

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

August 20, 2023 Parish Center

The meeting began at 0910 when called to order by President Teresa Fiala with twenty attendees.

See attached agenda and attendance. The agenda was corrected to read that Gayle Schneller and Karen Larsen from Group C will chair the Bake Sale on September 2-3; and Joan Vega had a report from the Finance Committee.

Gayle Schneller opened the meeting with a prayer.

Unless otherwise stated, all motions were passed unanimously.

The minutes from the previous meeting were read by Secretary Finny Sechser with a motion from Judy Lacey and a second from Lynda Davis. Motion approved.

In the absence of Treasurer Ione Fejfar, Teresa shared the Treasurer's report. See attached report. Ione plans to be moving permanently in the future and will be gone this year from October through May 2024. Brenda Oster, current SJB bookkeeper will take over money recording with the exception of check signatures so there will be no conflict of interest. Teresa and Jan Skott have check signing capabilities. No reimbursement will be given to anyone without a receipt.

Finny shared the current Constitution and By-Laws that had minimal updates and were signed by Father Collins in March. Review should happen annually.

Thank you notes from Remington Miklos, Jonathan Lewis for graduation money they received for being altar servers through high school and Lisa - daughter of Janis Baty who received a prayer shawl were passed around the group for their reading.

The Bake Sale of June had a net income of \$595 and July's bake sale brought in \$517. The money from the Bake Sales is intended for scholarships in 2024.

Joan Vega reported that the Finance Committee had worked hard to trim the budget as our present income is less than expenses. She shared that all expenses have increased including the allotments required by the diocese. She asked the Women of St. John's (WSJ) to fund replacement of the carpet at the main entry, the steps going into the church proper and down to the basement. Discussion followed about what covering would be best with a motion from Dorothy Vershure that we carpet the steps and entry and make the handrail more secure after viewing samples from Black Hills Flooring that Joan will acquire. The samples will be viewed by any parishioner. A second came from Gayle. Motion approved.

A question was raised about where the money from Lynn's Dakotamart receipt program goes? Joan reported it was used for requests for donations from the community such as after prom party.

Gayle shared that she had received a letter asking about a Work Day to do some maintenance on the church grounds. Agreement was to share the list with Jim Brickey who coordinates maintenance and let him direct what help he needs. Joan shared that there is money in the budget for maintenance.

Finny explained the Elders Honoring Dinner is scheduled for Saturday September 16, 2023 at the Custer Lutheran Fellowship hall following our 1730 Mass. St. John's already has an event planned for the 16th and church rules are that only one event can occur on each day. Conversation came with questions about this rule. Jeanie Fischer stated that they are going to discuss it at the Liturgy meeting.

Finny explained that following a conversation with one of the church elders, she thought about all they had done for the church, all the hours they had volunteered, how long they had been loyal Catholics and how our church would not be in such good condition without all their years of service. This led to the idea of an Elders Event.

Judy L. stated her pleasure in the easy access and spacious parking at Custer Lutheran Fellowship. The group likes the idea of the round tables.

The Elders Dinner will be by invitation only for our 52 Elders and their spouses. Volunteer workers will of course be fed too. Judy Lacey is working on an invitation - it was suggested we mention in the invitation that transportation will be available from the Catholic Church to the Lutheran Fellowship Hall.

Planned menu is turkey with mashed potatoes and gravy and green beans with dinner rolls in baskets at each table. A motion from Jeanie with a second from Judy L. to pay for the food was approved. A sign up sheet was passed soliciting salads and desserts from the WSJ. Teresa and Dorothy offered to bring relishes.

Pending entertainment during dessert will be from the Ukelele Ladies.

A contract with Custer Lutheran Fellowship is attached and the suggested \$30 donation was paid. A motion from Gayle and a second from Jan Skott to reimburse Finny for this expense was passed.

Questions about table decorations led to Jeanie offering to work with Mary Hoover about decorations.

Anyone wanting to tour the hall prior to the event should contact Finny. A tour is required in the contract and coordinators Dawn Holland - kitchen boss, Dee Dahm - salad boss, Teresa - overall guru and Finny-roustabout will coordinate a date to tour.

Teresa will put a note in the bulletin stating we are honoring the elders with an invitation only event on September 16, 2023 following the 1730 Mass.

Judy shared greetings to all from Elaine Emery. Finny shared that Dawn Holland's husband Tim has COVID and she chose to stay home to minimize any exposure from her - they were included in our closing prayer for healing.

Next meeting on September 17, 2023 following Mass. Agenda items will include review of the work list and events at the church.

The meeting adjourned at 1010 following a closing prayer by Gayle.

Respectfully submitted,

Finny Sechser, secretary for Women of St. John's Baptist Church

