

LITURGY AND WORSHIP COMMISSION

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Liturgy & Worship Commission of Queen of the Apostles Catholic Church is to work in close collaboration with the pastor to provide the parish with well-planned, meaningful, and spiritually uplifting liturgical seasons, experiences as well as other opportunities for the spiritual growth of the parish.

Vision Statement:

The vision of the Liturgy and Worship Commission of Queen of the Apostles Catholic Church is to have an adequate worship space that is conducive to good liturgy and opportunities for spiritual growth. We envision more opportunities for Spiritual development as well as opportunities for group and personal prayer. We would like to see more of our faith community actively involved as Liturgical Ministers and provide them with the necessary spiritual formation.

History and Analysis:

The Liturgy and Worship Commission was formed approximately 10 years ago. At the beginning a layout of a new church was discussed, the documents of Vatican II were studied, and at present we spend our time preparing the liturgy for various feast days of the Church.

God has called us to provide our parish with well planned, meaningful and spiritually uplifting liturgical experiences and other opportunities for spiritual growth. Everything that we do flows from the Eucharist (worship, fellowship etc.). We recruit and train Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Ministers of Hospitality, Musicians, Cantors, and Altar Servers. The Art and Environment committee falls under our commission. They provide the parish with decorations that enhance our liturgies. Liturgies for Advent, Christmas, Triduum, and many other special feasts and celebrations are planned in our commission. We plan a yearly retreat for the liturgical ministers and also the parish mission.

Currently the commission recruits and oversees the training of liturgical ministers, as well as art and environmental concerns for the church seasons. It creates an opportunity for dialogue and coordination between the various facets of the liturgy. It also supports the planning and execution of special seasons and feasts as well as the planning for an annual Lenten retreat and communal reconciliation services.

In 2014, commission members and selected ministry participants identified the following gifts and challenges with regard to the liturgical life of the parish:

Gifts:

- 1) Participation in ministry
- 2) Good choirs & music
- 3) Good participation at Mass
- 4) "Vatican II" experience
- 5) Spirit of welcome
- 6) Hospitality
- 7) Children's programs
- 8) Pentecost celebration

Challenges:

- 1) A new and larger church
- 2) Improved sound system
- 3) Children's programs & facilities
- 4) Deacons
- 5) Adequate multi-media
- 6) Handicapped seating
- 7) Better restroom, storage facilities

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

Based on a collaborative effort of parish members, commission members and Pastoral Council members, the following have been articulated:

Goal One: To assure that the primary work of the Commission is the celebration of the Eucharist, especially on Sundays, Holy Days and the liturgical seasons, as the “source and summit” of our lives. Our treasure, time and talent will always be used to reflect this priority.

Objective One: Since teens will be utilized in our hospitality ministry, Mrs. Glisson and Mrs. Dobies will devise an appropriate training program to integrate them by March 2014.

Objective Two: Adult Hospitality Ministers will undergo “Protecting God’s Children” training to assist with the Objective above by March, 2015.

Objective Three: In January 2015, Mrs. Glisson and the commission will propose two members to the building committee to be part of the implementation of the Master Plan and be available for the design process (projected for 2017).

Objective Four: Mrs. Glisson and Octavio will work together to establish opportunities for members of the Hispanic choir to attend meaningful continuing education annually, beginning in FY 2015 – 2016 (FY 2015-2016, 5147.22: \$1,000. Can grow as needed each year).

Goal Two: The Commission is committed to increase the active participation of all who gather to worship here by supporting a vibrant life of prayer, a solid music program and competent ministers of the sacred liturgy.

Objective One: By March 2015 Mrs. Dobies will recruit hospitality ministers from the youth ministry program, inviting them to participate through the “My Church” celebration in conjunction with Mrs. Munsee and the Youth Ministry team.

Objective Two: By August 2015 Mrs. Glisson and the Commission will review music and ritual actions in various cultures represented in the parish community and recommend additional hymnody for parish use (choir).

Objective Three: By August 2015 the Commission will establish a subcommittee with the Hispanic Ministry Leadership Team (Fr. Jose and Mrs. Sulpeveda) to oversee the parish’s participation in the Diocese’s annual Eucharistic Congress (procession and Mass).

Objective Four: By June 2016, Mrs. Glisson will introduce budget for choir microphones to the Finance Council (FY 2016-17: 5154.05: \$1,500.00).

Objective Five: By June 2017, Mrs. Glisson will present to the Finance Council needed budget monies for the 2017-2018 year that reflects this on-going pool of musicians, increasing our brass quartet by the addition of three string instruments. (FY 2017- 2018: \$9,000 addit.)

Objective Six: Beginning in January 2018, Mrs. Glisson and Mr. Blandford will inventory the sacristy to evaluate the condition of sacred vessels and vestments and anticipate future needs for the 2018 – 2019 budget year (FY 2018 – 2019: 5154.03 \$5,000.).

Goal Three: The worship of this parish community is connected to the life of the community where we live. There must be a relationship between our parish liturgy and the everyday life of people around us in Ried Park, the Sisters of Mercy, the Abbey and its college as well as the other ecclesial communions within our parish.

Objective One: In February 2015 and in ensuing years, Ms. Glisson, Ms. Thompson and Ms. Alexander will create prayer and music and other important elements to celebrate Black History Month and to participate in the planning of the Belmont Unity Day Celebrations(FY 2015 – 2016, 5154.05: \$50.00).

Objective Two: By July 2015, establish a standing committee to prepare for, execute and reevaluate the (now) annual Parish Pentecost Mass and Picnic(FY 2015 - 16 *Pentecost*, 5103.20: \$11,000; FY 2016-17: \$12,000.; FY 2017-18: \$12,500,000.; FY 2018-19: \$13,500.).

Objective Three: By January 2016, Fr. Frank, Mrs. Glisson and the Motherhouse Coordinator will establish the annual Christmas Cantata in the chapel at Sacred Heart Convent to utilize the space and involve the retirement community of sisters in this annual opportunity

(FY 2016-17, 5154.04: \$1,000. Amount seems to remain constant for chair and platform rental through 2019 – 2020).

Objective Four: In conjunction with the Ecumenism Commission, Fr. Frank, Mrs Glisson and Pastor Mark will work together to develop a joint Catholic – Lutheran Christmas Cantata in December, 2016 and, on evaluation of the event, seek to develop a joint committee to organize an annual joint celebration in ensuing years.

Goal Four: The Commission will work to support and celebrate the expansion of ministry(ies) within the parish community.

Objective One: By the Fall of 2016, the Commission will work with Mrs. Vasil and Community Ministries to devise a weekend celebration called “Ministry Weekend.”

Objective Two: Mrs. Glisson and Mrs. Vasil will devise a tool to use for volunteering for ministries on the Ministry Weekend.

Objective Three: Mrs. Glisson and the Art and Environment Committee will devise appropriate liturgical décor for the weekend celebration (target in mid-September, 2016).

Objective Four: After evaluation, establish the *Ministry Weekend* as an annual event overseen by this commission and Community Ministry Chair.

Goal Five: It is imperative to exercise good stewardship over the quality and usefulness of the equipment used for our community worship.

Objective One: In January 2019, with a vision toward a new church structure, Mrs Glisson will appoint a subcommittee to begin the process of researching a suitable new organ for the parish worship space with an eye toward a campaign to purchase one in 2024.

Objective Two: In July, 2019 this same subcommittee will oversee the process of purchasing two tonal tympani for parish use (FY 2019 – 2020: 5154.05, \$3,000.00).

COMMUNITY MINISTRIES COMMISSION

Mission Statement:

We act as an organization in the parish, responding to God's will that identifies and assesses community needs and community outreach. We oversee the peace and justice programs of the parish, its respect life efforts and connect the parish to resources in the community, the diocese, and elsewhere.

Vision Statement:

The vision of our commission is to expand our resources and our outreach in the community by joining with other churches and civic organizations to identify and address major social problems. We will educate the parish community in the ministry of justice and charity in an ongoing way.

History and Analysis:

Prior to 2000, social justice and service programs operated independently. A decision was made to combine appropriate programs under one commission in 2000.

How have we grown? Funding for programs came through donations from parishioners and fundraising activities. As of Jan. 2006, the second collection once a month is designated for the outreach programs. The generosity of the parish has allowed us to increase our donations to local organizations (12 in all). In 2008 this second collection is being replaced with a tithe of our regular offertory as part of our developing stewardship program. It will give the commission more revenue to use for outreach to the broader community.

By 2014 the Tithe has grown to an average of \$700.00 per week to 23 different non-profit organizations that offer direct service to people in need.

Parish ministries that we oversee include:

Monthly food collections

Shut-in Ministry

Peace and Justice Issues

Community walks (AIDS, Crop Walk, etc)

Meal program for Boys and Girls Club

Belmont Backpack Program

First Tuesday Meals

Project St. Anne (Haiti)

Angel tree

Thanksgiving Meal

Coat collection

Food Baskets

Rosary makers

Weekly tithe

Family Promise Shelter

Respect Life

Green Queen (Environment)

The most recent survey identified the following:

Gifts

- 1) We support those in need
- 2) Inform parish of issues
- 3) Provide opportunities to participate
- 4) Our twelve step programs
- 5) Wide variety Social Justice issues
- 6) Children's feeding programs
- 7) Good connection to local agencies

Challenges

- 1) Need space for programs
- 2) Need more volunteers
- 3) Better Respect Life presence

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

Based on a collaboration of commission, council, and selected parish members we have prioritized the following:

Goal One: As part of the parish's on-going stewardship of treasure, time and talent, a portion of the parish's financial resources will be regularly set aside as a tithe and re-evaluated regularly so that we can partner effectively with area agencies who reach out to those in need.

Objective One: Mrs. Vasil, Mr. Boyd, and Fr. Frank will, by July 2016, re-evaluate the 5 percent tithe of parish offertory with an eye toward increasing it to 7 percent. By 2017, it should be increased further to a regular ten percent tithe of the weekly offertory by 2020 (FY 2015 – 2016, 5101.35: \$31,650.; FY 2016-17: \$34,600.; FY 2017-18: \$35,600; FY 2018-19: \$36,600).

Goal Two: The regular outreach and service of the parish community must include support of Diocesan and National Catholic programs as well as foster a commitment to international relief programs.

Objective One: Mrs. Vasil and Sr. Rose Mary will meet with Catholic Social Services in the Diocese of Charlotte in January 2015 to identify local programs, including the diocesan food bank, as a potential project for the parish.

Objective Two: By June 2015 Mrs. Vasil and Sr. Rose Mary will formulate two program possibilities that will link parish volunteer hours with issues being served by CSS. This plan will be submitted to the Pastoral Council.

Objective Three: By January 2016 Mrs. Vasil, Mrs. Pullen, and Fr. Frank will identify a Volunteer Coordinator who can facilitate participation of parish members in Diocesan and parish based service opportunities and oversee appropriate paperwork.

Objective Four: Mrs. Vasil and the Community Ministries Commission will work with Mrs. Munsee and the E and F Commission to establish an annual Youth Outreach Mission by 2016 that is domestic in scope and provides a solid service opportunity as well as theological reflection (ideally the *Catholic Heart Work Camp* model). Fund raising will be part of the experience for youth choosing this opportunity. This will become an annual ministry from that point (FY 2016 - 2017, 5350.38: \$5,515.; FY 2017-2018: \$5,790.; FY 2018-2019: 6,080).

Objective Five: By July 2017, Mrs. Vasil will work with Mr. and Mrs. Bernard to create a relationship with St Anne Church in Camp Perrin Haiti to provide funds and eventual volunteer service to assist PSA in its care for the poor there.

Objective 6: By January 2018, Mrs. Vasil and the commission will present to the Pastoral Council a model for adults to spend (at least) a week in mission on an international basis (consider PSA, Jamaica or Sisters of Mercy in Caribbean). This will provide a service opportunity and a reflection experience as well as immersion in direct service to the poor. Costs will be borne by adults wishing to be part of the experience personally and through fund raising projects (\$200.00 administrative costs reflected in FY 2017 – 2018 budget).

Goal Three: The Community Ministries Commission continues to have a serious role in educating the parish about issues of (global and local) poverty and the Gospel response to the world's brokenness.

Objective One: The Community Ministries Commission will set up one annual workshop on a timely issues. It will occur at the parish beginning in January 2015 (FY 2015-2016, 5350.40: \$600.; FY 2016-2017: \$650.; FY 2017-2018: \$700.; FY 2018-2019: \$800.).

Objective Two: The Commission and the Education and Formation Commission will work together to organize and execute one classroom programs each year, beginning in September 2015, to assist children in faith formation in connecting Gospel service to the life of faith (FY 2015-2016, 5350.34: \$100.; FY 2016-2017: \$150.; FY 2017-2018: \$200.; FY 2018-2019: \$250.).

Objective Three: By June 2017 the Community Ministries Commission with Fr. Frank and Lynda Bernard (PSA) will sponsor a week long work camp for adults in an international setting (preferably Haiti or Jamaica). It will provide manual labor to meet specific community needs and retreat materials to educate participants. Funds for the mission will be raised by participants. This will become an annual experience.

Objective Four: Mrs. Vasil and Scouting leaders will meet beginning in January 2018 to re-formulate a plan to support Girl Scout Gold awards in areas of the parish that support our mission to the poor and our service of the broader community. The plan will be presented to the pastor by June 2018.

Goal Four: The Commission must evidence and support the church's teaching regarding the sanctity of life from conception to natural death in concrete ways in the parish.

Objective One: By October, 2015 Mrs. Vasil, Father Frank and GK Vin Lyndgrin will meet to formulate a plan and create a structure to support and execute a Life Chain event on the first Sunday of October each year.

Objective Two: Mrs Vasil and the Chair of MOMs will work together to establish an annual collection of needed items for residents at the newly established Mira Via residence here in Belmont. Starting in January, 2016, it is hoped this will be an annual event.

Objective Three: Mrs Vasil will recommend and Fr Frank will approve a new member of the "Death Watch North Carolina" to assist with death penalty awareness and issues. This can be targeted for October 2014.

Objective Four: By January 2018, the commission will seek establish a working *Respect Life Committee* with a volunteer chair from the parish community.

Objective Five: Mrs Vasil, Mrs Glisson and Mr. Blandford will meet with representatives of Catholic Social Services in order to begin establishing a Burial Assistance Program in Gaston County by June, 2017.

Objective Six: Mrs. Vasil, Mrs. Glisson and Mr. Blandford will engage local funeral directors in a dialogue to work with the parish to assist in the above by December 2017.

Objective Seven: By the beginning of fiscal 2018, budget monies will be included in the commission's budget to assist in burial assistance in crisis situations for local residents (FY 2018 – 2019: \$2,000 initially, evaluated after the first year).

EVANGELIZATION AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Mission Statement:

Our mission is to provide assistance to Queen of the Apostles staff and parishioners in communicating information to the church and local community, including the local media, regarding special events and other items of interest.

Further we are tasked with developing those opportunities necessary for the proper proclamation of the Gospel to the parish community and to all our brothers and sisters in eastern Gaston County and western Mecklenburg County.

Vision Statement:

We are a connecting point that helps people unravel the many opportunities and programs available at the parish. We desire to build a community grounded in the Good News of the Gospel. We want to also be a connection for “outsiders” to discover the Good News in the context of our parish life.

History and Analysis:

The commission is responsible for the quarterly parish newsletter as well as the development and maintenance of the parish web site. We assist with other printed materials and special events. It is our responsibility to issue press releases for the parish.

We are currently accepting the challenge of developing evangelization programs to assist our mission.

In the most recent survey of the parish, the following gifts and challenges were identified:

<u>Gifts</u>	<u>Challenges</u>
1) Queen’s Herald on line	1) Outside information kiosk or desk (portable)
2) Media boards in facility	2) Diocesan newspaper not worth investment
3) Office staff are helpful	
4) DVD based small groups	
5) Facebook, Remind.com tools	

Goals and Objectives:

Goal One: We are committed to continuing to use current technology to assist all levels of communication in the parish and to all parish members to help build the community of faith.

Objective One: By July 2015, the Site administrator and Mr. Colone will work to develop software to adapt the “Queen’s Herald” newsletter as an on-line newsletter exclusively.

Objective Two: Beginning in January 2016, Mrs. Musnee, Mr. Colone and Fr Frank will begin to pursue grant possibilities for equipment necessary to develop and edit our parish based DVD programming (Goal in Fiscal 2016: \$5,000.).

Objective Three: By July, 2017 Mr Colone, our Media Consultant and Mrs Glisson will provide hard-wired TV service to the MAK Family Life Center to assist overflow at Liturgy and for other events (FY 2017 – 2018: \$2,500.).

Objective Four: By July, 2018 additional hardware and internet enhancements will be provided by Mr Colone and Mrs Glisson in order to live stream weekend celebrations from the church via the parish web site (FY 2018 – 2019: \$3,000 hardware and set-up. \$1,000 per year for streaming contract). Evaluate after one year.

Goal Two: The Commission sees it as an important task to educate the parish about Catholic evangelization (pre-evangelization) and its prerogative to reach out to the broader community to share the Good News.

Objective One: Beginning in July, 2015, Mr Colone and Mrs Stiles will evaluate the pamphlet racks to determine what topics are popular and order additional materials as necessary (current cost is \$50. per month. No increase expected).

Objective Two: Mrs Glisson and Mrs. Cannon will work with Youth Ministry beginning in January 2016 to introduce the “Mission Church” concept to youth.

Objective Three: Beginning in 2017, the commission will work with Mrs. Glisson’s office to provide media material and outside signage to promote and identify our Christmas and Easter celebrations at South Point High School auditorium (FY: 2017 – 2018: \$200.00 initially then evaluate after first year)..

Goal Three: The Evangelization and Communication Commission accepts the responsibility to provide basic, necessary information that will assist in the transformation of parish members into Catholic evangelizers.

Objective One: In January 2017, the Evangelization subcommittee meets with the Pastoral Council and the Commission Heads to help discern a plan for the development of an “evangelization mission statement” for each of their commissions..

Objective Two: By January 2018, the commission will research the possibility of a Lenten Parish Mission focused on the theme of mission and evangelization (FY 2017 – 2018: \$3,000.).

Objective Three: The Commission will meet with Mrs. Tracey and other representatives of the RCIA program in early 2018 in order to identify an individual who might head up a “Landings” program for returning Catholics.

Objective Four: In January 2019, a Landings (or similar) program will be initiated by Fr Frank, Deacon Chip and Mrs Tracey as well as a volunteer coordinator to outreach to disconnected Catholics in the area (budget TBD).

Goal Four: We will maintain a spirit of evangelization that empowers the community to the radical hospitality of the Gospel.

Objective One: From 2016 onward, the Evangelization subcommittee will work with the Stewardship Committee to develop its annual Time, Talent and Treasure survey and annual commitment.

Objective Two: These same individuals will begin to strategize a better methodology for welcoming new families into the parish effectively. Such a program should be targeted to begin in January 2018.

Objective Three: The commission will work with Mrs. Cannon to develop hand-outs for visitors and new members that welcome them to the faith community.

Visitor pamphlet: by January 2018 (FY 2017 – 2018 \$300.00)

New member pamphlet by January 2019 (FY 2018 – 2019: \$500.00).

EDUCATION AND FORMATION COMMISSION

Mission Statement:

The Education and Formation Commission will provide for the educational needs of the whole parish community.

Vision Statement:

This commission creates the environment and provides the tools for our brothers and sisters in Christ to grow in the Faith. We make Scripture, church teachings, spiritual formation, and sacramental preparation an integral part of the parish life.

History and Analysis:

Currently we offer four regular Bible Study opportunities in English. There is also a weekly Scripture Study in Spanish offered at the parish. At the same time, a Youth Bible Study meets prior to the Youth Ministry gathering each week. Other opportunities are provided throughout the year, offering scripture and spirituality studies.

Because of the number of students, our faith formation program offers two options. First is the traditional Sunday morning catechesis offered on the Sacred Heart Campus of Belmont Abbey College. Second, a summer intensive program is offered on the parish campus for two weeks each summer that covers the same curriculum and other supplemental material. A summer VBS program is also offered each summer and separate programs for Middle school and High school youth that combine catechesis, socialization and service outreach are utilized.

Adult formation also includes a DVD based small group process utilized during Advent and Lent each year that is written and produced in the parish.. A Men's Group and a Ladies Group offer ongoing spiritual formation and MOMs offers a supportive educational environment for mothers with children on a weekly basis. KIDZone is our new Nursery experience which provides childcare with basic faith themes for our youngest children. A children's Liturgy of the Word is also offered weekly at two of the Masses.

Finally, our sacramental preparation programs have become a separate tract that offers solid preparation involving both students and parents in an intense process of learning and experience.

The following gifts and challenges are the result of collaboration by the Pastoral Council, the commission and a survey of catechists and program volunteers:

<u>Gifts</u>	<u>Challenges</u>
1) Summer Faith program	1) Inadequate space for children
2) Father's sermons	2) Could use adult ed. staff
3) Confirmation program	3) Marriage enrichment programs
4) Sacrament prep cycles	4) Dedicated youth space
5) Ladies' and Men's study groups	
6) "Sharing your faith in a circle"	
7) Racism series	
8) Adult ed resource pages on web site	
9) VBS Program	
10) Middle school and Life Teen	

Goals and Objectives:

Goal One: We must continue to provide adequate space and storage for the growing numbers of children in our Faith Formation Process and Sacramental Preparation programs.

Objective One: By September 2014 Mrs. Munsee will explore use of the parish campus for middle school programs apart from Sunday catechesis.

Objective Two: By January 2015 Mrs Munsee will gather a volunteer Middle School Ministry Team to explore potential programs and strategize a movement of grades 6 – 8 from the traditional Sunday morning program in Mercedes Hall.

Objective Three: By January 2015 Mrs. Munsee and Mr. Valentine will explore the potential of utilizing Life Teen programs for our high school youth.

Goal Two: We are committed to nurturing and maintaining adequate space, budget and other support for the scout (cub, boy and girl) programs in order to engage youth and create strong church connections as they learn life skills.

Objective One: By January 2015 Mr. Davis, Mr. Liberatore and Mrs. Paluzak will identify storage needs in the individual rooms of the Education Bldg to effect additional storage.

Objective Two: By July 2016, Fr. Frank, scout leaders and the Grand Knight of our council will meet to form a plan for fundraising in order to buy a trailer specifically for storage and use of our scouting programs (estimated cost: \$8,000. From fund raising).

Objective Three: Father Frank and Mr. Atterbury will meet to discuss the placement of this trailer on the Atterbury property adjacent to the parish campus.

Goal Three: With a Nursery Program in place on weekends, we are committed to a safe environment for our children that also provides a faith oriented experience even for the youngest members of the parish community.

Objective One: By August 2015, revamp the current nursery with a child friendly floor and media screen (FY 2015 – 2016, 5148.43 \$4,000).

Objective Two: A kid-safe, computer based child identification system should be initiated by January 2016 (FY 2015 – 2015, 5148.43 \$1,000).

Goal Four: Our children in KidZone must be cared for by a competent and committed staff that provides for the safety and nurture noted above.

Objective One: Beginning in August 2016, Mrs. Munsee will work with Mr Boyd on Finance to develop one part time position for KidZone while maintaining a cadre of prepared volunteers (FY 2016 – 2017, 5123.00: \$8,000.) . . .

...**Objective Two:** Beginning in August 2018, a second part time position will be initiated at the discretion of Mrs. Munsee and the KidZone staff (FY 2018 – 2019, 5123.00: \$8,000. Addtl).

Goal Five: The use of social media for adult education is imperative if the parish wishes to both communicate and educate the message of the Gospel to its adult members.

Objective One: In conjunction with Mr. Colone and the C & E Commission, Mrs. Munsee will seek to establish a small group education program in the parish utilizing available multi-media based programs by Advent 2016 (FY 2016 – 2017, 4150.27: \$2,000).

Objective Two: By January 2017, Mrs. Munsee and Mr. Colone will establish a sub committee to explore the development of our own DVD resources for use in small group adult formation.

Objective Three: By January 2018, this subcommittee will apply for pastoral grants from the Diocese of Charlotte and CCC for equipment they have identified as necessary for parish production if adult education tools (Estimate \$5,000 to begin).

Goal Six: The ministry of support and education must extend to all age groups in the parish community and especially to young adult members.

...__ **Objective One:** Mrs Munsee will establish a working group with the commission to explore potential leadership for young adult ministry in the parish beginning in January 2016.

PARISH LIFE COMMISSION

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Parish Life Commission is to provide opportunities for the parish to come together, to grow together, and to grow into a community.

Vision Statement:

Our vision is to provide fellowship opportunities and entertainment for the Parish through care, service, friendliness, and fellowship.

History and Analysis:

Prior to 1999 there was an organization filling the place of the present Commission. The Commission began to take its present form in 1999-2000. By 2002 the Commission began in earnest with the renewal of the monthly breakfast. This breakfast was started with a gift of \$100 by parishioners.

We have a number of special theme breakfasts, regular breakfasts, Bingo, Thanksgiving Dinner, and Halloween Trunk or Treat and Easter Egg hunts. The dinners for First Sacrament programs in the Fall and Spring as well as assistance with the annual New Members Dinner.

Coffee and doughnuts are provided by rotating teams after the two Sunday Masses.

The Commission also has a cookie committee as well as teams that assist with receptions that mark the parish year (Parish Leadership Reception, Easter Vigil Reception, Super Saturday, First Sacrament Receptions, Confirmation Reception and VBS Meals.

The commission also assists with Bereavement ministry luncheons.

The Commission is also an integral part of the planning and execution of our Parish Pentecost Mass and Picnic annually.

Our sports teams (for children and adults) also are supported by this commission.

Parish members have identified the following gifts and challenges:

<u>Gifts</u>	<u>Challenges</u>
1) Thanksgiving dinner	1) Activities for young adults
2) Pentecost celebration	2) Bingo participation
3) Trunk or Treat program	3) More socials for parish
4) Great volunteers	
5) Coffee & doughnuts	
6) Monthly Breakfast	
7) Easter Vigil	
8) Funeral luncheons (bereavement)	

Goals and Objectives:

Goal One: Parish programs celebrating our growth as a community, and a concern for the diverse groups and varied cultures that compose this community, must continue to be supported.

Objective One: Beginning in early 2016, Mr. Liberatore, Mr. Lindgren and Mrs. Conley develop a plan for an annual celebration of an International Dinner

Objective Two: By January 2017, in conjunction with the Community Ministries Commission, the Parish Life Commission will execute an "International Night" pot luck supper that features the ethnic foods of parish groups as well as opportunities for cultural dances and music (FY 2016 – 2017, 5147.00: \$500.00).

Goal Two The parish must support programs that bring the community (parish members and Belmont) together in a positive and productive way.

Objective One A re-evaluation of our Bingo program must be undertaken immediately to determine if it is meeting its intended mission. Father Frank and Mr. Litfin will determine if this is not the case, it should be eliminated. This can be done immediately.

Objective Two: Father Frank, Father Jose and Mrs. Conway and Mrs. Vargas should meet to determine how the monthly Fiesta celebrated after the Spanish language Mass can be incorporated into the broader life of the parish (initiate in 2015).

Objective Three: Based on Objective Two, the commission can assist in making a Fiesta a regular opportunity for social interaction by early 2017.

Objective Four: By All Souls Day (November) 2019, provide ethnic foods for Sunday receptions after Masses that represent *Dia de los Muertos* and the *African American Tradition* (pan muerte, holy bones, hot chocolate, etc.) (FY 2019 – 2020, 5148.00: \$700.).

Goal Three: The social life of the church should continue in spite of potential restrictions on church property during a building project.

Objective One: The PL chair will form a subcommittee in January 2017 to explore other venues for large gatherings that the parish might identify for use.

Objective Two: Based on the above, the subcommittee will also develop a fee schedule so that a budget can be developed for facility use (target early 2018).

Objective Three: In 2019, assuming we have begun construction, in conjunction with the parish secretary, the subcommittee will set up a schedule that can be used for assigning different groups to different, appropriate facilities.

Goal Four: It is important to maintain relationships with our homebound and shut in members and nurture some sense of community with them.

Objective One: Mrs. Conway and Mrs. La Francis should meet in early 2015 to develop a Prayer Shawl ministry and invite parish knitters together to work on small blankets for sick and shut in members.

Objective Two: Mrs. La Francis can identify potential wool donors by mid 2015 for this project and meet with the Finance Council to talk about budget support.

Objective Three: Beginning with 2016 – 2017 budget, supplemental monies for the prayer shawl ministry will be provided (FY 2016 – 2017, 5201.26: \$200.).

Objective Four: Mrs. La Francis will evaluate program by June 2016 to determine its long term viability.

Objective Five: Supplement the Christmas flower program with an Easter gift by March 2018 with PL Commission assistance for delivery to shut ins (FY 2017 – 2018, 5201.26: \$500.).

Objective Six: By summer 2019, develop a plan with Mrs. La Francis and Mrs. Conway to provide a reception after the annual Anointing of the Sick in the parish.

BUILDING AND FACILITIES COMMISSION

Mission and Vision statement:

Provides for a long range maintenance plan and work with the pastor to provide appropriately for parish mechanics, roofs, painting, and general scheduling. Oversee the maintenance and housekeeping of the parish plant.

Parish members have identified the following gifts and challenges:

Gifts:	Challenges:
1) The building is kept well repaired	1) Space is inadequate
2) Housekeeping & landscaping	2) Parking lot lights
3) We do well with limited space	3) More rest rooms needed
4) MAK Center and kitchen	4) Use of Mercedes Hall
5) Use of Mercedes Hall	

Goals and Objectives:

Goal One: We are committed to provide adequate staff to assist in the upkeep and cleanliness of the facilities

Objective One: By July 2015, the Finance Council and the B and F Commission will develop a budget and job description for a full time maintenance person for the parish. (FY 2015 - 2016: \$32,000).

Objective Two: With approval of the Pastoral Council, Father Frank (and the Diocese of Charlotte) new parking spaces will be installed in the front lot by July 2017 (Cap Budget: \$23,000.).

Objective Three: By June 2017, additional lighting will be installed at the doorways of the offices and the MAK Center (FY 2016 – 2017, 5137.00: \$5,000.).

Objective Four By July 2019, patchwork and repair of back parking lots will be accomplished (Cap. Budget \$4,000).

Goal Two: We will provide adaptable spaces, both inside our buildings and around our campus, to meet the needs of a growing parish population with multiple needs.

Objective One: Father Frank will continue dialogue with the Diocesan Properties Office concerning the architectural evaluation of St Mary and St Joseph Church in Mount Holly (this is long term and on-going)

Objective Two: By July 2016, Mr. Liberatore and the “Thursday Group” will install a shed next to the Education Bldg. for equipment storage (FY 2016 – 2017, 5137.00: \$7,000.)

Objective Three: Father Frank will meet with Paul McLean and Dr Mullin re: use of their parking spaces on weekend for parish members. This can be done immediately.

Goal Three: The Buildings and Facilities Commission, recognizing the rise in the number of young children in the parish as well as the increased numbers of young families, is committed to continuing to provide those services that make our campus a welcoming environment for everyone.

Objective One: By July, 2016 office doors and the reconciliation room will be refitted with glass windows to assure safety of children and protection of staff (FY 2016 – 2017: 5137.00: \$2,300).

Objective Two: The B & F will recommend to the building committee in 2017 (approx) the inclusion of a secured playground area in the new construction.

Goal Four: The Buildings and Facilities Commission takes responsibility for the upkeep of current buildings, even as we look toward new construction in the future.

Objective One: In July 2017, the B & F will oversee the bidding for interior painting of the Rectory (FY 2017 – 2018: 5134.00: \$5,000).

Objective Two: In July 2017, the B and F Commission and the Finance Council will make provision for the replacement of two offices of furniture which Father Frank and staff will determine will choose (FY 2017 – 2018, 5537.00: \$2,500.).

Objective Three: In July, 2018 the B and F and the Finance Council will make provision two replace two more office furniture suites which Fr Frank and the staff will determine (FY 2018 – 2019, 5537.00: \$2,500).

Objective Four: In July 2019, the Finance Council will make provision for floor and/or carpet replacement at the Rectory and B & F will supervise the bids and the work which is to be completed by December, 2019 (FY 2019 – 2020, 5537.00: \$5,000.).

Objective Five: Prior to the parish acquiring Miss Pauline's property, the parish should acquire the adjacent property at 54 Central Ave, with the approval of the Finance Council and the Diocese of Charlotte by December 2015 (FY 2015 – 2016, Cap Budget: \$46,000).

Objective Six: In June 2018 as the current contract ends, the B & F along with the parish secretary and Fr Frank must evaluate the printing needs and potential contracts for the next three to five year cycle (as needed, proposal will be made to the Finance Council for FY 2019 – 2020).

ECUMENISM COMMISSION

Mission Statement

The Ecumenism Commission helps Catholics in Queen of the Apostles Church link their call to life in Christ with the lives of Orthodox Christians as well as other Believers outside our tradition so that we can facilitate the work of the Gospel and the unity of the Body of Christ. We provide an additional link to those outside the Christian community that allows us to celebrate our mutual belief in God and to share common service that strengthens the human community.

Vision Statement

We must educate Catholics about their faith and, especially here in the south, witness our faith in prayer and in service in context with other Christians. We should also show the world that our faith commits us in love and respect to Jews, Muslims and all people of good will.

Analysis

The Commission, envisioned by diocesan guidelines in November 2007, was organized in the parish after the October 2008 Stewardship survey. It is taking its first year to accomplish two tasks which included the writing of an appropriate Mission Statement and an internal study of church documents (universal and national) to better understand the ecumenical movement in the Church since the Second Vatican Council

The current commission with seven members is under the leadership of the deacon. The Commission builds on an already strong relationship between local Christian churches in the area. We currently are engaged in joint programs with area Protestant communities, including the Belmont Area Ministers Fellowship, the Unity Day celebration. We also share service projects such as the family shelter program and the BCO. In 2014 we also entered into the development of a "church league" in the area for adult co-ed sports programs.

In a review by the commission in 2014, the following elements of this aspect of parish life were identified:

Gifts:

- 1) Participation in area prayer events
- 2) Share service/outreach programs
- 3) Use of our church for events
- 4) Softball and basketball programs

Challenges:

- 1) Need more joint programs
- 2) Contact with local Lutheran church

Goals and Objectives

Goal One: To offer enrichment beyond prayer experiences by sharing aspects of broader church life with fellow Christians in our neighborhoods on a regular basis.

Objective One: By January 2015, Fr. Frank and Mr. Gibbons and P L representative will meet with the Belmont Ministers Fellowship and evaluate the potential of adding a volleyball program to the church league (FY 2015-2016, 5147.00: \$500.).

Objective Two: Deacon Chip and Mrs Bolitin will meet with First Presbyterian Church and First Methodist Church representatives in January 2016 to arrange joint Blood Drives with *Carolina Blood Center* on a rotating basis between the churches annually.

Objective Three: Mrs. Munsee and Mrs. Litfin will contact Christian Ed. Office at Holy Comforter Lutheran Church in January 2017 to organize a joint Vacation Bible School for both congregations (current budget already assigned for use).

Goal Two: To help Catholics encounter the faith of others through education, discussion and prayer on a regular basis we must create and be connected with other believers so the dialogue can be initiated and sustained.

Objective One: By January 2017 Mrs. Gibbons will assume the role of a regular contact with the Gaston County ecumenical group "Interfaith Dialogue" so the parish can benefit from the resources shared there.

Objective Two: In conjunction with the Education and Formation Commission, Father Frank and Seth Kane will plan a parish Seder for the youth of the parish in April 2017 and expand it to include all parish members by March of 2018.

Objective Three: Q of A representative to the Unity Day Celebration in Belmont will suggest that a speaker or prayer leader for January 2019 would include the local Imam or other representatives from the Islamic community in Gaston County.

Goal Three: We must support the Lutheran – Catholic dialogue and the covenant relationship shared between our churches in North Carolina.

Objective One: Mrs Glisson and Deacon Chip and Mrs. Munsee will work to make the Christmas Cantata a joint presentation annually beginning in December 2016.

Objective Two: Mrs Munsee and Deacon Chip will work with representatives from the Lutheran Church in Mount Holly to create a joint VBS program there by June 2017.

Objective Three: Father Frank will Dialogue with Pastor Mica concerning a joint celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in Fall of 2017 (FY 2017 – 2018, 5147: \$300.00).

Objective Four: An annual holiday social event (December of each year) between our two churches should be established by December 2019.