

## PTO Meeting September 9, 2015

The Little Flower School PTO meeting was held in the music room at 5:30 with a lunch provided. Opening prayer was led by Fr. Tom with the meeting conducted by co-presidents, Karla Deplazes and Renae Arnston. Tonia Dosch reviewed the treasurer's report, noting income and expenses for the fundraisers and school events.

### New Business:

Committee lists have been sent out to families. Please check what committee you are on. If you are willing to help out with others let the chairperson know. Some changes have been made as there are a few less families. The raffle committee is the PTO officers. Candy committee is decreased to 1 family for now, with volunteers needed to help sort and organize candy to be sent home.

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade LFS Homecoming float is ready for the parade. Details will follow for class transportation and time for parade line up. The parade is at 2 PM Friday Sept. 11.

The World's Finest Chocolate fundraiser will start soon. Karla Larson is the chair person and is in need of volunteers to help sort and organize candy to be sent home for families. They will be meeting in the school library on Wednesday Sept. 16, at 6:00 PM. Contact Karla with questions or just come and help when you can.

What A Difference a Day Makes is a new fund raiser the school is doing this year. What better gift than the gift of prayer? Great gift ideas for anniversaries, birthdays, memorials, and other events to remember loved ones. The dollar amount is determined by the number of the day of the year, for example January 1 is \$1 and December 31 is \$365. A note has been sent home. Please help spread the word. Ideas were discussed for further publication of this fundraiser, including checking into the Rugby community access channel, hanging a poster, and possibly during the principal report.

The Little Flower School Supper and Silent auction is now the LFS Dine and Bid. It is planned for Fri. November 13, with Theresa's chicken supper. Please consider donations for the silent auction. Last year this event went very well. Thank you for your support.

The LFS Raffle committee consists of the LFS PTO officers. Ideas for this year's raffle were discussed such as cash prizes, gas cards, electronics, as well as other raffle ideas.

PTO storage is needed as the McCabe's provided space for the silent auction items the past few years and now we need to have an area to store the items as they come in for the auction. A designated area is needed with possibility of a room in the school or at someone's home were options.

The playground equipment storage closet is a great place to keep things. Ideas to improve organization and space efficiency were discussed such as switching the door to open outward instead of in, and adding crates, shelving and hooks or nails to organize items. Discussion was held of playground equipment needs such as a new basketball hoop, air pumps.

Envelopes are available for memorials and other donations in honor of someone are available to make donations to LFS.

The Strategic Planning Committee is having a meeting on Sept. 22. There are 4 sub committees and members are needed. Please contact Amy Casavant if you are interested in serving on this committee. Margaret Voeller is retiring after 15 years of cooking at LFS. A retirement party is planned for Friday Sept. 18 after the 9:00 school mass to celebrate her years of service with coffee, punch and cake.

LFS is in need of a cook. The part-time position is hourly wage, and involves 25-30 hours a week. Other options are being considered in the event the position is not filled.

PTO applied for grants to assist with establishing the SMART boards in the school. Rugby Jaycees grant in the amount of \$5000 is to purchase a 3<sup>rd</sup> SMART board and cart. The Rugby Community Foundation grant is in the amount of \$2965, and awaiting the Eagles and Catholic Financial decisions.

The Carolyn Voeller Family has donated items to LFS to do as they wish for fund raising. It was decided to have a free will rummage sale. Help is needed to box and organize items this Sunday Sept. 13. They are meeting at the Voeller house located across from the baseball diamond on the west side of town. It is the 3<sup>rd</sup> house from the west corner and has brown brick exterior. A tentative free will rummage sale is being planned in the church basement Saturday, Sept. 19 from 9 AM -3 PM. Contact a PTO member if you have questions. More information to follow.

“A Chairity Event” fund raiser idea was discussed. Several wooden chairs were donated to the school in the past and are currently in storage. Painting and decorating the chairs for holidays or for home or garden display would be a way to provide additional fund raising for the school. Further plans and ideas will be considered.

Mrs. Mosher reported that the Veterans’ Day lunch is tentatively set for the 10<sup>th</sup> of November depending on our cook situation. PTO will pay for the meal and 6<sup>th</sup> grade parents will provide desserts. Catholic Family Conference in Fargo, hosted by the Fargo Diocese, is to be held on the weekend of October 24<sup>th</sup> in at the Radisson and Civic Center, with hosts Jeff & Emily Cavins, Msgr. Shea, and other speakers. Registration due by Oct. 3, but conference is free of charge. Next Thursday, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> our parish is hosting “Celebrating Autumn,” and guest speaker is Julie Mosher.

Fr. Tom reported on additional funds coming into the school via the Coke Rewards Program. Rockin’ Relics saves tops for us, and Denise Legassie helped him count and enter in codes. Tonia also reported that Target Red Card holders can designate on their statements or online for the corporation to give back specifically to our school, so please designate accordingly if possible. Next box top drive will be set for October.

Fr. Tom reported on his attendance at an educational conference for Catholic education that was held at Notre Dame over the summer. It emphasized the importance of opening the doors of the school to those outside, with such activities as the veterans’ dinner. It also stressed the importance of a mentor figure in the school/community to assist those of Hispanic or other cultures with such things like paperwork or introductions to a school, etc. Our school or parish should consider such a person.

Concluding prayer prayer led by Karla Deplazes.  
Thank you to all you do for Little Flower School.

Respectfully submitted,  
Becky Kraft

