

CCW OPEN MEETING MAY 8 2026

The open meeting began with an assortment of charcuterie board treats and beverages available for all (37) attendees. That was followed by Our Lady of Good Counsel prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made to approve the November open meeting minutes by Pat Kerner and seconded by Nini Milbrath. Motion approved.

Bridgette Adler, Superior Diocesan President, reported the upcoming Annual Convention to be held July 23/24, 2026 at Immaculate Conception in New Richmond. All were encouraged to attend and are able to register online, with flyers available at each table. Bridgette, who has served as the Leadership Commissioner for 4 years and is stepping down, was thanked for her service. Shawn Porter will step in as the new Leadership Commissioner for the 2026-28 term.

Bridgette also announced Kari Rynish as this year's Pax Christi nominee from our St. Pat's CCW for the Superior Diocese. Kari, a young mother of 5 children and expecting another in the fall, has been active in ministry since attending college in Madison. There, she participated in confirmation groups, Bible studies, group leader for middle schoolers, lead retreats and was a peer mentor. She was the first Focus missionary from our diocese, training students at Drake University and Mount St. Mary's. She has assisted with Catechesis of the Good Shepherd at a neighboring Parish and has coached volleyball. She has continued her ministry participating as a cantor, sacristan, Eucharistic minister, Adoration, marriage preparation and hospitality after Masses at St. Patrick Parish.

Service Commissioner Jenny Cernohous announced the upcoming event of watering flower pots at the St. Pat's and Willow River Cemeteries. She explained the process of signing up online for volunteering for this event. Families of the deceased parishioners buy the flowers and pots through Cedar Valley Nursery, paying a fee for volunteers to water the pots during the months of June through September. The proceeds are donated to the St. Pat's CCW.

Treasurer Nancy Sarno gave a checkbook balance of \$16,513.29. She also gave an overview of the 2026-27 budget. A suggestion was made by Gail Maier to raise the amount included for the National Annual Convention from \$1500 to \$3000 to allow more ladies to be able to attend. Pat Kerner suggested combining the Special Projects category with the Charity Account, \$3500. Due to rising costs of printing and mailing the annual fall Volunteer form an idea was conveyed to increase this from \$1200 to \$2000. An option of having the envelopes available after Masses, to save on costs was suggested. A Motion was made by Joy Case to accept these changes to the budget and seconded by Gail Maier. Motion passed.

Nancy S. also added that the CCW will be hosting the KC Brat Wagon on June 19/20. A request for volunteers will be sent out soon.

A note was sent to the CCW from Sari Althoff, Worship Director, requesting funds for a planter box in the St. Cecilia Room and additional Mass materials for children. This topic was tabled, to get more information.

A lively game of Garden themed Bingo followed the meeting with prizes being related to garden accessories, flowers and gift certificates.

Respectfully submitted,  
Leigh Weiss, CCW Secretary

