

**Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
Minutes of Pastoral Council Meeting**



June 17, 2026

In-Person

6:00 – p.m.

Pastoral Council in Attendance: Cory Anshus, Mary Botsford, Denise Haussy, Cathy Markwiese, Pat McKay, Emerson Porter, Rebecca Porter, Judeen Schulte, Jim Stamatakos, Deb Steppe, Donna Van Wynsberghe (Chair), Barb Webber, Christine Yatchak

Absent: Jackie Dombrowski, Terry Malloy

Opening Prayer: Deb Steppe - Read and reflect on John 21:10-17

Insightful reflections shared on the account of the “first breakfast”

Parish Director’s Report:

- Budget has been approved by Archdiocese
- Staff reviews are in process: 2% raises across the board plus a \$1500 bonus for staff
- Common Ground Gathering follow-up: 43 people attended, 10 were from OLOL. In further discussion with the Common Ground Executive director Deb has discovered the first-year dues would be \$1000 for the year; the following year dues would be 1% of our annual income (about \$10K). While we acknowledge the good work that Common Ground is doing, we simply are not ready to make such a significant financial commitment at this time.
- We will be installing a railing in church which will make it easier and safer for our assisting priests to ascend the stairs to the altar. Deb is working with Jim Wielgosh and Ken Marshman to ensure safely and appropriately mounted, and it will aesthetically complement the existing railings.

New Business:

- New Members Committee: Denise, Cory, Jim, Judeen, Emerson
 - 7 members are at the end of their terms and are eligible for another term. Donna will reach out this summer to determine if they are interested in staying on or if they are ready to step back.
 - Do we want to discern or simply take everyone who nominates themselves? Consensus that discernment is an important step in the process.
 - We need to determine how many we would take, how big do we want the Council to be? Consensus that we don’t want to set a number prematurely. Better to wait and see how many nominations we receive and what gifts the nominees would bring to the Council.

Old Business:

- Unfinished business from May meeting
 - Archdiocesan Volunteer Video Discussion: Barb Webber
 - ❖ What OLOL does well: We are known for radical hospitality, we are good at personally asking people to volunteer as opposed to announcing a need for volunteers, we view volunteers as disciples not as laborers, we are willing to try new things (ex. Men’s group), our location and our green space are assets that we should leverage.
 - ❖ Where OLOL has opportunity to grow: Need to grow our personal asks, need to be open to new ideas, new ways to do things and avoid turf wars (this is the way we have always done it) We need to cultivate “gardeners not gatekeepers” inviting others to consider opportunities for the individual to grow in discipleship and the community to grow in service/mission. Tactic for inviting someone to consider volunteering: “I think you’d be great at that, you should think about it.”
 - ❖ Tangent - Future agenda item: Debrief the Memorial Day weekend pot luck

**Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
Minutes of Pastoral Council Meeting**



June 17, 2026

In-Person

6:00 – p.m.

- Children and Young Families Subcommittee Resolution
 - ❖ Since being hired, Tanya Gross has accomplished much of what Deb had envisioned for this sub-committee to work on, which means it can be disbanded unless and until Tanya determines she needs the help.
- Spotlight Articles Update: Judeen Schulte
 - ❖ We are covered through September, thanks to all!

Committee Reports

- Octoberfest - Barb Webber
 - New for this year: Volunteer drawing for a gift basket; working out a new flow pattern for dinner on Saturday (beef tips over noodles, provided by Bunzel's)
- Social Justice- Pat McKay
 - June 19: Juneteenth day; Celebration on MLK drive 9 am - 3 pm. 8 am Mass, St Martin de Porres
 - July 23: Rid Racism presentation at OLOL 6:30 pm
 - June 24 is the Amazing Faith Dinner and Dialogue at OLOL at 6 pm. Requires registration.
 - Aug 6 – prayer service in memory of Hiroshima in the OLOL garden
 - Sept 1- is the beginning of the Season for Care of Creation; Way of the Cross in the garden.
- Formation – Deb Steppe
 - Gearing up for GIFT next year; Tanya has been approached by several people who are interested in becoming initiated into the church so there may be an OCIA program this summer rather than making these folks wait until next year.
- Discipleship Institute - Website
- Marketing and Communication- Jim Stamatakos
 - Continuing to look at digital signage for the building
- Liturgy - Deb Steppe
 - Jim Wielgosh got a sponsorship from a parishioner to attend a national LGBTQ conference and to meet Fr. Jim Martin, SJ
- Finance – Rebecca Porter
 - Closing out the year and getting the budget approved
- Youth-Emerson Porter
 - Based on the recent “rock theme” of his summer job at a day camp, Emerson suggested we strive to build OLOL on a figurative foundation of sedimentary rock building our community layer by layer, preserving the “fossils” of our traditions while including new ideas and approaches as opposed to a figurative foundation of igneous rock that is created by quickly by cooled lava but isn't very strong.

Dream Time: covered under volunteer discussion

Next Meeting: September 16, 2026

Opening Prayer: For September: Cory Anshus

Closing Prayer: Deb Steppe

Respectfully submitted, Cory Anshus
