

Meeting Minutes: Christian Orthodox Council of Akron

Date: Monday, January 15, 2024

Time: 6:30 P.M.

Location: Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church

Call to Order: President Judge Kathryn Michael called the meeting to order at 6:37

Welcome and Opening Prayer: Father Nick Manuel

Roll Call:

1. St. George - Judge Kathryn Michael (President)
2. St George - Bob Snyder
3. St. Elia – Fr. Don Freude
4. St. Elia - Sandy Graham
5. St. Elia - Joshua Wherley
6. Presentation - Debbie Morgan
7. Presentation - Maria Waterhouse
8. St Thomas - Stephanie Marszal
9. St. Matthew - Ginger DeFilippo
10. Annunciation - Fr. Nick Manuel
11. Annunciation - John Bober
12. Annunciation - Lou Poplos
13. Annunciation - Rob McClish
14. Akron/Kent OCF - Cristina Dager
15. Akron/Kent OCF - Alexa Fox
16. Akron/Kent OCF - Tammy McClish

Attendee Introductions – President Judge Kathryn Michael

Secretary's Report – Ginger DeFilippo asked for corrections for December's Minutes- motion to accept by Sandy Graham & seconded by Joshua Wherley

Treasurer's Report – Lou Poplos

Payment \$2,430 – St. Nicholas for expenses in hosting the 3ETREAT in December

Payment \$275.00 – Orthodox Web Solutions

Balance - \$8,230.94

Church Updates:

Presentation updates:

- Movie Event – “Undivide Us” Thursday evening, January 18, 2024.

- Parish Assembly Synod January 28, 2024.
- 110th Parish Anniversary with Vespers and Divine Liturgy with Archbishop Nathaniel on March 3rd and 4th 2024 with a Banquet on March 4th, 2024.
- Steeple is being repaired currently in Pittsburgh.
- Journey to Fullness video series is finishing up.
- March 28th During Lent showing the film (“Luka”) about St Luke the Surgeon of Simferopol (Crimea)

Annunciation:

- Vasilopita Dance Sat Jan 20
- Hosting a Metropolis youth basketball tournament in two weeks.
- Sunday of Orthodoxy – March 24

St Archangel Michael: N/A

St Elia:

- Collection of gloves/hats for Peter Maurin Center
- Catechumen will be received in Feb 2024
- Sat Feb 10 – Bingo Salad Supper

St George:

- Young Adults meeting Wednesday January 17, 2024, after the evening Divine Liturgy, celebrating St Anthony’s Feast Day.

St Herman:

- Parish meeting Sunday January 21, 2024. They will actively try to recruit a representative for COCA.

St Mary: N/A

St Nicholas: N/A

St Thomas:

- No events happening.

St Demetrius:

- They will try to have a regular representative at the next meeting.

OCW:

- Winter MIni-Retreat Saturday, January 20, 2024 – 9:30 AM @ St. Elia
- THEME: “Question the Clergy”
- Continental breakfast.

Akron Summit County Clergy Association:

Lenten Vesper services:

March 24 Annunciation - Sunday of Orthodoxy with Metropolitan Savas of Pittsburgh. Booklet material to be submitted to Presentation office, Deadline: 3/1

- March 31 – Presentation at 5:00 P.M.
- April 7 – St. Elias at 5:00 pm
- April 14 – St. Thomas Tentative, Time: TBD
- April 31 - St Nicholas - Unction Service at 6:00 PM.

New Business:

- President Judge Kathryn welcomed OCF Chapter representatives.

Akron OCF – updates:

- Meetings Jan 25 every other Thursdays at 7:00 – hosting various priests.
- Book study during Lent
- “Cultures of Orthodoxy” Banquet and Dance – Feb 3rd at Annunciation
- Service events in the Akron Area at various community agencies
- Fundraiser event updates

Kent OCF:

- Another student working closely at Univ of Akron – was asked to be a part of the Kent org. Discussion regarding COCA donating money to OCF followed.
- Ginger DeFilippo announced resignation as Secretary of COCA and Josh Wherley volunteered to be Secretary.
- Dr Bober gave an update of the Assembly of Bishop’s Inter-Parish Associations program; gave update on the COCA website; asked about resuming discussion of donations to various organizations; brought up the possibility of a pan orthodox choir concert fundraiser – discussion followed. Annual donations to be decided after COCA receives their share of the proceeds from the Sunday of Orthodoxy booklet.
- Judge Kathryn Michael extended an invitation for OCF to come to all the COCA meetings.

Next Meeting: February 19, 2024, at St Demetrius at 6:30 PM

Closing Prayer: Fr Don Freude

Adjournment: President Judge Kathryn Michael

Bob Snyder made a motion to adjourn at 7:38 PM; John Bober seconded the motion. All in favor.

Minutes respectfully submitted: Ginger DeFilippo – COCA Secretary