

Pastoral Council - Minutes of the March 11, 2010 meeting, International Center, UCSD

In attendance:

Fr. John Paul Forte, Pastor
Jeanie Davis, Chair
James Floyd, Secretary
Stephanie Nissen
Edwin Jose
Charlie Maguire
Seira Matsushima
Tam Nguyen
Tara Almazan

Andrew Griffin
Vic Zampa

Patty Stewart, Staff
Brian Buesker, Webmaster
Absent: Fr. Joseph Sergott
Kenia Milloy
Jesse Duran

Meeting called to order at 7:20 pm. Several YAG members arrived later due to a concurrent YAG planning meeting.

1. Opening prayer (from Jesse)

“Ubi caritas est vera”

2. Review of minutes of Pastoral Council Meeting on February 11, 2010

Three minor typographical corrections were made and minutes approved as complete.

3. Pastor’s Report

John Paul reported on the following community activities:

Vigil on campus: Held the previous night (Feb 10) as an interfaith event by the Catholic Community as a response to recent campus incidents. Turnout numbered around 50-60, with members of the Unitarian Universalist, Jewish, Islamic, Catholic, and Episcopal campus communities. It was simple evening with songs, reading of sacred texts, and ended with an open mic of sharing.

Lent:

- Ash Wednesday: was a full day with interfaith service and evening liturgies. Very well attended with people “coming out of the woodworks” to receive ashes.
- The Soup Supper and Reflection went well, though in the future, it should be shortened to an hour.
- Eucharistic Adoration during Lent: provides a quiet space each Sunday, with extended Taize prayer.
- Stations of the Cross: coming the following Friday (Feb 12).

Spring Quarter: the quarter’s activities have been planned and the quarter will be “rich”

LA Religious Education Congress (Mar 19-21): Student Ministry and RCIA team attending the LA Congress, one of the largest Catholic gatherings in the world. Some of the events, such as some of the liturgies, are free and open to the public.

Lenten Reconciliation Service: Tuesday of 1st Week of Spring Quarter (Mar 30), 7 PM
First Week is also Holy Week, a culmination of our Lenten journeys.

CES (Center for Ethics and Spirituality) met twice that week, including an emergency meeting in response to campus events. The outcome was to sponsor dialogue on campus, and develop ongoing programming to help counter intolerance.

Andrew: how many attending the Adorations each Sunday?

JP: about 10 people, mostly students. It's a wonderful opportunity for quiet prayer.

4. Committee/Liaison Reports

a. Student and Student Minister

Charlie: Social Justice retreat two weeks ago: 40 people attended the Friday evening talks, and 25 people attended the Saturday service day. The event received positive reviews. Anita had evolved the conversation to recent campus events, and led to a spontaneous service project to distribute roses in the Geisel library – over 400 given out, through Anita's organization. Only downside to day of service was the rain, for those going downtown to assist the homeless. All the sandwiches, including those made for the volunteers, ended up being given away. Because of the rain, sunset mass at the cliffs was moved to Good Sam.

Tam: Lent Small Church Communities are thriving, with the Tuesday group getting large enough to split into two. Lots of new people attending. The Veritas scripture study is being phased out and will evolve into general faith sharing.

April 25 is a picnic sponsored by Community Life – food by potluck, wiffleball. Event needs to be publicized!

Charlie: April 24 will be another Social Justice Day of Service.

Tam: Young Women's Retreat coming up (date unknown). Also, the Women's Retreat is May 1.

Patti: Veritas is returning to a small group mode. The Faith Formation committee is going to be doing a six week seminar on Theology of the Body.

Tam: May 15 will be the Spring Banquet, in place of the Spring Dance.

b. Young Adult & Grad

Brian: Big Bear ski trip planned for this weekend, with Fr. Joseph going to offer Mass. Second Sunday Supper coming up this Sunday. The February attendance was about 20-25. YAG-sponsored Taize is coming up on Third Tuesday (March 16). Day retreat is coming up on May 15(?). YAG planning meeting was being held concurrently as Pastoral Council meeting.

c. Resident Community

Vic: The Burundi Friends International benefit concert was a hit. The Helinski family was very appreciative for the community's participation in the memorial service for Matt Helinski.

Jeanie: JP and Kenia had planned a wine and cheese for the faculty in the fall, and needed a brochure. JP added that for the faculty, it was time now to plan for fall activities.

The Women's Retreat (May 1) is going to be held at the home of Ellyn Hartman.

5. Chair Report:

Jeanie complimented the council for working together so well, and thanked everybody for what they do so well. Big thanks were given to Vic for organizing the chili dinner for the tenth week Thursday Night Dinner.

6. Financial Committee Report

No report

Return to 3. Pastor's Report:

Future Pastoral Council meeting dates:

JP: needed to move the April meeting from April 15 to April 22 (Roetter Hall), and will be attended by Fr. Joseph in place of Fr. JohnPaul. The May 6 and June 3 (with Thursday Night Dinner) meeting dates are confirmed.

7. Old Business:

a. Provision and review of agendas before PC meetings

Discussed later.

b. Spring Quarter Luau (Stephanie and Andrew)

Need to round up volunteers to help with the Luau on June 6. Jeanie will provide the Luau chairs, Stephanie and Andrew, with notes and supplies leftover from last year's luau. Andrew asked about the event's budget, and staff will report back regarding the budget.

c. Community T-Shirt (Andrew)

Andrew: Fliers promoting the shirt design contest had gone out – no entries received so far. Deadline was being extended to March 19.

Jeanie: what about approaching TND host Holly for artwork?

Andrew: might be a good backup in case there are no entries.

Tam: having an open-ended design is tough.

JP: use the mission statement as inspiration. Perhaps the deadline should be further extended into spring quarter.

Patti: need to make a judging group.

Andrew: perhaps plan for next year's shirt by tying into next year's theme.

Jeanie: reminder that shirts pay for themselves.

Tara verified that no entries had been received.

JP: suggested to get the final design by April/May.

Andrew: more time is possible as a typical shirt run production turnaround time is 2- 3 weeks.

JP reminded the council that the office is closed in late August, so shirt production should be done no later than July.

Patti suggested using an April/May deadline, and having a first run of shirts ready for the luau, and a second run of shirts ready in fall quarter. Andrew turned the suggestion into a motion, which was seconded by Jeanie.

The motion was defined as having the shirt contest deadline moved to April 18. The winning design will be decided at the April 22 Pastoral Council meeting, and the first run of shirts will be ready for the June 6 Luau. At the May 2 masses: the winner designer will be announced, with the artwork displayed, so that people may start pre-ordering shirts.

Tara and Charlie volunteered to help with coordinating pre-orders at the masses. The first run will consist primarily of the pre-orders, along with a small number of extra shirts for sale.

d. Seating – PC and Hospitality Help

Seating at the 12:30 is an issue. It was suggested that the Ministers of Hospitality would also start helping the congregation find seats (similar to ushers) and help encourage the creation of more space by moving people to the centers of the pews, or moving people closer to the front. JP: 4 Ministers of Hospitality would be needed, instead of 2. This is part of a developing plan to build up the pre-mass Hospitality. Also important is to present tactfully the opportunity to use the back chapel as a crying room for those with small children.

Seira asked why the back chairs were gone again. Patti responded that Good Sam does not want them out, but the choir will continue to set them out and put them back. Others were encouraged to help with this practice.

Return to 7a: Provision and review of agendas before PC meetings

Jeanie reminded the council that they are responsible for printing out their own copies of the agenda and minutes prior to the meeting, and that those giving committee reports be prepared with their reports. To save meeting time, council members are reminded to review the minutes prior to the meeting.

8. New Business:

a. Pastoral Council goes to Storefront (April 4)

It was suggested to use the leftovers from the Easter “Brunch” celebration.

b. Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday Hospitality

Easter Vigil: Jeanie reminded the council of the big turnout for the 2009 vigil reception. Tara and Seira are coordinating the Easter Sunday reception, which needs to solicit food items (but not “Brunch foods” like eggs and bacon). The discussion focused on the desire to get non-refrigerated food items, or fruit dishes.

JP: Simple is ok, so long as it is not boring. Easter is a busy time – let people know that Purchased food is ok. Definitely ask the community to bring food.

Return to 8a: Storefront

Tara suggested that rather than solicit dishes from the community (traditionally uneven turnout), it would be better to organize a set of menu items and get volunteers to make each one (or meet up to cook together, like last time at Andrew’s place).

Charlie: what about encouraging the community to help?

Brian: getting firm commitments from community is needed – perhaps setting up a sign-up after Mass on Palm Sunday.

Jeanie: wondered if the menu could be made less complicated – buying a ham, and then making side dishes (pasta, potatoes). Charlie and Jeanie will serve as leads on this, and the Brunch leftovers will be taken as well.

c. Hospitality for Baccalaureate Mass on graduation weekend

YAG has hosted the Baccalaureate reception in the past. This is a budgeted event – The Baccalaureate Mass is June 12 at 7pm, with reception afterward. Decorations are needed – there may be leftover decorations from last year. It seemed likely that YAG was willing to volunteer their service again, as it serves as good outreach to new graduates.

d. Discernment Process (April)

Discernment will be held on May 23 (Pentecost), with the process starting on May 2, with the opening of the nomination process. The community needs to be informed about the Council and the process, and recommendation forms need to be distributed. After forms are returned, nominees need to be contacted. Those interested in joining the council would be invited to the

May 6 meeting. One issue is finding quality nominations, and a way to help discover those is through person-to-person conversations.

Return to 4b: YAG Committee Report

The February second Sunday supper had 20 people attending, while the Lenten Walk and Prayer also had 20 people attending.

9. Closing Prayer

Highlights: will be presented on April 11 masses. 12:30: Andrew, 5:30: Stephanie, 7:30: Charlie. Highlights are due to Jeanie on March 29, and due to church office for final approval by morning on March 30.

Jeanie led the council in a closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

10. Snacks and Social Time (No snacks due to Thursday Night Dinner)