

St. Peter PCCW Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 28, 2026 6:30 PM in the St. Paul Outside the Wall room

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM by President Kathryn Benes. The PCCW opening prayer was recited.

2. Guest Speaker - Mater Filius

Presenters: Elizabeth Fitzgerald and Michael Fitzgerald

Elizabeth and Michael Fitzgerald presented information about Mater Filius-Lincoln, an organization committed to supporting women of all backgrounds experiencing an unexpected and under-supported pregnancy.

Mater Filius provides a safe, family-like maternity home and comprehensive support at no cost to participating mothers. Services include:

- Housing
- Nutritious meals
- Transportation and assistance with healthcare appointments
- Education
- Counseling and spiritual care
- Child enrichment opportunities
- Resources designed to help mothers achieve greater independence

The Mater Filius program began in Mexico City and later expanded to Omaha and other states. The Lincoln location will be the organization's first maternity home in Lincoln and will initially operate as a three-bedroom maternity home. The program includes an intake process and has limited availability. The Lincoln location is expected to open in January, with the organization intending to focus on establishing this first home successfully before pursuing additional growth.

Donation Request - The board discussed a request for a \$360 donation to Mater Filius. The board agreed to hold the request for consideration until the pending budget review process is completed. The request will be added to the budget discussion. The budget review meeting will occur in the near future with a date TBD.

3. Old Business

A. Hannah Bale Update - Kathy Benes has been following up to help confirm that PCCW's donation went specifically toward covering Hannah Bale's costs. Kathy reached out but has not heard back from her. We will continue following up and hope to share an update in the future.

B. Bunco Night Review — September 8

Report: Amy Fendrick

The Bunco event was well attended, with 54 women participating.

Results included:

- 7 new members signed up.
- 4 new members offered financial contributions.
- 15 cash donations totaling \$250
- 8 check donations totaling \$210
- 22 online donations totaling \$545
- Total financial contributions: \$1,005
- 60 questionnaire responses with 11 written comments. Amy will provide a copy of the questionnaire results to the board.

The board expressed appreciation to Melanie, Social Chair, for organizing the event, and to Amy for serving as emcee and managing event supplies and membership responsibilities.

C. LDCCW Fall Conference Review — September 19

The LDCCW Fall Conference was held in Crete, Nebraska on September 19.

St. Peter members in attendance included: Kathy Benes, Janice Goracke, Bonnie Damrow, Kay Palha

Janice Goracke accepted a nomination to serve on the Nominating Committee for the 2028–2030 term.

Bonnie Damrow accepted a nomination to serve on the Resolution Committee, assisting with the development of new resolutions and/or the revival of past resolutions.

Additional conference highlights included presentations by Rachael Tvrdy, Sr. Mary Gabrielle, and Ruth O'Gara. Members were also encouraged to visit the Schoenstatt Shrine.

A tour of the Governor's Mansion is scheduled for April 6, 2027, with limited availability and a \$10 ticket cost.

Bonnie introduced a video and led participants in the Divine Mercy prayer.

Kay Palha serves as the LDCCW Historian and provided an update on the progress of history projects.

It was announced at the LDCCW convention that the next LDCCW Leadership Training will be hosted at St. Peter and will be open to all women in the Lincoln Diocese, not only those currently serving in leadership positions.

D. 2026 St. Peter Leadership Retreat — September 11–12

Kathy shared highlights from the St. Peter Leadership Retreat. PCCW board members Kathy Benes, Bonnie Damrow, and Kay Palha attended.

The retreat introduced the Clear Path to Discipleship process, which emphasizes meeting people where they are and accompanying them as disciples of Christ.

Fr. Stoley identified five goals for greater unity within the parish:

1. Better communication — emphasizing clarity and consistency rather than simply more communication
2. Eradicating toxic conflict
3. Increased collaboration
4. Servant-minded leadership
5. Presenting fatherhood as a priest, including Fr. Stoley's personal commitment to being present

E. Discipleship Council Meeting — September 21

Kathy attended this meeting and then asked if any other board members were serving on this council. There were some questions about the selection process that still need some clarification.

4. Fundraisers

A. Christmas Ornament Sales

The board unanimously agreed to table the Christmas ornament fundraiser this year. Reasons discussed included:

- No one volunteered to lead the project.
- There was uncertainty about whether beginning the project at this point was feasible.
- Historically, the fundraiser generated money but did not always result in all inventory being sold.

B. Roses / All Saints Day — November 1

Leading the effort: Rebecca Baskerville. The board discussed shifting fundraising efforts from Christmas ornaments to the Roses for All Saints project. Discussion included the cost of floral arrangements and the possibility of having individuals pay to have the names of loved ones included in a display honoring them, rather than focusing on providing one rose for every individual named. Some members expressed concern about this approach. Kay Palha suggested purchasing roses wholesale and creating the arrangements ourselves. Kathleen Noonan, who has experience managing altar arrangements, volunteered to assist. Committee: Rebecca Baskerville, Kathleen Noonan, and Kay Palha.

Rebecca will follow up regarding:

- The possibility of a special Mass
- Adding names to the digital display in the narthex
- Including a bulletin page
- Any additional printing costs

C. Family Bingo — November 8

Leading the effort: Amy Fendrick. The board discussed plans for the upcoming Family Bingo event. Last year's event had strong attendance and positive feedback. Updates included:

- No meal will be served. Snacks will be provided.
- Knights of Columbus will split costs with PCCW.
- The event is intended primarily as a community-building event rather than a fundraiser.

Although it is called "Family Bingo," the event is open to everyone. The name is intended to communicate that parents are welcome to bring their children rather than needing to arrange childcare. Doors will open at 3:00 PM, with the event scheduled for 3:30–5:00 PM. Amy requested \$200–300 for supplies and prizes. Anne Trieb volunteered to assist Amy with shopping and preparation. Amy will notify the board if additional assistance is needed.

Motion: Anne Trieb moved to approve \$500 to secure the vendor and purchase supplies.

Second: Kathleen Noonan

Vote: Approved by all members present.

5. New Business

October 1 — Roses for the St. Peter Christ the King Sisters

LaDonna Hegemann volunteered to coordinate the roses, having managed this project previously. LaDonna offered to donate the funds needed to make the project happen on behalf of PCCW. The board expressed appreciation to LaDonna.

October 5 — Lincoln Deanery Meeting

The meeting will be held at St. Michael and is open to all women.

Bonnie Damrow and Janice Goracke regularly attend and may be contacted for additional information. Kathy Benes also plans to attend.

October 14 — Candlelit Rosary

Lead: Melanie Wesely

Melanie is planning the event and discussed providing refreshments afterward using leftover supplies from Bunco.

A motion was made by Anne Trieb to provide \$30 in discretionary spending, seconded by Rebecca Baskerville. Vote: Approved by all members present.

Bonnie Damrow suggested considering a special acknowledgment for those experiencing mental health challenges. Bonnie and Melanie will discuss possibilities outside of the meeting.

The event will begin at 7:30 PM.

October 22 — Lincoln LDCCW Leadership Training

Leading the effort: Kay Palha. Kay distributed a flyer regarding the Leadership Training. The training is open to all women in the Lincoln Diocese and is highly encouraged for women currently serving in leadership roles as well as those interested in exploring future leadership opportunities.

The training is intended to share information on CCW best practices, as well as to encourage discussion, collaboration and fellowship among women throughout the Lincoln Diocese.

February 16, 2027 — Stations of the Cross Through the Eyes of Mary

This item was tabled for future discussion.

6. Other Business / Discussion

Diaper Drive

Kathy will follow up regarding options for hosting a diaper drive.

The board discussed the purpose of the narthex in light of Fr. Stoley's recent e-newsletter message. Possible approaches included using St. Paul Outside the Wall and hosting a "baby shower" style event where people could drop off donations, socialize, participate in activities, or simply leave their donation.

Matt Talbot Kitchen

Rebecca explained that St. Therese had previously committed to donating \$200 to Matt Talbot Kitchen on a bi-monthly basis. Following consolidation of funds, there is uncertainty about how to access approximately \$4,000 originally raised by the circle.

Motion: Kay Palha moved to approve two donations totalling \$400 for the remainder of this year, with the understanding that 2027 donations would be paused until the board reviews and approves a budget plan.

Second: Kathleen Noonan

Vote: Full board support; motion carried.

Spiritual Bouquet for Father Paul Frank

Jean prepared a card for board members to sign and include prayers for Father Paul Frank in recognition of his birthday and to welcome him to the parish.

Artwork Donations for St. Peter School Atrium

Megan Neal requested that PCCW consider helping with artwork for the St. Peter School Atrium.

Motion: Amy Fendrick moved to donate **\$30** toward the purchase of one of the suggested artwork items.

Second: Anne Trieb

Vote: 10 in favor; 2 opposed. Motion carried.

The board also agreed to support the school by sending out communication to the women of the parish to request artwork donations. SFA was suggested as another possible funding source for additional school-related requests.

7. Items Not Reached Due to Time

Due to time limitations, the board did not have time to complete officer reports or address all remaining agenda items. President Kathy Benes noted that the board may need to consider **skipping a speaker at the next meeting in order to allow additional time for board business.**

The following scheduled agenda items were therefore not documented as discussed:

- Budget Development
- Mater Filius donation decision
- Bylaws Review

- PCCW Organizational Structure
- Jessie McDevitt — Book Club
- Tori Roberts — Desire for Collaboration
- December Meeting/Dinner
- Officer and Chair Reports
- Circle Reports
- Deanery Update

8. Closing Prayer

Jean Bouc, Spiritual Chair, shared a daily reflection and led the group in closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned: 8:45pm | Next Meeting - Monday, October 26, 2026 in St. Paul Outside the Wall

Action Items

Action Item	Responsible Person
Follow up regarding Hannah Bale's donation and email updates	Kathy Benes
Provide questionnaire results to board	Amy Fendrick
Follow up on Roses/All Saints special Mass, digital display, bulletin and printing costs	Rebecca Baskerville
Coordinate Roses for St. Peter Christ the King Sisters	LaDonna Hegemann
Continue planning Candlelit Rosary	Melanie Wesely
Discuss possible mental-health acknowledgment for Candlelit Rosary	Bonnie Damrow & Melanie Wesely
Promote/coordinate LDCCW Leadership Training	Kay Palha
Follow up on diaper drive options	Kathy Benes
Complete budget review and consider pending donation requests	Executive Board
Coordinate Family Bingo shopping/preparation	Amy Fendrick & Anne Trieb

Financial Decisions Recorded

- **Family Bingo:** \$500 approved
- **Matt Talbot Kitchen:** \$400 approved through the end of this calendar year
- **St. Peter School Atrium artwork:** \$30 approved
- **Mater Filius:** \$360 request - on hold, pending budget review
- **Candlelit Rosary:** \$30 discretionary spending motion made; vote/result not recorded