

FAITH IN OUR FUTURE

“Faith in our Future is the beginning of a \$105 million dollar fundraising campaign to benefit Catholic education and adult formation for 211 parishes in southeastern Wisconsin.”

Faith In Our Future: Raising Funds to Benefit Catholic Education

by Bob Kowalski

Have you ever made a promise that you did not want to break? Well, approximately 40 years ago as a parishioner in 8th grade at St. Nicholas Parochial School, I found myself doing just that. You see, as eighth graders we promised

Sister Clarence Marie that we would make a television commercial for the Catholic Church if we ever became millionaires. To Sister Clarence Marie that was a good bet. She was the principal of our school. She valued Catholic education and wanted to be sure that once we were millionaires – we would not forget our humble beginnings. To be sure, in those days, it was an outlandish proposal. She then gave us some instructions for what the commercial was to say.

Faith In Our Future is the beginning of a \$105 million fundraising campaign to benefit Catholic education,

and adult formation for 211 parishes in southeastern Wisconsin. It will be implemented in three phases. The first phase is already complete. Good Shepherd will be called to action in early January 2009. We are actually part of phase three.

Since 2004 the Archdiocese of Milwaukee completed three comprehensive strategic planning efforts focused on strengthening our Catholic schools, the future of adult formation, and training for all lay Catholics. This includes Saint Francis de Sales Seminary.

The good news is that the fund has raised \$32 million thus far. It is a three year program. All contributions will be held in the Faith In Our Future Trust for the use and

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MEET OUR Pastoral Council



Jeff Bloedom,
Secretary



Beth Gonstad

August 4, 2008 Pastoral Council Minutes by Steve Gardipee

The agenda for the upcoming Council retreat was presented. “Prophetic Leadership – Hearing and Proclaiming the Word of the Lord” will be held September 9 and facilitated by Daryl Olszewski, pastoral associate at St. James Parish.

Mark Steimle provided a financial summary as of June 30. He reported that the internal financial audit was completed and will be provided to the Administrative Services Commission shortly.

Speaking for the Pastoral Care Commission, Mary Kult introduced the “Green Parish Proposal,” which will be further discussed at future meetings.

Jane Clare Ishiguro indicated that the first phase of the Experience of God initiative is complete and the second phase will run from August 16 to December 13 and is entitled “Taste and See the Goodness of the Lord”. As part of this phase, parishioners will be offered various retreat opportunities this fall. In addition, the short presentations prior to the liturgy will continue. The Generations of Faith program will focus on “God in Prayer” and Sandy Sites is working with a group journeying through the Art Museum. Funds will be provided by the Lilly Foundation and additional funds, when needed, will come from the Eschweiler

fund.

Council members discussed changes to the by-laws by recommending that the section on Fund Raising be changed to “Exceptions may be considered and approved at the discretion and consensus of the Pastoral Council”.

Committee assignments were made as follows:

Christian Formation: Dave Christensen, Jerry Holbrook, Eric Bloedorn

Prayer & Worship: Tom Moran, Jeff Bloedorn

Cluster Council: Julie Nolan, Larry Kolb

Pastoral Care: Mary Kult

Human Concerns: Beth Gonstead, Jim Yerger, Vivian Hughes

Administrative Services: Steven Grieb

Discernment: Larry Kolb, Jerry Holbrook

Archdiocesan PC: Dave Christensen, Jim Yerger

Eschweiler New Century Fund: Dave Christensen.