

**Church of St. Mary of Nichols Sept. 26, 2021 Minutes**  
**Parish Council and Finance Council Joint Meeting**

Meeting was called to order by President, Kory Kaalberg following Mass at the Nichols Church. Opening prayer was led by Fr. Hai Dinh. Attendance as follows: Fr. Hai Dinh, Margaret Matt, Cindy Massey, Marvin Wilson, Gayle Kaalberg, Adam Gauger, Kory Kaalberg & Carol Kaalberg. Absent: Bill Lenz Guests: Bruce Matt and Trudi Westfall

Members reviewed the minutes of the last meeting – motion by Margaret Matt and second by Adam Gauger to accept as presented. Motion approved

Report from Fr. Hai as follows

Annual Diocesan Appeal Goal is \$5,843.00 He encouraged parish participation First Saturday of the Month Mass at Nichols on October 2<sup>nd</sup> Confessions at 8:00 am, Mass at 9:00 am with healing prayers after Mass and Adoration until noon. 33 Day Consecration to St. Joseph begins Thursday at 6:30 pm., either zoom or in person at St. Joseph's parish hall in Hills. This is a Cluster program. Zoom Corporate Board Meeting with Bishop & Lay Directors - Oct. 17/19, 7:00 pm

Finance Council – Gayle Kaalberg reported on the progress of St. Mary's Church to National Register status. Nomination has been moved to June, 2022. Motion by Marvin Wilson and second by Margaret Matt to pay the fee of \$4,100.00 to Price Preservation Research – motion approved.

Building and Grounds – Kory Kaalberg reported the entrance project approved by the Bishop is on hold until the church receives National Register status approval. A new steel roof is being installed at the Rel. Ed Building by same company who did Nichols Church steel roof. This project should happen in early October, 2021.

Faith Formation: Trudi Westfall asked to use the Nichols hall for students to make noodles for a Religious Ed project. Council is fine with this. Trudi did not have final class & Confirmation student numbers at this time.

Social Action – Margaret Matt reported food pantry has a new location at UPC Guests will be using the East entrance door. Collections have been good at Nichols

Church Life – Adam Gauger reported on recent meeting of all Lay Directors at the home of Fr. Hai in Hills. Father prepared a dinner for all who attended.

Much discussion was on ways we can grow our membership and get parishioners back attending Mass. Fr. Hai wishes to go visit parishioners and possibly have a meal with them to get to know them better.

Cemetery – Carol Kaalberg reported four recent cremation burials.

Wayne Schaapveld, Kirk Kaalberg, Lee Ulch and Louise Ulch. The Havel family continues to mow the cemetery for this mowing season

Old Business – none to report

New Business – Nichols church will not have an Auction and Fall Luncheon.

There will also be no Ecumenical Senior Citizens Thanksgiving Dinner and Service of Prayer at our parish hall this fall. This event has been sponsored by St. Mary's, Nichols Christian Church and Nichols Methodist Church. Committee knows of this decision and agrees. Carol Kaalberg has been in contact with the pastor of the United Presbyterian Church of Lone Tree and a decision has been made to cancel the annual Thanksgiving Service at Lone Tree and the Blue Christmas Service held at the United Presbyterian Church. All of these decisions are related to the COVID restriction guidelines received from the bishop's office at the Diocese.

Fr. Hai asked about the possibility of scheduling a mini retreat for all Council members. Father is thinking possibly a Saturday morning.

President Kory Kaalberg announced the next Council meeting will be Sunday, November 28 following Mass.

Opening Prayer assignment: Adam Gauger      Closing Prayer: Fr. Hai

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned and Fr. Hai provided the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Kaalberg  
Recording Secretary