

St Patrick Parish Faith Formation Commission Minutes: February 18, 2014 meeting

Members present: Mike Ward, Allyson Brawner, Sherry Welch, Shelly Lydon, Sheila Mellick, Mike Erickson, Lisa Snitker, Dr. Steve Perkins and Lori Ross. Angeline Nesseim was absent.

1. Prayer

The meeting opened with a Leader Gram Prayer (page 3) (Living the Beatitudes). Discussion as to which one moves each of us the most and asking the Lord for the wisdom and strength to follow this (beatitudes) stewardship way of life.

2. Administrative Issues

- a. Approval of Minutes –Sherry mentioned that she had forgotten to include that Allyson and Mike were considering breaking-up the 9-12 class as it is so large. There would be a 9-12 (A) and a 9-12 (B). They are also considering adding a few more 7-8 grade sessions. Sherry also mentioned that she found it interesting that shortly after our last meeting there was a Facebook post talking about how to get people back to church and how KWWL and KCRG had reported on it too.
- b. Reports
 - i. Youth
 1. Mike will make contact with those parish members who should be sending their kids (but are not) to see what (if any) concerns they may have.
 2. Fee reminders have not been sent yet. Be thinking about ways to improve fee collection.
 3. We will be using the classroom off the gym for 7-8 graders next year.
 4. Allyson did not have much to report. She told us the confirmation retreat went well.
 - ii. School-there will probably be two junior kindergarten classes next year, as well as a 3 year old program.
 - iii. Adult-
 1. The Catholicism DVD series after the daily Mass on Thursday has had good response (15-20 people each time).
 2. “True Power of Service” Deanery Adult Faith Formation event Feb. 26th at St. Bens in Decorah (flyer passed out).
 - iv. Financials-showed a comparison from last year as the Finance Committee wanted to see it. Dr. Perkins suggested a pie chart to explain where the dollars go as it relates to fees charged (2i.2) above.

3. In-service/training

- a. Lots of good discussion on Chapter 1 from “Forming Intentional Disciples”...have you always been Catholic, having a personal relationship with God, are all your family members still Catholic (if you were raised in a Catholic home)?, do kids who were raised Catholic still practice the faith at 18 or 24?
- b. Youth Ministry programming plans for next year include ideas on encouraging young people to be disciples (Allyson just finished a 5 week course on it). Combine youth group and faith formation 2x’s a month..meet in small groups with an adult facilitator. Keep the once a month meeting to discuss the small group concerns discussion and train teens to be extraordinary ministers and readers at Church.
- c. Preliminary budget discussions-attached. Some fundraising discussions/suggestions were to hold Lenten coffees, ask for freewill donation for textbooks (like we do for confirmation bibles), etc
- d. Textbook update-depends on which textbooks we go with. The two top textbooks have been identified (Finding God Alive in Christ and _____)

- e. Parish/Family Contract-Suggestions were handed out (50 -50 Covenant). We were asked to pick 5 or 6 things that might work in our parish to ask families to do them (make sure they are realistic for our parish). There will be a bulletin insert in the March 2nd bulletin.
- f. Lent –coffee, donuts and conversations will be between Masses each week. It was determined that we will start with 2 gallons of OJ, 4 gallons of milk and 6 doz donuts (to be p[urchased from Quillins, Kwik Star, Cynda’s West Dise, etc). Mike Ward mentioned to ask Kelli Jones about milk, as there may be some available from previous events. Volunteers are as follows:
 - i. March 9th-Allyson, Lori and Sherry
 - ii. March 16-Mike, Shelley and Lisa
 - iii. March 30th-Doc Perkisn (TBD)
 - iv. April 6-TBD
 - v. April 13-TBD

4. Other Business or concerns

5. Closing Prayer

Next meeting March 18, 2014 (Sherry’s birthday!!!)

