

PASTORAL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 5, 2021 7:00 PM  
(Virtual Zoom meeting)

Attendees: Katie Biese Oleinic, Adelyn Carney, Father Bill, Annie Guerts, Elsa Johnson, Nancy Lindo-Drusch, Kim Mettelmann, Beth Power, Ted Suess, Angie Van Brocklin, Tracey Van Stippen, Charlie Voissem, Brian Wallace

Absent: Tricia Miller

**Individual check-ins:** members each shared how we are doing during these isolating times, and what brought us joy over the holidays

### Opening Prayer

**Stewardship Appeal updates:** We received over 200 commitments back, as well as an influx of contributions. At midpoint of fiscal year, we'll be running behind, but we did make some gains in November after the appeal. About 200 households are using the Faith Direct. Use of the One by One Campaign funds is moving forward: furniture in the Marion Way is coming, and improvements have been made to the livestream.

**Feedback on the Advent activities** was discussed. People in the community who received bags, and who received phone calls were very grateful and happy. Personal connections has been a priority for the Parish; feedback from the phone calls was very positive and it's something we are considering doing again. Please consider how we might be able to simplify this or improve it for the future.

**Plans for Lent were discussed.** Easter is very early this year. Key effort will be the (virtual) Connect groups, with the hope that they continue beyond the Lenten season. We want to dig more deeply into the idea that the **Parish is a Family** (not just the Pastor). With 900 households, small groups can facilitate deeper connections, including with the Lord. Council members shared examples of ways that small groups have shaped their parish connections, experience, and participation in the past - general agreement that this is an important initiative.

Ideally PLC members will be willing to lead a group (training provided). We need parish members to be committed to the Family, even in this time of division. It will be important to create a safe setting for dialogue, especially when people disagree, and to make sure that the discussions are rooted in the Gospel and not politicized. [LivingRoomConversations.org](http://LivingRoomConversations.org) is a source of inspiration and will serve as a model for the Connect groups.

Other Lenten activities include Vespers, and a Lenten FB group similar to the Advent one. Will continue to ensure that all activities will be safe (e.g. Ash Wednesday, Holy Week) within the pandemic context.

**Other items:**

- **Mission and Vision:** What is our identify as a Catholic parish in Appleton, and how is it different from some of the other parishes? Will roll this out in the Easter season.
- Continue to consider how we can stay connected during this time of social distancing
- **Longer term planning:** think about how we welcome people back to church once we are able to physically gather again

**Upcoming Events:**

- **February 2nd 7pm** - Pastoral Leadership Council Meeting (Zoom)

Motion to approve: Nancy Lindo-Drusch

Second: Brian Wallace