

MDCCW Board Meeting

Minutes November 16, 2024

St. Andrew Parish, 301 N Main St. Verona

"Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain."--Psalm 127:1

"Building the Body of Christ"--Theme for 2024-2026 Presidency of Carol Rogers

I. **CALL TO ORDER** at 8:45 am by President Carol Rogers

A. **Opening Prayer:** Prayer to Our Lady of Good Counsel was led by Judy Lyons.

1. Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.
2. Welcome: President Carol welcomed all to the meeting.
3. Agenda review & approval: Bylaws was added to the agenda under New Business.

B. **Secretary's Report** – Marie Fleisner

1. Roll Call: A sign-up sheet was circulated. Attendees introduced themselves, noting parish and pastorate they represent.
2. Marie was introduced as the new secretary. She thanked Coreen for filling in for her at the August 24 meeting. Minutes had been distributed prior to this meeting and were filed as written.
3. Flock Note: It was questioned whether a decision had been made about the use of Flocknote. Due to cost and learning curve of using a new program, we will continue to use email as the preferred way of communicating, at least for the foreseeable future. A suggestion was made that SignUp Genius could be used as a way to sign up for meetings and events. We can look into this at some point. Hearing no other concerns, the minutes will be filed as written.

C. **Finance Report**--Patty Spragg

1. Due to Patty's surgery, she is unable to be present and a formal Treasurer's report was not presented. A cash flow statement was distributed.
2. Msgr. Moellenberndt noted that the previous treasurer's narrative indicated the stipend from the convention had not yet been sent to Bishop Hying. He wondered if this had now been done. President Carol will check.
3. Budget 2024-26: This is a follow-up from the last meeting. President Carol had asked for volunteers to serve on a Budget Committee, which includes: Carol Rogers, Patty Spragg, Jo Heath, and Ellen Martin. They have not yet met.
4. Ways and Means Committee, Fundraising – Sue Koch:
President Carol reminded those present that this committee had been resurrected to raise funds because MDCCW had a \$6000 shortfall. Sue presented an idea for a fundraising project using Wisconsin Spice (Uncle Phil's) mustards. There are five varieties: Sassy Mustard, Dijon Mustard, Honey Mustard, Spicy Brown Mustard, and Polish Mustard. The headquarters is in Berlin, where the Sass family (owners of the company) are members of All Saints parish. Sue presented how we could package two bottles of mustard in a decorative bag with a tag and sell it for \$6 or one for \$3.50. In stores, one bottle sells for \$3.50, although very few stores sell it. This would be good at holiday bazaars. There was considerable discussion about how to package the mustard; how to price it; how to market it; what types of events at which it could be sold; how to get it to parishes, etc. There was also a suggestion that wherever we have a sale, we have a donation jar, because some people would want to give a donation and not purchase mustard. There was also discussion about cost of bags, which can be purchased from Oriental Trading, although there was an offer to donate them. After the discussion had gone

on for some time, President Carol called for a motion. **A motion was made by Jo Heath, second by Mona Matijewich, to move forward with the Uncle Phil's mustard fundraiser and sell two bottles for \$6 or one for \$3.50.** Discussion then included the following: Can we just sell the mustard for \$3 per jar? Then we wouldn't have to worry about the \$0.50. Could just advertise that we are selling the jars two for \$6 and not worry about single jars. We could just advertise that we're selling two bottles for \$6. There was a question about how to ensure the funds are properly recorded; that the money goes back to Ways and Means. Coreen stated there needs to be a form developed to indicate the money is for the mustard sale; she offered to develop the form and work with Patty Spragg on this. Funds will be used for operations. At this point, President Carol called for a vote. Motion carried unanimously. Sue will make arrangements to purchase the mustard and will work with her committee on setting up the process. Msgr. Moellenberndt reminded everyone to be sure they check with their pastors before doing any sales at the parish.

II. REPORTS

A. Spiritual Advisor Report: Msgr. Duane Moellenberndt reported there are now two parishes in the Diocese, and there will be more. He has heard nothing about the vicariates, but Bishop Hying is looking at the situation. We will be able to look at it once Bishop has made his decisions. He believes once that is done, MDCCW will be able to get financial support at the vicariate level. There will not, however, be nine vicariates like there had been; the exact number is not yet known. The boundaries will change. He explained that a vicariate is simply a way of organizing the parishes within the Diocese; it is a group of parishes generally defined by geographic region for the purposes of parish support and administration. Parishes in the vicariate work together.

Msgr. Moellenberndt said the Cathedral project is moving along well. President Carol stated she will be meeting with the fundraising committee for the Cathedral about how we, as CCW, can contribute.

B. President's Report: President Carol inspired us with her message, urging us to be spiritual leaders of women in our church and in our world. We need to be women who love Jesus. While our fundraising and other works are important, it is our love of Jesus that should shine. She also challenged us to kneel to receive communion on the tongue, because if we believe this is truly Jesus, then kneeling can be a sign of adoration and a way to pause and prepare your heart.

C. Commission Reports

1. Leadership: Sue Barker: Sue reported that after returning from Convention, they had many things to share. She is planning for Advent and Christmas events and bazaars. She also participated in Boxes of Joy, donating over 75 from her parish. She challenged everyone to plan special events for Our Savior.
2. Service: Linda Ripp: Linda reported she has mostly been busy working on Boxes of Joy. There were 766 Boxes of Joy plus 30 more coming in; they should have over 1000 boxes. The drop off location was St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church in Martinsville. She thanked everyone who donated boxes and helped pack and ship them.
3. Spirituality: Judy Lyons had written a report on St. Theresa of Avila for the Catholic Herald.

A. Standing Committee Reports

1. Public Relations: Jane Lepeska Grinde is working on the newsletter. She has pictures from the national conventions. She will write an article for the Catholic Herald on NCCW resolutions, and

she will write an article about President Carol and MDCCW. Coreen Marklein will write an article for the Catholic Herald about her first LTD (Leadership Training Development) session that she attended in Montana. She has photos from that. President Carol described, for those not familiar, that the newsletter Jane writes comes out twice a year and contains articles and important information about CCW events around the Diocese.

2. Newsletter: President's Pen. Joan Pregler is the contact for submitting events to the President's Pen monthly Newsletter, which is the other way of communicating with the women of the Diocese. When sending things to Jane, please provide include name of the event, location, dates, times, description, deadlines, and any registration info. Send to: joanpregler@gmail.com. President Carol encouraged everyone to be sure to read this newsletter, as it contains important information and events.

B. Appointed Positions to be Filled

1. Membership Committee Chair. President Carol talked about being an individual member of NCCW, which costs only \$10 per year. Women who belong to parishes without CCWs can become individual members, but we need a Membership Committee Chair to get that information out.
2. Legislative Committee Chair: President Carol stressed the importance of being active in our government, whether at the local, county, state, and national level; however, it is difficult to do that if we don't know the issues. We need someone who can stay on top of the issues and collect information from the Catholic Woman Magazine, the Wisconsin Catholic Conference, and from legislative websites, such as State of Wisconsin.gov, and the various pro-life news groups.
3. Historian. President Carol has been collecting items, but has nowhere to put it/no one to give them to. We need a historian. Scrap books are ready to be given to next historian. Contact President Carol if you are interested.

C. Vicariate/Affiliate Reports

<u>Pastorate #</u>	<u>President/Representative</u>	<u>Vicariate/Affiliate</u>
1,2,3,4,5	Kathy Loy	Grant Vicariate

Kathy elected not to have a fall vicariate meeting; the bylaws state they must have one, but not two. Rather, she attended all the individual parish meetings/events. For 5 weeks in a row, the parishes in the vicariate had individual events. She believed it was important to attend the events planned by the women in their parishes. She wanted to get a feel for what they do, introduce herself, and let them know how they can be supported. She is thinking about plans for the Spring meeting.

6,7,8	Jo Heath	Sauk Vicariate
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They had a fall meeting at St. John the Evangelist in Spring Green. A representative from the Diocese was the speaker who explained the Walking with Moms program, which is in its early stages of development. Jo encouraged everyone to invite them to speak; it is not about "stuff", but it is about taking care of people and relationships. The parishes in the vicariate have various Thanksgiving and Christmas events planned.

9,10,17,18	Mona Matijewich	Columbia North Vicariate
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Note: Lenny Glover had taken over as president for Mona while she had various medical events, but Mona is now back as president.) They just had their fall meeting in Berlin with

101 attendees. For the first time, they were able to connect with Portage, and they participated in Boxes of Joy, where they had 100 boxes.

20,21,22,23,26,27,28,30 Barb Unger Madison Woman's Club
Madison Women's Club represents the greater Madison area, encompassing Madison, Cross Plains, Waunakee, Stoughton, Sun Prairie, and even outside of Madison. They had a style show at St. Thomas Aquinas church in September with 125 attendees. In October they had a Renewal Day at St. Thomas Aquinas in October with 86 attendees. The speaker was Dr. Robert Enright who spoke on forgiveness in the family. He gave a printout of his entire talk, and he also gave out 35 books on forgiveness as door prizes. They had a Mass/event for All Souls Day for club members and families of the members. They will have an annual Christmas luncheon in December.

11 Carol Eberhardy St. Francis Bellvue/Monroe
St. Francis is having a refresh CCW; choosing new officers. Monroe has an active chapter of the Catholic Daughters of America, and they are considering inviting them; they have been more steadily active. Their next event is a cookie sale on December 14.

12 Karen Bach Beloit, Clinton
President Carol asked if anyone has met Karen; she has not, and Karen has not answered any of her emails. We have not contact information for anyone from Beloit or Clinton.

13 Claudia Bowman Janesville
Same as above... President Carol does not have not contact information for anyone from Janesville. If anyone knows anyone, please forward that information to her. She has no email or phone number for Claudia.

14 Doreen Shuda Camb, Fort, Jeff, Milt, Palmyra
Doreen Shuda is not actually the president. Judy Lyons said that Doreen had surgery, but they do not have a president. Doreen is from Jefferson, and she has been instrumental in trying to get something going. She did call a meeting of women from the pastorate.

15 Jane Rux Mt Hor, Ridg/Barn
Jane Rux was not present

16 Marie Fleisner L.Mills/J Crk, Watert
Pastorate 16 is now the second parish in the Diocese and is known as St. Therese of Lisieux. Bishop Hying came on All Saints Day to dedicate the parish and install Fr. Timothy Renz as pastor. St. Bernard/St. Henry in Watertown have a combined Catholic Women's group that meets monthly; Lake Mills and Johnson Creek also each have a Catholic Women's group that meet monthly. Marie is trying to get to each to talk about MDCCW and NCCW.

18 Audrey Prieve Lodi/Dane, Waunakee, Wport
Audrey reported there is now a combined CCW in the pastored. They are holding an Advent by Candlelight at St. Maximillian Kolbe in Waunakee on December 7 that is open to everyone. Last year 96 people attended.

19 Joan Pregler Ash, XPI, Mart, Midd, P Blu
Joan reported that St. Peter has the only remaining CCW. She has not been able to break into the remaining parishes; has not been allowed to do announcements after Mass. She is having great difficulty connecting with the other parishes. The women seem to want more of a social group. **Note:** Send all CCW/parish activity to Joan well before the end of November so she can put it in the next PEN.

- 20.** Sue Barker St. Mar G, Verona
Sue reported that Divine Mercy Pastorate, which includes St. Maria Goretti, had a bazaar that went very well. She said we need to get the word out that “we are not just the funeral luncheon ladies.” It is hard trying to get people involved. They are taking a break right now.
- 21.** Cecelia Stodd Mdsn., OLQoP, St. Thom
Cecelia was not present; however, Linda Ripp was able to report for her; she is part of the Madison Women’s club and is on the evangelization committee at St. Thomas. She likes the idea of the CCW and is trying to promote it as much as she can.
- 22.** Jane Lepeska Grinde Gd Shep, St. Raph
Jane reported there is interest in the having a CCW in the pastorate. Jane asked Linda Ripp to come to the parishes to talk about this. They will be sponsoring a trip to the Black Holocaust Museum in Milwaukee, which has been approved by the bishop. There is no date yet.
- 23** Claudia Marquez Mdsn., St. Denis/St. Peter
President Carol just met her; she is from St. Denis parish in Madison, and she is very interested in being part of this group. She was not able to attend today, but she will attend after this.
- 24** Roseann Smith Edg, Evan, Ftv, Oreg, Stou
Roseann has not attended before, but she is happy to attend. St. Paul in Evansville has an active CCW and has an event coming up. Footville has a Catholic Women/Christian Mother’s group. They have Walking with Mothers in need and have grief ministry.
- 25** Bonnie Schmidt (Marie Gabour) Sun Prairie/Waterloo/Marshall
Marie Gabour reported that Bonnie is not the president; Marie is the immediate past president. The president is Julie Schuster. They have about 100 members of their CCW, and they are very active. They have brochures about their CCW. They sponsor two luncheons per year, have pilgrimages (bus trips), raffles, a rummage sale, use their funds to help pay for parish costs, have honor guards and rosaries at funerals, and many other events.
Side note: There was a question about where East Bristol belonged and how to get in contact with them. The church there is St. Joseph and their address is actually Sun Prairie. It was believed they must be part of the Columbia North Vicariate.
- 26** Karen Gramman Cottage Grove, McFar, Mon
Karen was not present. No other representative.
- 27** Madison, Blessed Sacrament
President Carol stated she does not have any contact information for Blessed Sacrament in Madison. If anyone knows of someone, please let her know.
- 28** St. Paul Catholic Center
President Carol reported she had spoken with a young woman from St. Paul Catholic Center who thought about it, but then said no. She stressed the importance of trying to reach younger women.
- 29** Christine Del Priori St. Augustine University Parish
Christine reported things are really booming with the Catholic faith in the young. Mass attendance is increasing in the young, to the point of standing room only. They have Newman meals; have adoration; had a women’s retreat; and have a group of young Catholic women. They are very active. President Carol stated she would like us next year to collect money for

the St. Augustine parish, because they need space and are building a new church. These students are very involved.

30

Cathedral Parish

We have no representative from Cathedral parish.

Point of clarification: Msgr. Moellenberndt pointed out that numbers 27, 28, 29, and 30 are not part of a pastorate. The University Centers are each on their own; Cathedral Parish is on its own; Blessed Sacrament is where the Dominicans were but left, and now the Schoenstatt fathers are there, so because they are a religious order parish, they are not part of a pastorate. So, they are separate; however, they will be part of a vicariate.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. **MDCCW Convention 2025:** Kathy Roelke

- Saturday June, 28. St. Francis Xavier, Cross Plains
- After attending NCCW, was very inspired by Dr. Vallimar Jansen (www.vallimar.com). She is working on getting (has her tentatively scheduled) her as the keynote speaker (two presentations); her cost is \$3500. They just have to get the contract signed.
- Kathy stated she is working on getting online registration set up (if possible).
- The target goal is 250 women (that is the limit for the venue).
- Bishop Hying will be present.
- We will need help from parishes/pastorates.
- President Carol would like everything in place by March. She will be contacting people before that via email/phone. Please register as soon as you get the flier, because we anticipate this will fill up quickly.
- Please contact President Carol if you want to be on the Committee.
- Comment: Since this is being held in Joan's pastorate, it is a great opportunity to bring the pastorate together. It was chosen as the venue due to the size.

B. **Pastorates Representation Plan for MDCCW Board:**

1. Because we still do not know the exact structure yet of what things will look like or what is the role/expectation for CCWs will be once all the pastorates become parishes and the vicariate boundaries are determined, we can't make decisions. However, we will need a representative from each vicariate, and we will continue as we are right now, so we can communicate with the parishes. Once we know the structure is finished, we can decide if we want to restructure how many representatives we have on our board.
2. President Carol stated she has received questions about what are CCW core priorities and is there an order to our priorities? First, our core priorities come from NCCW. Sue Koch read from the National brochure. Kathy Loy has cards with the mission statement on it, and she can share those.
3. President Carol also received the question how do active CCWs interact with churches with no CCWs? The response would be to make friends with women in the churches; invite them to your events and go to their events. Schedule meetings at each other's churches.
4. What will comprise areas of MDCCW Board representation (Pastorates/Regions)? **TABLED**
5. How will MDCCW Board Members be selected? **TABLED**

C. **Welcome letter to New Individual Members**

This is a letter President Carol developed to welcome new individual members.

D. Calendar Item: NCCW Convention, Aug. 19-23, 2025, Orlando, FL

President Carol encouraged those present to put the convention on their calendar and to start saving for it now. The registration is around \$400, but she called it “an opportunity of a lifetime.” It is definitely worthwhile. Talk to your local CCWs to see if you can have a fundraiser for members who want to go. Mona stated that her vicariate puts \$500 per year into the budget toward anyone attending the convention.

President Carol then offered a new NCCW scarf for anyone who wants to become an individual member of NCCW who has not been a member before. Membership brochures were placed at everyone’s spot at the table. She will do the drawing at the March meeting.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Bylaws:** Coreen is on the national bylaws committee, and she will be working with Carol and anyone else who would like to work on the bylaws. The bylaws will need major revisions whenever we know how the vicariates will change in structure, which impacts on our MDCCW. We are not changing who we are, but we will change the form, as to how vicariate is referenced. A question was raised about individual parish bylaws. Coreen responded that all bylaws should be on hold until we know how we will be impacted. The vicariates would follow the diocese. Marie volunteered to assist with the bylaw revisions, when needed.
- B. Sue Koch officially volunteered to be chair of the Ways & Means committee.

V. CLOSING

A. **Prayer:** Judy Lyons led the group reciting three Hail Mary’s as the closing prayer, and she suggested we say this every time we hear a siren.

B. Next MDCCW Board Meeting, Saturday, March 15, 2025:

Meeting will be held at St. Andrew Parish in Verona from 9 am to noon.

C. **Meeting Adjourned** at 11:05 am by President Carol.

Attendance

Name	Email address	Phone
Barker, Sue	suehurleysue@tds.net	608-692-1925
Del Priore, Christine	christinedelpriore@me.com	908-229-4016
Eberhardy, Carol	Eberhardy2@yahoo.com	608-424-3943
Fleisner, Marie	Fleisnerma@gmail.com	715-650-7751
Gaboury, Marja	mgaboury@charter.net	608-252-1572
Heath, Jo	Joheath53@gmail.com	920-229-2631
Koch, Susanne	kochspeech@gmail.com	920-229-4150
Lepeska Grinde, Jane (via Zoom)	janegrinde@gmail.com	
Loy, Kathy	jkloy@tds.net	608-822-6412
Lyons, Judy	jlyons.maple@gmail.com	920-728-4809
Marklein, Coreen	csmarklein@gmail.com	608-393-0880
Matijewich, Mona	linamelona@mags.net	608-547-5260
Mehling, Barbara	Mehl2me@frontier.com	608-369-2905

Moellenberndt, Msgr. Duane	duanemoellenberndt@gmail.com	608-235-0777
Pregler, Joan (via Zoom)	joanpregler@gmail.com	
Prieve, Audrey	audrey.prieve@gmail.com	608-516-3145
Ripp, Linda (via Zoom)	linmdccw@gmail.com	
Roelke, Kathy	roelke@tds.net	608-469-8698
Rogers, Carol	carrogmdccw@gmail.com	
Smith, Rosanne	rcplkp@yahoo.com	608-345-9517
Unger, Barbara	ungerbabl@outlook.com	608-238-7799
Zentner, Carolyn	biz@charter.net	608-963-8290

Respectfully Submitted,
Marie Fleisner, Secretary