

Parish Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 15, 2026
Good Shepherd Conference Room, 6:00 PM

OPENING:

Mykeal Wigger called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Fr. Zach opened with a prayer.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Etienne, Fr. Zach
Williams, Anne Marie

(3 year term - July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2027)

Bragin, Al
Ice, Sarah
Wigger, Mykeal

(3 year term - July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2028)

Shafer, Cheryl

(3 year term - July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2029)

Kropfl, Natalie
Norman, Diane

Absent:

Taylor Blanchard
Greg Freyberger
David Ubelhor

MISSION STATEMENT

Members of the council recited the mission statement:

· *Our parish consists of Good Shepherd Catholic Church & School. The Catholic Community of Good Shepherd strives to live Christ's word daily by our commitment to worship, stewardship, faith formation, Catholic schools, family and social outreach.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND REVIEW OF THE AGENDA.

Minutes for the May meeting were approved by all members with a correction made under New Business for the date of this July meeting, as it was listed incorrectly as July 16.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Finance Committee

The last meeting was Wednesday, 07/8/2026

Mykeal distributed the financial report.

Fr. Zach and Mykeal added some comments about the report and some updates on financial matters.

The Summer Social was very successful, but final numbers are not yet ready. There is some concern about the use of the convection oven because it was purchased with government lunch program funds, but this has been resolved by the purchasing of another one.

The GAP program has been removed from the budget. The program will still be held on our campus, but it will be managed and administered under the director, Mark Schuler/Camp 31 and not included with the parish/school budget.

About 2-2.5 million dollars will be needed to complete the campaign, but it is covered by pledges. The blackout should be finished next week and final bills will be in soon. The interest rate from the diocese is 7%, but no interest has been accumulated yet.

We were one of the first parishes to use Flocknote. We will be stopping Constant Contacts. There are questions about how the applications and costs will settle out after the final transition occurs. There are many issues that need to be resolved to get the communications working effectively and efficiently.

June 30 was the end of the fiscal year. Final numbers indicate there was a shortage of \$15,780. Kristen expects that the school resource officer position will be filled before school begins. Our CMA assessment is \$297,103 for this next year, which is an increase over the \$260K+ last year.

School Board

The next meeting will be in August. School begins August 6, and preparations seem to be on schedule.

OLD BUSINESS

Capital campaign

Father Zach gave an update on the summer construction. Work on the inside of the building is complete, but continues on the back lot and the garage. Work was somewhat delayed by the injury of one of the workers. The gazebo is complete. Sidewalks near the back parking lot are being finished, and the back lot should be finished for school opening.

\$2.2 million has been received with \$2-2.5 million still needed and pledged.

Summer Social

We expect there will be a \$10-15 K increase in income this year, once all bills are paid. Leadership for next year is nearly determined, but not yet confirmed. The tentative schedule for 2027 is June 10-12, with a Big Bingo on June 13. Gratitude has been expressed to the Kecks for all their hard work these past years.

Flocknotes & Communication

We are working with the transition to Flocknote, which is a diocesan project for all parishes. We were one of the first parishes in the diocese to start this transition. As we resolve some of the problems, it will be helpful to our parish and others. There are some new applications for administration and new communication tools. This includes ministry and mass intention scheduling. Facilities scheduling will be available soon through a different platform.

Parish Library

Work on the parish library is in progress. There are many materials to organize, including some items left from the social.

NEW BUSINESS

Back to School

August 2 is the Back to School Bash with PTO and Parish Council. Fr. Zach will bless the new building and it will be open. A picnic lunch will be provided. The first day of school is August 6.

New Deacons

Dr. Bill Blanke and Jerry Durcholz will be ordained as permanent deacons on Aug. 8 and are assigned to Good Shepherd to begin their ministry. Jorge Valasco is also being ordained but will be assigned outside of the parish.

There will be hospitality for the deacons and parishioners after Masses the weekend of ordination. There will also be a separate celebration by invitation with the friends and family of the deacons. The reception for transitional deacon Nathan Folz was covered by the Vocations Office.

PASTOR REMARKS

Updates from Fr. Zach

There was a blood drive this weekend. TEC 122 is also this weekend.

The EPD safety teams had training here at GS on Monday (7/13). It was good to have them in our building. The Bishop will be here for the Blue Mass on Sept. 22

Emcee training is in progress at this time.

Religious education numbers have declined. There will be changes in the program to coordinate with OCIA. This will include sacramental preparation. Parents are encouraged to work with their children at home, and some resources will be provided.

The school calendar for next year schedules spring break during Holy Week. Families often travel and some OCIA candidates may not be here for the Vigil Mass. Administrators try to avoid spring break during Holy Week, but this was not possible for 2027.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Input from Council Members – Known Parish Activities and Highlights

- Father is eager for the deacons to begin. He needed (and needs) a break. It has been a very busy time.
- Holy water fonts are needed in the chapel.
- A question was asked about safety procedures and training for school, church, etc. Father said he believes parishioners who are officers alternate Mass attendance, but we do not communicate this. School procedures continue to be in place and the addition of the resource officer will also be helpful.
- People appreciate the bluetooth hearing assistance. It seems to be working very well.
- The last two years we have had Louisville priests for the Vietnamese Mass. Soon they will no longer be available. Efforts are being made to find others, but there has been no success finding others. This has been communicated to the Vietnamese community. Father Zach will continue the schedule and celebrate the community if no other Vietnamese priest can be found.
- The board with hymn numbers has been moved. Can the numbers of the songs be announced twice for parishioners?

DEBRIEF

The next meeting will be September 16, 2026.

Members prayed the closing prayer together.

CLOSING PRAYER -

Dear Lord, we are so thankful for all the blessings you bestow in our lives. We thank you for all that was accomplished in this meeting. We appreciate all the gifts that we each bring to our church community. Continue to be our light as we grow in our daily walk with you. Let us never forget that we do all things for your glory. Amen.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.