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# GA PPC MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, 4/8/2025

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## Attendees

Matthew Amos, James Cady, Fr Joe Connelly (Pastor), Pat Ryan (Parish Administrator), Debbie Stadt, Jonathan Amos, Cara Barone, Pat Dolan, Marymartha Heasley, Mike Braun (Deacon), Sonya Coelho, Steve Sims (Trustee)

## Absentee

Lourdes Rivera


## Agenda

### 1. Input from Parishioners:

- a. 6 people have joined the parish garden.
- b. Private group that hosted a Jewish Sadie meal in the past was not hosted this year. This was due to logistics and religious reasons.
- c. Sarah Gibson meets once a month on Mondays for a homeschooling group, they are trying to extend to meeting twice a month.
- d. Survey update: 600+ people submitted a survey. Ministry team will go over results and release them when available.

### 2. JOC Update:

- a. **Refugee...** Tutoring has stopped until the Fall of 2025; We continue to do Tossed & Sorted and Dave G helps get it to the refugees at this time. Angela will also help with the clothes & furniture review. We help sponsor a monthly meal at the refugees apartments in St Paul. We have a refugee meal at the apartments on April 12th; hosted by Ron from Nicaragua.
  - b. **Giving Center...** we have 4 people this month with gas cards at Holiday in Woodbury. No cost to the parish. In the giving center, we collect for Brittany's Place, the card ministry, Refugee, Santa shop, and Bags/Food for Open Cupboard.
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- c. **Loaves & Fishes...**we continue to volunteer each month. 8-10 people usually help with serving and helping cook for over 270-300 people every 2nd Sunday of the month.
  - d. **Respect Life/Life & Human Dignity...** We meet each month on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. We are meeting to try to get a full view of life issues each month. May 19th will be a benefit for Options East in St Paul; we will have Mother's day flowers for Moms to purchase at the masses in May.
  - e. **Prison Ministry:** We have 30 Penpal people who write their incarcerated people and we meet each month on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 11am. Speakers are planned each month. We usually get 20 people at our monthly meetings. We have Greg Eaton speaking to the group. He has been involved in prison ministry for 20 years.
  - f. **Creation Care/Food Garden..**We have a proposal from Washington County that Terry Quinn & John Capecchi were happy with having individual plots for the Garden in the spring. We will have a meeting with Fr Joe & John Capecchi to offer for parishioners to have plots & have a pumpkin patch for a Youth Fundraiser in the Fall.
  - g. **Food with Friends Meals –** We are sponsoring a meal for Senior & the Grief Group on Monday, April 28th. We are looking for suggestions for ideas for the future. Food to People helps with providing the food. Food with Friends will also be helping with the Benefit for Options East on Monday, May 19th.
  - h. **Befrienders—**Pastoral Talk 101 each month. We are getting 10 people at each meeting per month. Eight of us meet with befrienders each month in their homes(a total of 20 people are visited by our team. Jenny West from Family Means will be giving us a talk in April.. Our grief group has 14 people coming every Monday(for another six weeks) and our monthly Caring group is led by Ceil Crowley & Liz. There are six people in this group.
3. **Faith Formation update from Lukas and Andy:**
- a. Lenten Retreat was a success. We had around 40 attendees and there were clear spiritual fruits from the retreat. The feedback was extremely positive. One parishioner told me the retreat should have had 400 people, not 40 because of how impactful it was for her.
  - b. Lenten bible study has also been great. 14-18 attendees per session. Been a great dive into Exodus. I'm leaning towards doing another bible study sooner than later.
  - c. Both family faith formation & junior high school programs are going well. Numbers are trailing off a bit in attendance, which I've noticed happens in the spring.
  - d. Andy & I met with the young adult group leaders - 7 in total. Plans to make the group go public in the parish are in the works, including a spring BBQ, Pentecost Party and having tables in the back of Mass later in the Easter season.

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- e. Youth Council – We meet 1st Sunday of the Month, this is going very well, average of 10 members each month.
  - f. Confirmation program – Meeting monthly, 24 students in attendance. This is going very well, participants are super engaged. Sponsor and/or parent attend meetings with participants. Confirmation ceremony will be held in 2026, date TBD.
  - g. Mission Trip 2025 – 6 chaperones are taking 11 students to Montague, Mi in June. Attending Catholic Heart Workcamp Mission Trip. Fundraising has gone super well, we really appreciate all the support from the Parish. Final fundraiser will be a Car Wash, date and times TBD.
- 4. Engagement commission:**
- a. New Parishioner breakfast on the 30th had 20 adults and some children. Next one is being planned.
  - b. Next Angel award has been picked. Announcements will come soon.
- **Next meeting June 10th, 2025, at 5:15pm.**