Stewardship Commission Minutes (Draft), November 21, 2015

Present: Bill Nash (Chairman), Marian Kinsey, Mark Patterson, Bob Walsh, Deacon José Blakeley, John Phillips (Staff)

Absent: Marie Hedden, Carlos Villarreal, Ed Spencer, Jay Green (Parish Council Representative)

Opening prayer by Bill Nash and “check in” around the table

The minutes of the October 24, 2015 meeting were read and approved with the reference to Youth Group under Parish Council Report (Jay Green) deleted.

**PROGRESSING TOPICS – ACTION FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

**\*Stewardship: A Disciples Response.** Bill discussed accountability and stewardship.

\***Ministry Fair** February 20 and 21 were selected as potential dates for the ministry fair, however those days were not available. Pending availability of the narthex either the weekend of April 23 and 24, 2016 or April 30 and May 1, 2016 were tentatively selected. Bob will discuss with the parish staff.

\***Stewardship Calendar** The dates February 20 and 21 were removed from the calendar.

**\*Report from 11/5 Pastoral Council Meeting** Bill and Carlos attended the meeting and explained what the function of the Stewardship Commission is. The New Parishioner Welcome Social was a topic. The potential for opening the social to all parishioners was discussed and found not to be practical. The possibility of establishing mentor families who would be partnered with new families was brought up. No decision was made. Also the following suggestions were brought up: (1) more advance publicity on the Newcomers’ social; (2) publish new parishioners’ names in the Parish Bulletin; and (3) Parish ministry intro talks went too long during the last Newcomer Social. Bill said he would pass the suggestions on to the Welcome Committee chair, Joyce Von Feldt.

\***Ministers’ Training** Bill attended the raining and had the opportunity to discuss parish youth participation in the Hospitality Ministry. That ministry would be glad to have them. Bill said he would mention the opportunity to Andrew Krieger.

\***Stewardship of Treasure Campaign** Bridget Harris’ talk was well received. One lesson learned was that more detail was needed to explain not only where the parish’s funds come from but also where they are expended’ e.g., top 4 or 5 expenditures.

\***Hispanic Integration** Space is needed to show the diocesan provided DVD about this integration. Meeting space is at a premium. Dcn. José is exploring options such as the school library.

**\*Parish Retreat “Soul on Fire”** Sign up after Mass. It was pointed out that the Hispanic community is planning a retreat for later in 2016.

\* **New Parishioner Welcome Social Update** The last Social was held October 24, 2015.

 Some members of the Stewardship Commission were not aware that the group that conducts the Social was under the umbrella of the Stewardship Commission but operate autonomously and effectively.

**\*Meetings with Father Jim (Bill and Carlos)** Bill has contacted Father Jim about recurring meetings with him. This is in response to Father Jim’s wishes to meet on a recurring basis with Pastoral Council, Finance Committee and Stewardship.

**\*Staff Report (John Philips)**

 The parish is still behind the goal of $145,541 for the 2015 Annual Catholic Appeal.

 Letters and pledge cards regarding the Annual Parish Appeal (Appeal for Treasure) were sent to 1,875 families. To date 333 pledge cards have been returned.

 A phone-a-thon will be scheduled for January 2016. The purpose is to contact those who have not responded to the Annual Parish Appeal. Dates and methodology will be determined at the December 19, 2015 Stewardship Commission meeting.