

St. Joseph 125th Anniversary Picnic Planning Meeting – May 26, 2026

Opening Prayer - Fr. Sen opened with a prayer and expressed gratitude to the attendees. Some members were not able to attend. Thank you Fr. Sen for preparing the agenda for our review and use at this meeting.

Meeting Discussion:

Date: August 22, 2026 is the date selected by those present. Mass at 4pm will open the celebration. Picnic hours will be from 5pm to 9pm, with the closing activities from 8-9pm.

Committee Discussion/Updates:

1. **Food Committee:** Members will include Lori Stieger, Laura Steiger, Stan, and Carol Clements. Additional members will be recruited.
 - Food will be hotdogs, brats, kraut, onion, side salads, small bags of chips.
 - Purchase food from St. Joseph Country Market, if feasible, especially hot dogs and bratwursts.
 - Organize a dessert table with Parish members donating cookies and bars.
2. **Beverage Committee:** Dave Brown. Additional members to be recruited.
 - Beverages will include beer, water, soda, and seltzer.
 - IDs for age will be required for alcoholic beverages.
 - Consider a barrel of root beer for the kids as part of the soda offering.
3. **Set-Up/Clean-Up Committee:** David Brown, Bill Weber, and Bob Kotek and more members to be recruited.
 - David Brown measured for a tent and will start gathering information from vendors.
 - Porta Toilet should be brought in with handicap accessibility.
 - Check into table and chair rental when renting tent.
 - Lights for the tent may be needed for the last hour and clean up.
4. **Entertainment Committee:** Lorie Liss, Stacy Burns, and Lisa Meyer. Additional members will be recruited.
 - **Bingo** is free to play, and all prizes will be donated. Parish members will be asked to donate; baskets, cash prizes, etc... Local businesses may also be approached. .
 - **St. The Joseph Lion's Club** has been invited and current President, Willie Williams, agreed to assist with coordinating Bingo. Committee will need to borrow bingo game supplies from a neighboring parish.
 - **Children's Activities:** offer Fishpond and Face painting.
 - **Talent Showcase:** Parish members interested in performing are welcome and could include singing, reciting a story or poem, offering a demonstration. Families, clubs, and youth groups would all be welcome.
 - Lisa Meyer offered a sound system to help with this activity.
 - Develop a schedule for the bingo, music, and talent showcase for the picnic; time limit from 5pm to 8pm.

5. **Class Reunion Committee:** Perhaps this can be a subgroup of the History Committee. Need to recruit members.
 - Old photos are located in the parish office and Rectory.
 - Parish members and others might have pictures to share.
 - If possible, a video with music could be coordinated with photos of the school, church, student groups etc.
6. **History Committee:** Members include Sister Karen, Dan Steiger, Barb Braun, Barb Mikshowskey, and others to be recruited.
 - If a priest timeline for the parish is needed, contacting Fr. Apferbeck was recommended. He is leaving the Archive Office later in 2026. Barb will reach out with info from Teresa Brown.
 - History and Class Reunion Committees to work closely together to coordinate photo displays.
 - Develop a list of people to invite who attended the school, served as priest or in some other manner for the Parish.
7. **Publicity Committee:** Members include Barb Mikshowskey, Brenda Weber. Others to be recruited.
 - Barb will begin working on a flyer/poster for the event.
 - A save the date postcard and message for church bulletins should be developed as soon as possible. The postcard might be mailed to everyone on the parish mailing list, including those who are not presently active.
 - Promotion in nearby parishes will be important.
 - Promotion should begin at least one month in advance. The poster/flyer should include information to RSVP for planning purposes for food and beverages.
 - RSVP could include an electronic sign up “Sign up Genius” as well as sign up in church following mass.
8. **Free Will Offering:** This is our Parish Family celebration. We are not charging for food and beverages. Free will offerings will be accepted to cover event costs.

Fr. Sen closed the meeting with a prayer. The next planning meeting for Joseph Church's 125th Anniversary Picnic will take place on Sunday, June 14th at 3pm.

Notes recorded by Paula Silha