

**Saint John the Baptist –
Pastoral Outreach Commission
Monthly Meeting Minutes**

Date:	Tues., April 23, 2024, 6:30pm	Recorder	Socchie Fondevilla	Chair:	Marie Zimmerman
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Member/Attendee	Present	Member/Attendee	Present
Louie Fondevilla	X	Gwen Schuller-Bebus	X
Socchie Fondevilla	X	Marie Zimmerman	X
Mary Kohlhaas (Staff Liaison)	X	Carolyn Brandt	X
Joni Metz	X	Jeannie Koslowski	X
Cheryl Puffer	X	(PLC Guest)	

- A. Opening Prayer: Louie
- B. Tonight’s Agenda was approved.
- C. **Pastoral Ministry Coordinator Update:**

Ministry of Accompaniment

The Ministry of Accompaniment provides volunteers to walk along side, listen and pray with people who have experienced trauma, are in a chronic situation or who are near the end of life.

Ministry of Consolation

The Ministry of Consolation is a grief ministry at St. John’s and is open year ‘round. It provides both educational and support components as well as grief sharing opportunities in a small group setting. Participants are able to find community within their grief journey, but also learn strategies to support themselves. People can join any time, come as needed or come consistently. Sign-ups are encouraged. For more information, contact Mary Kohlhaas at [☎ \(651\) 633.8333](tel:6516338333) x1229 or [✉ kohlhaasm@stjohnnyb.org](mailto:kohlhaasm@stjohnnyb.org).

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1. Ministry of Consolation

- a. the training weekend, Friday night, April 5 and Saturday, April went extremely well
- b. the comments afterwards from everybody who was there was just really pleased with what they learned and how effective they thought it was it would be even to other Ministries when you're dealing with other people so we had some people there from the Trauma Ministry, that really get started and we had Jean there for Ministry of Accompaniment and then we had leaders who were part of kind of helping us put the Ministry Consolation together and then some people who were volunteering to be facilitators with small groups for ministry of consolation.
- c. Anna’s parents John and Linda Cherek, a couple from the Church of Saint Mary of the Lake were the speakers who came in to do the training were. They had been doing the ministry for 30 years. Anna is the counselor that we're working with to establish this ministry. They just really have great experiences.
- d. We are in the process of putting together another meeting to figure out where do we go from here. We're going to invite those who are not able to make that weekend.

2. Ministry of Accompaniment

- a. We’re still waiting for the one lady that we had reached out to get connected with Jean. We just must touch base and just keep on praying for different things.
- b. We see the Ministry of Accompaniment being the flip side of the Ministry of Consolation. In the process, we will walk alongside people during their life through the patterns of chronic illness or end of life.

3. Wounded Hearts (Ministry of Trauma- renamed)

- a. Wounded Hearts is the new name of the Trauma Ministry
- b. They had met and will be meeting again to lay out a vision for what the ministry is about. In the discussion will be what they're thinking in terms of how many times a month to meet. They will plan to lay down some of the foundations of what they're thinking. Also, we can get more input. The Ministry needs to have a spiritual director.

D. Old Business:

1. By-Laws Update

- a. Mary will make clean copies of the by-laws for Joni to file. This item will be put on hold until fall. All other Commissions will also review their bylaws.

2. 2024 Bulletin Shorts

MONTH	MINISTRY	COMMENTS
May	Kidz Closet	Gwen
June	Caregivers	Socchie

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July		
August	Community Service Center	Marie

3. Adding info to the website

- a. Joni met with Joseph to discuss changes on POC website.
- b. Respect Life had a page for a list of several resources with links to ‘not found pages’.
- c. There are a couple of things added, like we’re missing information on Abria or that woman's care center in Little Canada
- d. **Action Item:** clean up the POC website page .

E. New Business:

- 1. POC Member Term Limits
 - a. When someone's time is up on this Commission, they could be offered a position that's open in another Commission. We do want new people but it's also nice to have some experienced membership. He wants feedback from us, that the members of each Commission are interested in doing that when their term is up.
 - b. What's the agreed number of years for a term? It's what it says in that information: three years and then one can up for another three years, or two terms. That is true for all the Commissions.

- 2. **Hygiene Bags & Blankets- for Sharing & Caring Hands-** under the Harvest Table
 - a. to get a bin, like St. Vincent de Paul’s bins in the closet
 - b. to use the Food Shelf’s bin that has never get used frequently. Then move those bags in there, put a sign on it and we can just let Marty know.

- 3. **Organize Stats.**
 - a. Joni will help Marie in trying to put it in some kind of document so that every year we can just see each of the Ministry's numbers.
 - b. The measurements used in the reports are expected to be different.
 - c. Appreciation for you, awesome liaisons, because you were able to gather these information right. So, thank you for following up on that.
 - d. What numbers do we want to submit to Father Paul, based on the mission and vision that he is trying to get across as he had summarized from last year.

F. Three items for PLC

- 1. Updates on the three new Ministries’ Training of facilitators on April 5-6
- 2. Bins for the Hygiene bags & Blankets (Sharing and Caring Hands)
- 3. Adding, editing and deleting information at the POC Website

Closing prayer: Jean

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Next Meeting: May 21

2024 Commission Meeting date: June 11

Minutes recorded by:
Socchie Fondevilla

Minutes approved by:
Marie Zimmerman- POC Chair