

Saint John the Baptist

Discipleship and Mission Commission

Minutes

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|--------------|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------|
| Date: | November 25, 2025 | Chair | Joshua Haberman | Staff Liaison | Jill Fink |
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Next Meeting:

| Member/Attendee | Present | Member/Attendee | Present |
|----------------------------------|---------|--|---------|
| Karl Zabinski (<i>PLC REP</i>) | X | Neil Steffl | X |
| Joshua Haberman (Chair) | X | Mike Uzelac | X |
| Jill Fink (Staff Liaison) | X | Kelly Hodges | A |
| Emily Carlberg | X | Joe Schendel | X |
| Erin Hardy | A | Jodie Wolla (recorder) | X |
| Susan Jensen | X | Guest: Bella Holsten Vicky Wicks | X X |

- I. Opening Prayer – Neil Steffl
- II. Mission Statements (Recite Aloud)
 - A. Parish Mission Statement: Bearing witness to Jesus Christ who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life: GO. MAKE. TEACH.
 - B. DMC Mission Statement – *“Inspiring and Leading all at St. John’s to become intentional disciples of Jesus Christ through evangelization and faith formation within the heart of the Catholic Church.”*

Opening Comments

- III. Welcome Bella Holsten – Coordinator of High School and Confirmation
 - a. Bella introduced and reviewed her background and each of her programs – Confirmation and High School Youth Group, discipleship groups and OCIC.
 - b. Confirmation – I am seeing lots of fruit, the young people are allowed to grow and strengthen their relationship with the Lord. We had a wonderful and productive retreat weekend.
 - c. HSYG – we have up to forty coming, and we are meeting each person where they are at and walking with them to grow in faith.
 - d. We have a HS women’s retreat the girls from TG high school are helping me lead it. Please pray for the young women and this retreat.
 - e. OCIC- I work with HS students. I am doing 1:1 mentorship and it is highly effective. I am walking with them on their journey to grow and dive deeper in their faith.
 - f. Feedback: a suggestion to contact Confirmation students from the last three years to keep them involved and connected here at SJBC.
- IV. Report from last PLC Meeting/Other Reports
 - a. Review October Minutes
 - b. Review Written Reports
 1. Feedback included:

Saint John the Baptist

Discipleship and Mission Commission

Minutes

1. **Regarding small group ministry** and the event at OLG: the speaker was phenomenal, human and boots on the ground which led to awesome conversations. Bishop Izzen was wonderful to attend.
 - a. As a small group leader, it was very fruitful, to continue to grow is excellent. I suggest that a small group leader should attend “X” number of continuing educations for their personal growth.
 2. **Regarding Divorce Ministry:** This has been a long-time gap, and it is wonderful to see this area started and effort put into it to grow this ministry.
 3. **Regarding Seek:** discussion about seek and this event targeted college students from Bethel College and young adults at SJBC. Discussion included opening this up opportunity up to all college students from SJBC and not just Bethel students.
 - a. In conclusion, SEEK was a pilot designed specifically to engage Bethel students to grow and become involved in ministries at SJBC. It may be possible to offer this again and open it up to more SJBC young adults and college students.
- c. PLC Report this Month.
- V. Slowing Down to the Speed of Joy – PART ONE: BEYOND THE JOYLESS URGENCY
Discussion regarding this book (section 1) was fruitful and very impactful.
- VI. Old Business
- a. ODM Volunteers October 26 Grateful Hearts Growing Together weekend.
 - b. All Saints Day – DMC involvement
 - c. Butter Braid Fundraiser and Distribution
- VII. New Business
- a. Goals for 2025-2026
 1. A subcommittee was created to investigate program fees at other churches.
 1. The subcommittee members are Karl, Emily, and Erin
 - b. Honoring Sr. Clarinda’s 24 years at SJB
 - c. Sunday School Pageant Sun., Dec. 14 at 11:30am in St. Joseph Hall. DMC involvement
 1. **D&M commission will be hosting hospitality on the weekend of December 13th & 14th.**
 2. **We need commission members to host hospitality at the following Masses.**
 1. **4:30 pm – Karl maybe Joshua and Joe**
 2. **8:30 am – Joe, Neil, Mike, and Sue**
 3. **10:30 am – Emily, Erin, Joshua, and Karl**
 - d. Journey to the Inn Sat., January 3 DMC involvement
- VIII. Long Term Planning

Saint John the Baptist
Discipleship and Mission Commission
Minutes

- a. Parish Mission February 10-11 with Dr. Mark Giszczak on the topic of Suffering from his book Suffering: What Every Catholic Should Know
- b. Youth Room Renovation Finish Sound Panels
- c. Butter Braid Project

IX. PLC Recommendation Form

Joe to report on communication project linking parish calendar events to personal calendar systems.
Joe or Joshua to report on Growing Together campaign ninety second videos throughout the year living out commitments.

X. PLC Report

XI. Closing Prayer – Mike Uzelac

XII. Adjournment

XIII. Next Year's Schedule:

2025-2026 Meeting Dates:

December 9, 2025 (Mass)

January 20, 2026

February 17, 2026

March 24, 2026 (Mass)

April 21, 2026

May 19, 2026

June 9, 2026