

Christian Orthodox Council of Akron
Meeting Notes of MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH, 6:30 P.M.

The meeting of the Christian Orthodox Council of Akron was called to order by President Kathryn Michael from St. George at 6:35 PM at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church.

Eight churches were represented.

Members Present:

Annunciation: John Bober, Lou Poplos, Diamond Marcum, Mary O'Connor
Dormition of Mary: none
Presentation: Debbie Morgan
St. Archangel Michael: Fr. Milan Pajić
St. Demetrios: none
St. Elia: Josh Wherley, Mary Marcin
St. George: Judge Kathryn Michael, Robert Snyder
St. Matthew: Ginger DeFilippo
St. Herman: none
St. Nicholas: Father Nicholas Wyslutsky, Basil Kochan, Mat. Elizabeth Wyslutsky
St. Thomas: Stephanie Marszal

Opening Prayer:

The opening prayer was led by Father Nicholas of St. Nicholas Orthodox Church.

Welcome:

Judge Kathy Michael extended a warm welcome to all and introduced Ken Liu, the Executive Director of the AoB Orthodox Youth and Young Adult Ministries (OYM), as the guest speaker.

Guest Speaker:

Ken Liu discussed the importance of having Orthodox Youth Ministries within the Church and how it positively impacts young individuals. He went through a PowerPoint presentation of their activities, including recent 3ETREATs in Houston, Irvine and Chicago. Father Nicholas then proposed the idea of hosting an 3ETREAT for all Akron Pan-Orthodox youth and young adults.

Old Business:

Dr. John Bober proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws changing the definition of quorum. The existing definition of quorum is the majority of parishes (which is at least five parishes). At least 1-2 times each year recently a COCA meeting has failed to achieve a quorum. The amendment defined a quorum as at least four parishes. No parish would be deleted as a member of COCA. Also amendments proposed that “a priest” represent a parish, rather than “the priest”. The amendments passed unanimously.

Presidents Report: N/A

Vice President Report: N/A

Secretary:

Ginger DeFilippo presented the Minute's report from June and Bob Snyder made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, which was seconded by John Bober. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Lou Poplos presented the Treasurer's report, indicating a balance of \$11,172.94. Expenses will be reflected on next month's balance.

Parish Events/Activities:

Annunciation:

On Oct 14th Annunciation is hosting a Pan Orthodox Mission Walk starting at 9 AM, with the proceeds directed towards non-profit organizations. Additionally, Annunciation's Greek Festival is set for September 22nd – 24th. Their Philoptochos chapter has scheduled a fund-raising dinner for 11/11.

Archangel Michael:

Archangel Michael is hosting an event that is scheduled for October 7th, with proceeds benefiting a soup kitchen. Tickets for this event are priced at \$25.00. Additionally, they will be having a Folklore Festival on October 14th starting at 7 PM.

St Demetrius: N/A

St. Elia:

St Elia is planning a Quarter Auction event for Oct 14th starting at 1 PM.

St George:

St. George will have a Youth and Young Adult meeting planned for Wednesday evening (9/20) at their church, starting at 6:00 PM.

St. Herman: N/A

St. Nicholas:

1. Health and Retirement Fair for the 50 plus population is scheduled for Oct. 9th running from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
2. There will be a Slavic Food Drive Through on Tuesday, October 3rd, and subsequently, on the first Tuesday of each month.
3. They will be having a Craft Fair on September 16th from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
4. OCA plans to honor church musicians this fall.
5. Their men's group is hosting a Mystery Dinner Theater event.
6. FOCA will organize a St. Nicholas stocking event for seminarian families from three different seminaries. Also, Basil Kochan was recently elected President of the national FOCA (Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America).

Presentation: N/A

St Thomas:

St Thomas is having a Community Dinner scheduled for Oct 5th which is open to residents of the Fairlawn Copley area, with voluntary donations accepted.

Orthodox Christian Women (OCW): Their Welcome Tea will be held on Sunday, October 8, at Presentation, starting at 2 PM.

Akron Summit County Clergy Association: N/A

OCF and Young Adults: N/A

New Business:

Dr. John Bober moved to reimburse the travel expenses of our guest speaker, Ken Liu, for this meeting, up to a maximum of \$700.00. Additionally, there was a motion to donate \$300.00 to support the AoB Youth and Young Adult Ministries. Mary O'Connor seconded this proposal, and the motion was successfully passed.

Dr. John Bober also initiated a conversation regarding COCA's website. He expressed interest in engaging Orthodox Web Solutions to handle the site's construction and maintenance and aims to determine the cost involved.

Announcements:

Ken Lui confirmed that COCA could sponsor a 3ETREAT for Akron's Pan-Orthodox youth and young adult groups. Mary Marcin proposed to schedule the 3ETREAT in December, with Josh Wherley seconding the motion. After a discussion, the motion passed, and St. Nicholas will be hosting this 3ETREAT on Saturday, December 9th.

Guests: N/A

Adjournment:

Judge Kathy Michael

Closing prayer:

Fr. Nicholas led the closing prayer at 8:13 PM

The Next Meeting:

October 16th 6:30 P.M. at St. Elia

Respectfully Submitted by:

Ginger DeFilippo