval and will carry the Monstrance, canopy and banner. Ann is requesting that the WSJ provide beverages and snacks at the end of the processions. Joan made a motion that the WSJ purchase economical sized water bottles and granola bars for the event on Saturday and Sunday. A second from Mary Hoover showed unanimous approval.

Finny requested input about an event for September to honor the elders of our church. She cited the contributions they have made and due to them our church is in good order. She shared a list and asked for other names. She wanted suggestions about what type of event to have? - a meal, a tea, snacks? Proposed elders are the Mahrts, Waltmans, Murphy (Owen and Lois and John and Florence), Lois Massa, Betty Compton, Gellermans, Brickeys, Schnellers, Elaine Emery, Caylors, Donna Pfeiffer, Betty Zacher, Mary Woytassek, Virginia Streets, Jerilee Hoefft, Mary Krogman, Sayles, Myra Wickham, unknown man from assisted living. No true age was chosen. Topic to be continued at August 20 meeting.

Teresa asked for updates to the Calling lists when people have knowledge of changes to any and all contact information.

Partial agenda for August 20 - by-laws; elders event; scholarship money; where is money from Lynn's receipts used

Meeting adjourned at 1030 with a closing prayer from Gayle.

Respectfully submitted,

Finny Sechser, secretary WSJ

