Minneapolis Deanery Report Archpriest Paul Wesche, District Dean

Beyond the information given in the parish reports, the following are noteworthy:

St Nicholas parish in Chisholm, MN has been *de facto* closed for several years, but not *de jure*. Although a petition to close St Nicholas and to hand all assets over to the Diocese was submitted to the Diocesan bishop several years ago (2009 or so), that petition has not been acted on by the bishop because the members of St Nicholas parish did not wish to see the Church become a building used for secular purposes. In this state of ecclesiastical limbo, the Diocesan Bishop and District Dean have been discussing options with former members of St Nicholas. With their consent, the Diocese has retained the services of Morbey and Olsen Law Firm to form them into a 501(c)3 tax exempt organization. That process will be completed within the next year. At that time, the Diocese will hand the church building over to the newly formed tax exempt organization, with the stipulation that the building be used only for ecclesial purposes subject to the consent of the Diocesan Bishop and retaining the right of first refusal. By this arrangement, the Diocese is released from all legal liabilities, and St Nicholas is protected from secular use.

On other fronts in the Minneapolis Deanery, Holy Myrrhbearers in St Cloud was reconstituted last year as a chapel, attached to the altar of St Herman's in South Minneapolis. Christ the Savior mission in Anoka, MN, was closed by His Grace Bp Alexander in December. St Andrew's Chapel in Minocqua, WI was closed in June. Holy Cross mission in Chisago City, MN has petitioned to be closed as of November 1, 2014.

The need for Deanery sponsored activities in the Minneapolis deanery is significantly mitigated by a very active inter-jurisdictional Orthodox clergy association, the Minnesota Eastern Orthodox Christian Clergy Association. The purpose of MEOCCA is to manifest the unity of the Orthodox Church that transcends the current "uncanonical" division of Orthodoxy in America. Under the umbrella of MEOCCA, the summer camp program for the youth, run by clergy and laity representing all the jurisdictions in the Twin Cities area, is one of the largest in the country. A Fall and Spring catechism class, taught each week by a different priest (or deacon) from the different "MEOCCA" parishes, has been very popular and well attended since its inception 15 years ago or so. These activities and ministries, as well as others, such as MEOCCA endorsed FOCUS MN, lectures and retreats endorsed or sponsored by MEOCCA throughout the year, and Lenten Sunday Vespers served each Sunday at a different "MEOCCA" parish, have produced in the Twin Cities area a strong 'koinonia' and the sense of functioning as one jurisdiction.

Sept 15, 2014

for the 2014 Diocesan Assembly email completed form to chancery@domoca.org

Parish Name and Address

Holy Trinity 523 1st Street

Clayton, WI 54004

Clergy

Arpr. Christopher Wojcik Deacon Jack Rogers

Committees/Societies

Council, Sisterhood, Choir, Youth Group, Sunday School, Cemetery



Since October 2013

Highlights of Top Three Activities

Dinner for the poor at FOCUS of Minneapolis (about 90 minutes' drive from the church) drew about 33% of our parish as helpers.

Vacation Bible School (Topic: Serving others)

Beautiful worship led by beautiful choir, and blessed to have 2 qualified, joyful directors

Outreach and Charitable Activities

Donated over 1000 pounds of food to local food pantry in the past year

Line-item numerous charities throughout year

Hosted free dinner open to all area senior citizens (about 50 attended)

Major Challenges Faced

Finances!

Major expenses on steeple and rectory repairs, using up substantial savings

General fund very tight

Priest works a second job in order to remain at the parish

Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries - October 2014 to September 2015

Harvest Festival and Dinner every September

	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	As of September 1, 2014
Supporting Membership Count		66	66
	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	January 1 thru September 1, 2014
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance		75	75
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants		65	65
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance		4	3
Number of Catechumens		0	2
	Reported for	Reported for	January 1 thru
	Calendar Year 2012	Calendar Year 2013	September 1, 2014
Baptisms	Calendar Year	Calendar Year	September 1,
Baptisms Funerals	Calendar Year	Calendar Year 2013	September 1, 2014
-	Calendar Year	Calendar Year 2013	September 1, 2014 3
Funerals	Calendar Year	Calendar Year 2013 0	September 1, 2014 3 0
Funerals Marriages	Calendar Year	Calendar Year 2013 0 0	September 1, 2014 3 0

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Parish Name and Address	Photo
St. Elizabeth the New Martyr 2020 Silver Bell Road, #5, Eagan MN	

Clergy

Priest Marc Boulos

Committees/Societies

Parish Council, Adult Fellowship, Teen Fellowship

Since October 2013

Highlights of Top Three Activities

- Strong financial growth; maturation of stewardship program.
- Weekly Matins with children reading the psalter and chanting the responses.
- Christmas program organized by young adults through the Ephesus School.

Outreach and Charitable Activities

- Launch of the Bible as Literature Podcast, a weekly program of the Ephesus School which reflects on Scripture and its implications for daily life. The program had an average 400 downloads per day in 2014.
- Support of the Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota tribe annual Wacipi (PowWow). Among local Native American tribes, the Mdewakanton are the most disenfranchised; our community has been blessed to build a friendship with them. This year, we raised \$1000 of assistance for the tribe.
- In addition to maintaining a small food shelf in Eagan, St. Elizabeth parishioners continue to be extremely active in Focus Minnesota.

Major Challenges Faced

Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries - October 2014 to September 2015

Annual Parish Dinner

	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	As of September 1, 2014
Supporting Membership Count		45	45
	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	January 1 thru September 1, 2014
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance		40	40
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants		40	40
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance		10	10
Number of Catechumens		0	4
	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	January 1 thru September 1, 2014
Baptisms		1	2
Funerals		0	0
Marriages		0	0
Receptions into Orthodoxy		4	3 (moved to Germany)
Church School/Number Enrolled		10	18
Adult Education/Number Participating		10	30

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Parish Name and Address
Holy Resurrection Orthodox Mission Church
1604 52nd Ave South
Fargo, ND 58104



Clergy

Priest Oliver Herbel

Committees/Societies

Since October 2013

Highlights of Top Three Activities

Holy Resurrection has experienced three changes this past year. First, a change in demographics. Some members moved out of the area while a couple others joined. This year, however, the number joining do not equal the number lost. Our friends who moved away will most definitely be missed. Second, we have moved into a building. This is a huge step for us as a parish but one we believe will help our mission in many ways. We agreed to rent the building for a couple months and are scheduled to close on September 30th. Finally, we have begun serving meals on a regular basis at the local Dorothy Day House. This ministry has been a blessing to our parish. We anticipate an exciting year ahead.

Outreach and Charitable Activities

Serving meals at Dorothy Day House

Major Challenges Faced

More people moved away than joined the parish and the financial challenge of obtaining a building.

Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries - October 2014 to September 2015

	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	As of September 1, 2014
Supporting Membership Count		24	20
	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	January 1 thru September 1, 2014
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance		35	40
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants		20	30
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance		5	0
Number of Catechumens		2	1
	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	January 1 thru September 1, 2014
Baptisms		1	3
Funerals		1	1
Marriages		1	0
Receptions into Orthodoxy		0	2
Church School/Number Enrolled		8	10
Adult Education/Number Participating		6	6

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Parish Name and Address	Photo
Holy Assumption Orthodox Church 1249 Cty Rd F Lublin, WI 54447	
Clargy	

Clergy

Archpriest Thaddeus Wojcik, retired/ supply priest

Committees/Societies

Parish Council

Ladies' Aid

Church School teachers

Since October 2013

Highlights of Top Three Activities

Pot-luck Dinners to celebrate feast days (Pre-Lenten; Pentecost; Pre-Advent)

Church School; September- May

Christmas Church School program with congregational singing of carols

Outreach and Charitable Activities

Support of Seminarian family at St. Vladimir's

Provide needs for local family at Christmas

On-going communication with shut-ins and Seniors (cards, visits, gifts, food, etc)

Food pantry collections

Monetary Donations to various local and Orthodox charities

Major Challenges Faced

44% of parish members – 80 years+

30% of members drive 50+ miles

Few younger families and children

Lack of adequate economy in area

Few families/ Individuals seeking Orthodoxy

No Annual Dinner in 2014; Less parishioners able to help

Lower monetary collections / less available funding for Church

Maintenance and upkeep of Church and Rectory

Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries - October 2014 to September 2015

107 years as established Church

	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	As of September 1, 2014
Supporting Membership Count		39	36
	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	January 1 thru September 1, 2014
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance		35	30
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants		30	25
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance		5	5
Number of Catechumens		2	
	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	January 1 thru September 1, 2014
Baptisms			
Funerals		2	1
Marriages			1
Receptions into Orthodoxy			
Church School/Number Enrolled		10	10

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Parish Name and Address	Photo
St Herman's Orthodox Church	
5355 38 th Ave So	
Minneapolis, MN 55417	
Clargy	

Archpriest Paul Wesche

Committees/Societies

Parish Council

Various "teams" to address needs of the parish; e.g., grounds, interior cleaning & maintenance, sacristan/candles, greeters, finance, etc.

Since October 2013

Highlights of Top Three Activities

Annual Parish Pilgrimage to Holy Dormition Monastery in Rives Junction (July 29 – July 31) Wedding of Nicholas Wesche and Jocelyn Simone Long (high school sweethearts)

Outreach and Charitable Activities

- Regular participation in the local FOCUS chapter: serving meals on assigned evenings, helping with the FOCUS Clothes Closet and Food Shelf.
- Donations collected quarterly for four charities: Holy Dormition Monastery, OCMC, IOCC, FOCUS MN
- Monthly donations to our seminarian up to his graduation from St Tikhon's and parish assignment
- Donations to SOS

Major Challenges Faced

- Understanding and practicing Orthodox Christian soteriology.
- Increasing involvement in the Church School program
- Getting parishioners to understand the importance of observing the sacrament of confession on a regular basis – more than just the obligatory once a year.
- Helping penitents in the sacrament of confession whose issues are way beyond my competence.
- Upgrading landscaping
- Addressing (and funding) building repair and maintenance issues
- Funding the needed remodeling of our kitchen.

Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries - October 2014 to September 2015

Annual Mittel European Dinner (Nov 1)

Annual Parish Pilgrimage to Holy Dormition Monastery (July 28 – July 30)

	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	As of September 1, 2014
Supporting Membership Count		41	40
	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	January 1 thru September 1, 2014
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance		51	55
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants		43	45
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance		20	22
Number of Catechumens		5	1
	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	January 1 thru September 1, 2014
Baptisms		6	3
Funerals		0	0
Marriages		1	3
Receptions into Orthodoxy		5	0
Church School/Number Enrolled		@18	@15
Adult Education/Number Participating		@34	@30

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Parish Name and Address	Photo
St Mary's Cathedral 1701 Fifth Street NE Minneapolis, MN 55413	
Clause	

Clergy

Archpriest Andrew Morbey, Dean; Priest Benjamin Tucci, associate; Priest Richard Flom attached; Archpriest Gregory Krutchek, attached; Priest Nicholas Hubbard, attached; Archpriest Myron Manzuk, retired; Archpriest Eugene Tarris, retired; Archpriest Gregory Grivna, retired; Protodeacon Mark Griffin, attached; Deacon David Kostick, attached; Deacon Gregory Krutchek, attached; Deacon Jason Ketz, attached; Deacon Alexey Dupay, attached; Protodeacon Theodore Rose, attached.

Committees/Societies

Women's Club, Men's Club, FOCA, Saints (Junior FOCA), Veteran's, Visitation Committee, Missions Committee, Library, Taste of Northeast Festival Committee, Olive Shoot Cathedral Shop, Church School, Bible Study, Adult Education; Perohe group, Seniors, Wednesday work group, etc...

Since October 2013

Highlights of Top Three Activities

Visit of Bishop Alexander

Participation in Russian Museum of Art exhibit (November through March) with objects and didactics concerning St Mary's.

Major Fund-raising program for parishioners in medical crisis, leading to establishment of not for profit pan-Orthodox medical crisis support organization.

Many more major / good things! (Not to mention wonderful church school)

Major cemetery investment in chapel and road repair.

Outreach and Charitable Activities

FOCUS Minnesota, Holy Trinity Food Bank, Minnesota Orthodox Prison Ministry, Eastside Neighborhood Services, monthly charitable collections for various organizations and projects.

Major Challenges Faced

Physical space for worship and activities. Continued maintenance of aging parish properties. Pastoral care for a highly diverse and wide-spread community.

H	ncoming	Special	Events/A	anniversai	ies - (October	2014	to Se	ntember	2015
\mathbf{c}	pcoming	Specia		LIIIII I CI SAI	103 -	OCTOBEL	2017		picinoci	2010

	Reported for	Reported for	As of
	Calendar Year	Calendar Year	September 1,
	2012	2013	2014
Supporting Membership Count		373	375
	Reported for	Reported for	January 1 thru
	Calendar Year	Calendar Year	September 1,
	2012	2013	2014
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance		280	300
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants		-	-
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance		40	40
Number of Catechumens		5	4
1			
	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	January 1 thru September 1, 2014
Baptisms	Calendar Year	Calendar Year	September 1,
Baptisms Funerals	Calendar Year	Calendar Year 2013	September 1, 2014
-	Calendar Year	Calendar Year 2013	September 1, 2014
Funerals	Calendar Year	Calendar Year 2013 14 23	8 13
Funerals Marriages	Calendar Year	Calendar Year 2013 14 23	8 13 4

New members 2014: 15; Deceased members 2014: 13

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Parish Name and Address	Photo
St. Peter's Orthodox Church 109 6TH ST SE	
MINOT ND 58701	

Clergy

Igumen (ARCHIMANDRITE) Anastassy (Fehr)

Committees/Societies

NONE

Since October 2013

Highlights of Top Three Activities

- 1. Celebrating the Divine Services
- 2. Christian Fellowship
- 3. Participation in the fundraisers

Outreach and Charitable Activities

Welcoming all visitors and teaching them about Orthodoxy Donating Food

Major Challenges Faced

Keeping the Parish alive in this remote area of the country. There are Orthodox People in this area, due to the oil boom, and some come to Church once in a while, but none stay for long. A number of Russians and Serbs live in and around Minot and Bismarck, and come to Church too, but rarely. Some of them stay away, because the Services are in English and they don't like the new calendar. Upon request I serve "moleben" or "pannihida" for them, in Slavonic for the Russians and Serbian for the Serbs. I speak Russian and Serbian and they love socializing with me, but I can't make them come to Church regularly, which is very frustrating because we are such a small Parish and NEED people.

Major Challenges Overcome

In June the Parish bought a parsonage for the priest, who stayed for 2 ½ years in a FEMA trailer. We have recovered from the flood, but our savings are gone and we depend on our fundraisers and donations. The Church has been fully restored and looks nicer then before the flood. Four Icons by Fr. Theodore Jurewicz have been mounted on our Ikonostas.

Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries - October 2014 to September 2015

NONE

	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	As of September 1, 2014
Supporting Membership Count		29	27
	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	January 1 thru September 1, 2014
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance		15-25	15-25
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants		10-15	10-15
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance		3	3-4
Number of Catechumens		1	0
	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	January 1 thru September 1, 2014
Baptisms		0	2
Baptisms Funerals		0	0
-			
Funerals		0	0
Funerals Marriages		0	0

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Parish Name and Address	Photo
Three Holy Hierarchs Mission (Outreach) Services: 1651 Jefferson Pkwy, Northfield, MN 55057 (Senior Center) Mail: 311 Cherry St., Northfield, MN 55057	
Clargy	

Clergy

Rev. Christopher R. Maciolek

Committees/Societies

None so far...

Since October 2013

Highlights of Top Three Activities

January 30, 2014: Celebrated mission patronal feastday of Three Holy Hierarchs.

May 10, 2014: Received family of five into the Church (1 Baptism, 4 Chrismation).

July 13, 2014: First church picnic gathering at a local park in Northfield.

July 15, 2014: Celebrated 2nd anniversary as a community.

July 26, 2014: Baptized child adopted from Ukraine.

Sept 3, 2014: Started Church School program for Pre-k, Kindergarten, and Elementary age kids.

Outreach and Charitable Activities

None so far...

Major Challenges Faced

Finding a more permanent/affordable location to hold services and classes.

Starting a ministry of some kind to our two colleges in town (St. Olaf & Carleton); especially for the 5 Orthodox college students in our area this year.

Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries - October 2014 to September 2015

Jan. or Feb. 2015, will receive another family of four into the Church.

July 15, 2015: Will celebrate our 3rd anniversary at a community.

	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	As of September 1, 2014
Supporting Membership Count		4	8
	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	January 1 thru September 1, 2014
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance		17	25
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants		10	15
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance		7	12
Number of Catechumens		5	4
	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	January 1 thru September 1, 2014
Baptisms		0	2
Funerals		0	1
Marriages		0	0
Receptions into Orthodoxy		0	6
Church School/Number Enrolled		NA	10
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Parish Name and Address

St. Nicholas Mission

621 1/2 Franklin Street, Pella, IA 50219

mailing address: 121 E. 13th Street, Pella, IA 50219

Photo



Clergy

V.Rev. Bartholomew Wojcik

Committees/Societies

Parish Council

Since October 2013

Highlights of Top Three Activities

- Visit of Bp. ALEXANDER at joint concelebration Liturgy of St. Nicholas Mission with Fr. Martin Watt and faithful of Holy Transfiguation Mission (Ames, IA: Bulgarian Diocese) and Fr. Elias Khouri (Antiochian Archdiocese, former member of Midwest Diocese) with tonsuring of our parishioner Spyridon Roegner (DVP candidate) to be a Reader.
- Pascha: midnight service, full church with visitors followed by pot-luck *agape* meal, then the *Agape* Vespers that day followed by an open house party at the president's and choir director's house.
- Chrismation of a catechumen.

Outreach and Charitable Activities

- On-going support of the local food pantry.
- Publicized St. Nicholas day Vespers with free meal for guests (only asking that they bring a non-perishable food item for donation to the local food pantry).
- Three (instead of our usual semi-annual) visits in 2014 to local nursing facilities to serve a *Molieben* on a Sunday afternoon as part of our participation in the Pella Ministerial Association's schedule of these church visits.

Major Challenges Faced

- Fr. Bartholomew works a full-time side job-- typically over-time for the past year.
- Our rented church facility is in an upstairs location in the historic center of town: it is not very visible, not handicap accessible, and not architecturally ideal.

Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries - October 2014 to September 2015

	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	As of September 1, 2014
Supporting Membership Count		17	19 (financially)
	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	January 1 thru September 1, 2014
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance		About 20	About 20
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants		About 18	About 18
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance		About 12-14	About 12-14
Number of Catechumens		1	0
	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	January 1 thru September 1, 2014
Baptisms		0	0
Funerals		0	0
Marriages		0	0
Receptions into Orthodoxy		0	1
Church School/Number Enrolled		2	2
Adult Education/Number Participating		N/A	N/A

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Parish Name and Address	Photo
Holy Trinity Church	
956 Forest St Saint Paul MN 55106	
Saint Faul Min 55100	
Clergy	
The V. Rev Thaddeus Wojcik (attached, but serving Lublin, Huron and Cornuc	copia).
The V. Rev Jonathan Proctor,	
The Rev Andrew Jaye,	
The deacons: Bohdan Melnychenko, Paul Gavrilyuk and Kelsios Willis.	
Committees/Societies Parish Council	
Parish Council	
Since October 2013	
Highlights of Top Three Activities	
In the midst of major remodeling project for handicap accessibility and narthex	-
Continued management of the church hall as a not for profit neighborhood venu	ie.
Remodeling to create three church school classrooms.	
Outreach and Charitable Activities	
O WILL OUT THE CAMPAINNESS TARREST TO THE CAMPAINNESS TARREST TARREST TO THE CAMPAINNESS TARREST TARRES	
As in 2013: Hall minisitry, FOCUS support, Sunday food shelf, and Harvest S	unday.
	•
Major Challenges Faced	
Financial.	
Building project.	
Building project.	
Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries - October 2014 to September 2015	
None	

	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	As of September 1, 2014
Supporting Membership Count		90	90
	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	January 1 thru September 1, 2014
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance		100	I do not count, but approx. 90
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants		90	Do not count
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance		25	Varies widely, 12 - 30
Number of Catechumens		2В	2
	Reported for Calendar Year 2012	Reported for Calendar Year 2013	January 1 thru September 1, 2014
Baptisms		1	3
Funerals		1	1
Funerals Marriages		1	1
Marriages		1	1