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Most important issue facing St Andrew Parish: Ability to maintain an adequate level of financial support to continue to serve parishioners and our community at an acceptable level during difficult economic conditions. As there is more need for some or additional assistance, many parishioners are experiencing a reduction in discretionary income. Viability and sustainability of vital programs may become a challenge. Additionally, while St. Andrew Parish is exceptional in my view, I would suggest consideration be given to broaden the agenda with perhaps a more proactive effort for the issue of Sanctity of Life as an example.

Most significant positive about St Andrew Parish and why: Our clergy in my viewpoint. Each Mass is a rewarding and learning experience for me. In addition to “personal time” in our Church before Mass and celebrating the gift of the Eucharist, I have yet to attend a Mass that I did not learn something during the Homily that was of value in my daily life and/or broadened my knowledge/understanding of my faith. We are blessed with exceptional Friars who have the ability to communicate and teach very well.

What gifts would you bring to the Pastoral Council: Nothing from the standpoint of ever serving in any capacity with any church other than a parishioner. While I have attended Mass at St. Andrew occasionally over the past 20+ years and St. Bartholomew before that, I just became a member of The Church last Easter after completing the RCIA program. I was a practicing Methodist during the “formative years” and was instilled with traditional values that I find very compatible with Catholicism. Several years ago I felt compelled to become Catholic as soon as I retired (I traveled 32 or more weeks/per month throughout my career). My career was 40 years with two manufacturing companies with the last 25 as President/CEO of a small company (90 to 100 employees). I have rather extensive experience in Administration and Finance with capital equipment manufacturer that served customers globally. I have had opportunities to travel to some 25+ countries which broadened my understanding of our cultural and value systems. While I am strongly committed to certain core values and am not prone to be silent, I respect the beliefs of others. I hope to be a contributor to organizations “that make a difference” in my second career and plan to become a volunteer with such organizations as Catholic Charities as well as SACC.

Optional Information: My wife of some 45 years (she must be getting older) raised three superb young men with a bit of support from me. I went through public schools in Marion, Ohio and received a BS in Industrial Management from The Ohio State University. Our sons were educated at SAS and Nolan and all have completed college. Their educations have served them well and I will always be a supporter of Catholic education. I formally retired June of 2008 and served as a consultant to my old company for 1 ½ years until I decided I wanted no travel commitment and totally retired. I hope to contribute to my family and community for some years to come by striving to do what I was taught so many years ago, that we are to “take care of yourself and take care of each other”.