

LOLO Pastoral Council Minutes for Wednesday, April 15, 2026

Attendance: Rebecca Porter, Judeen Schulte, Jim Stamatakos, Donna Van Wynsberghe, Barb Webber, Mary Botsford, Denise Haussy, Terry Malloy, Jackie Dombrowski, Pat McKay, Emerson Porter, Christine M. Yatchak Excused: Cathy Markwiese, Cory Anshus, Deb Steppe.

Opening Prayer: Mary Botsford Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Parish Director's Report: via email

- Holy Week liturgies were awesome. Thank you to all who contributed.
- Wednesday Faith Group will celebrate the 50th anniversary of their founding on May 13, 2026, at 9:30 am with mass and lunch. Many previous parish leaders will be in attendance.
- The parish will have a new photo directory. Pictures will be scheduled for the first week of June and July. There will be a sign up for picture taking on the weekend of May 2/3. Pastoral Council Members signed up to help welcome parishioners as they come for scheduled photo sessions .
- The Finance committee will meet April 21. The Pastoral Council will probably see the final budget at the June Council meeting.
- The organization Common Ground will be meeting at OLOL on May 17 from 2-4 pm. (Common Ground is an interdenominational organization that addresses civic, faith and social issues within local communities. The organization has chapters within geographic areas. OLOL is hosting this meeting for consideration of OLOL's future involvement (commongroundwi.org) There are registration sheets for attendance at the May 17th meeting outside the OLOL main office.)

Spotlight Articles: Judeen Schulte asked all to identify the due date, and whether it is a Spotlight or Unsung article when sharing with the Pastoral Council and Marc . It is helpful to send out articles to Pastoral Council members with sufficient time before the deadline for feedback. The articles are appreciated as a unique expression of each person who is writing them.

Committee Reports:

Pastoral Council Subcommittee: Children and Families.

Following are the major points discussed by the Council re: the Children and Families sub-committee:

- Discussion regarding name of committee and its purpose.
- At its inception name of committee was left to its members. Name drives its purpose. Committee recommends the title "Sustainability" and suggests its purpose is to increase membership and participation at OLOL for the continuation of the parish into the future.
- Pastoral Council has concerns regarding the need for the subcommittee.
- The task of the subcommittee is vague and not measurable
- Consideration that the task of the subcommittee may be the task of the full Pastoral Council
- The subcommittee needs to identify emerging needs and hear from other people and their input.
- Sustainability falls on more than one person's shoulders. There should be listening sessions and ways to engage with the community.
- Listening sessions could be held, summarized and brought to the council. You don't need a committee to do that.
- The subcommittee may stray from the Pastoral Council Vision Priorities of 2025-2026 (Missionary People, Engage New Members as Family, Community Building Through Relationships, Reach Young Families and Youth)
- The subcommittee may detract from the ideas and work of Tanya Gross, Director of Formation Ministries. This committee should be helping Tanya get done what she wants to get done as young people do a lot in terms of sustainability. .
- Parish sustainability is addressed throughout the parish by financial decisions and administration.
- Sustainability is dependent upon many factors that are bigger than the committee.
- There is a gap in youth participation between high school and adulthood. How best to meet their needs?
- This committee should support Tanya instead of running alongside of her to address what young families want.
- Ideas could be collected at the doors and given to this committee to compile. Also suggested this would not require a committee.
- Question posed: what is the best way to help Deb in her role as shepherd?
- The subcommittee was given the name "Children and Young Families" before Tanya was hired as Director of Formation Ministries. The title "Youth and Family" should not continue because.....reflection for the council.
- If the purpose of the sub-committee is sustainability, the Pastoral Council should come up with 3 goals for the sub-committee.

- The sub-committee is put on hold until the Pastoral Council clarifies its role.

Men's Spirituality: Men's Group is meeting on the second Thursday of each month, led by Bill Goulding.

Octoberfest:

- Committees are meeting to plan for Octoberfest 2026. The minutes from these meetings are available upon request from Pastoral Council Member Barb Webber.

Social Justice:

- Jackson Park Clean Up is scheduled for April 25. Two prayer services are planned: August 6th to commemorate the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, Japan on August 6, 1945, and September 1st, with a focus on creation and nature. The All-Saints Dinner is scheduled for April 26, 2026.

Discipleship: Discipleship Minutes will be posted on the OLOL website. OLOL Discipleship Institute page lists past, present and future podcasts.

Finance: Nothing to report currently. Annual budget being prepared.

Liturgy: Nothing to report currently.

Formation: There are three upcoming retreats scheduled: April 25, 2026, retreat for 7-8th graders. May 16th, Women's Retreat. May 14th, Men's Spirituality Retreat lead by parish Deacon Bill Goulding

Youth Representative: Happy Birthday to youth representative Emerson Porter.

Marketing/Communication: Nothing to report

New Business:

Pastoral Council members will be at OLOL exit doors for masses the week of May 2/3. Sign up for the 3 masses was done. Members need to wear name tags and elicit input from participants

Discussion of 2025-2026 Weaknesses in the Council's 4 priorities.

Missionary People: How do we define ourselves as Missionary People?

- How do we measure it? How do we know we are making progress?
- How do we define it? Service? Evangelize?
- We implement service to: St. Ben's, Haiti, and All Saints. Is it social justice?
- Are we engaged in our geographic area? Latina? Native American?
- Could we hold a mass in Spanish?

Engage New Members as Family

- Our community Sunday is weak. (Same people attending.)
- How to build relationships

Community Building Through Relationships

- Community Sunday needs vitalization: who's coming for coffee?

Reaching Young Families and Youth

- Weak and growing
- There are age group gaps
- Instagram and Facebook are not age appropriate for our young people.

Dream Time: Ideas were addressed within the structure of today's meeting.

Next Meeting: May 20, 2026

Opening Prayer for Next Meeting: Terry Malloy

Tasks for Pastoral Council Members for May Meeting:

- View the Volunteer PowerPoint from the Archdiocese for discussion at the May meeting
- Consider the goals of the Children and Families Subcommittee or should it be put on hold or advisory?

Closing Prayer: Donna Van Wynsberghe

Respectfully Submitted by Christine Yatchak and Donna Van Wynsberghe