Prince of Peace Catholic Church
August 26, 2026
Minutes

Officers: Charlie Bicak (Chair), _____ (Vice Chair), Tyler Clay (Secretary)

Roll Call: Fr. Scott Harter, Cecilia Fick, Stephanie Mahony (2028), Charlie Bicak (2028), Nikki Downey (2029), Luke Grossnicklaus (2029), New Member (2027), Amy Johnson (2027)

Absent: Kim O'Connor (2026)

Trustees: Mike Heeney, Tami Hellman

Opening Prayer: Charlie Bicak

Farewell: Tyler Clay & Kim O'Conner

Agenda: Approved: Consensus

Minutes: Approval of February & April minutes — Approved: Consensus

I. **Old Business**
   a. Parking lot update — Looks great!
   b. Sound system — installing new motherboard soon.
   c. Boilers — Seem to have some decent life left. Have implemented a more thorough maintenance/checkup system.
   d. Church giving options/presentations date — Seems to have gone well!
   e. Food truck Sundays & cookie/donut weekends — Decent attendance considering the weather.
      i. Need to continue to foster relationships at the parish. Discussed a couple of more ideas.
   f. Council feedback
      i. Parishioner feedback —
         1. Positive feedback on the chants, message that God loves you, and deeper teaching of the understanding of prayer.
         2. Discussed the need for more volunteers.
         3. Discussed sometimes the hearing loop is on and other times, it's not. Discussed the potential of adding a sign.
         4. Announce homilies on Spotify and webpage. Can we advertise more?

II. **New Business**
   a. New officers —
      i. Chair: Charlie Bicak
      ii. Vice Chair: Stephanie Mahony
      iii. Secretary: Luke Grossnicklaus
   b. Assign Committees —
      i. Charlie: Kearney Catholic
      ii. Steph: Stewardship
      iii. Nikki: Building & Grounds
      iv. Amy: Stewardship/Welcome
   c. Youth Ministry coordinator — Alyssa Borer
   d. Kearney Catholic Campus Minister — Emily Ferguson
   e. New cleaning staff — Patrick Rempe
   f. Statues — Goal is to keep moving forward with statues.

i. Seeking statue of Mary in the Church
ii. Seeking a statue of Saint Francis
    1. We have a first-class relic of Saint Francis
    2. Parish is welcoming and humble
    3. Church actually resembles the Papal Basilica and Sacred Convent of Saint Francis in Assisi
iii. Likely a statue of Saint Joseph on the opposite side.

g. Staffing changes —
    i. Lydia is moving after Christmas.
    ii. Tiffany will phase out of wedding and volunteer coordinator.
    iii. Would like to have someone really carry adult faith formation.
        1. Pope Benedict says every church should be a school of prayer
    iv. Looking at combining some responsibilities.
h. Would like to see growth in women's groups.
i. Family Game Night could be fun.

III. **Committee Reports**

a. **Finance Report:**

Pillars II Debt Payment: 145 donors in 2025; 167 donors in 2026. $370,628 pledged/donated in the one-year pledge; $382,628 collected. Remaining to collect: $41,641, due December 31. Funds go toward mortgage principal and the parking lot extension. $3,437 paid monthly via EFT; envelope giving ranges $1,000–$2,500 weekly.

Mortgage Loans: Original mortgage $900,000. Diocese Note Balance $380,362.98 at 3%; an extra $10,000 was paid on principal in August. Interest and principal: $10,781.21/month. Principal Aug.–Dec. 2026: $49,149.40 ($4,756.66 interest due from ordinary).

Ordinary Collections: Weekly budget $21,100 for FY2025-26. Q1 under budget $26,307.28; Q2 over budget $10,095.66; Q3 over budget $43,961.80; Q4 under budget $53,074.10; annual under budget $15,607.53. Weekly budget for 2026-27: $22,500. Net Income/Loss FY2025-26: -$177.63.

Diocesan Appeal (final): Goal $91,551 / Received $75,822 (83%). Donor goal 200 / Donors 183 (92%).

b. **Tech:** No report

c. **Religious Formation:**

K-5 (Faith Formation): 135 students enrolled for 2026-27; letters mailed to ~25 additional families. Yearly theme is the Virtues. All catechist positions filled, with a few extra volunteers being placed. First class September 16. Second-grade curriculum updated to focus on Reconciliation in the first semester (First Reconciliation Dec. 13) and the Eucharist in the second (First Holy Communion April 11).

Edge/Life Teen (6-12): Leeta Ostermann has officially transitioned the 6-12 youth ministry role to Alyssa Borer. Summer activities included Theology of the Body, 9-Square nights, and a July 23-25 Kansas church pilgrimage (9 students) to Benedictine College, Atchison, and Gower, MO. Life Teen theme this year is "Heart of the Trinity," beginning Sept. 14, Mondays 7-9pm. Edge themes are "Fearfully Made" (fall) and "Unbreakable" (spring), beginning Sept. 16, Wednesdays 7-8:30pm. Confirmation classes continue Sept. 13, Sunday nights 5-6:30pm.

d. **Community Pantry (Charities):** In July, 49 families were served (202 family members); 7 utility bills totaling $950 and rent assistance to 6 people totaling $850 were paid, plus $2,508.73 in miscellaneous food/supply expenses, including a $1,000 annual donation to Royal Family Kids Group. In June, 66 families were served (228 family members); 6 utility bills totaling $550 and

rent assistance to 6 people totaling $850 were paid, plus $2,098.41 in miscellaneous expenses. A new online ordering system is in use to help reduce store trips.

e. **Liturgy:** No report

f. **ASET:** Advent Retreat planning underway — Steve to reach out to Fr. Mark Huber as speaker; preferred date Dec. 12, 9:00-12:00. Blue Christmas event with guest speaker Kathy White, tentatively Dec. 13 at 3:00pm (pending room availability). Christmas book selection: The Practice of the Presence of God by Brother Lawrence, $2.00/book through Dynamic Catholic (500 ordered last year, quantity to be confirmed). Lenten book study under consideration: The Prodigal Son by Henri Nouwen.

g. **Stewardship:** No report

h. **Social:** No report

i. **Welcome:** No report

j. **Building & Grounds:** Sprinkler run times increased for west-side fountain grass (new plantings) and east flower beds. A $1,200 expenditure was approved to replace 20-30 sprinkler heads; Hoehner Turf Irrigation continues to be consulted. Hydro-seeded grass in the new parking lot is now being mowed, with continued weed treatment. Fall clean-up discussion ongoing (post first hard frost); approx. 10-15 volunteers needed, possibly from UNK sports teams. Snow post placement/installation for the new parking lot to be discussed further. Overhanging tree limbs need trimming/pruning. The elevator, previously out of order, is working again. The committee has asked whether a Parish Council member intends to attend their meetings, and requested clarity on whether they have a monitorable committee budget.

k. **Kearney Catholic School Board: _____**

Next meeting: October 21, 2026 in Hospitality room

Closing Prayer: Fr. Scott