

St Patrick Parish Faith Formation Commission Minutes: September 17, 2013 meeting

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

1. Prayer

The meeting opened with a Leader Gram Prayer (page 3) about cleansing the lepers. We used the 'Sharing Starters' for discussion....having an attitude of gratitude, finding our blessings in the tough times, and being grateful each day for what you have.

2. Administrative Issues

Discussion included the following reports:

- Approval of Minutes-by consensus
- Youth
 - Allyson reported that she has had a Youth Night, a Confirmation Session and the Youth Mass since our last meeting. She stated that all are going well for it being just the beginning. We need to continue to urge the confirmation students to come to both confirmation and faith formation. The next Youth Mass is October 13th.
 - Grade 7-8 grade faith formation (began last Wed) and we are using the same program (Encounter Bible Study Program) for both youth and adults.
 - K-6 grade starts on 9/18 and this is the first time that Mike has had no problem getting catechists.
- School
 - The switch has gone well. The doors are done in the lower building. Once everything is complete, the school will be in lockdown at all times.
- Adult
 - Catholicism series will start on October 8th.
 - Over 30 people have signed up for the Great Adventure Bible Series with Fr. Jim.
 - Nine couples are taking part in the Six Dates for Catholic Couples.
 - RCIA starts on 10/14
 - Question of the Week/Faith Sharing was in the 9/15 bulletin (for introduction purposes) for families to discuss during the week.
- Financials
 - No new report from last time.

3. Visioning for the Future

- Discussions included parish retreat OR parish mission options.
 - SANCTUS-is a one day retreat (\$15 estimate) with a format similar to (simplified version) a CEW or a TEC;
 - Light of the World-is a very structured parish evangelization claiming the Kerygmatic method. People come here and train us/teach us how to lead these retreats. They will help with the first retreat, then we are on our own.
 - Parish Mission-Franciscan Community-was done here in Waukon in 2007. An older crowd attended. Fr. Dupert feels that a mission will involve more people than retreats due to time constraints.
 - “Passionists” and “Redemptionists” should also be considered for retreats.

4. In-service/Training

- Discussed Chapter 6 of “Dreams and Visions”. Discussion included things we currently do (the old silo way of teaching) vs the spiral scope and sequence approach (where all grades are taught the same thing during the ‘school’ year).
- Faith Formation opportunities that were discussed were:
 - The GROWING FAITH PROJECT, Why do we need the Church, by Bill Huebsch.
 - As far as intergenerational...Allyson reported that we are already doing some of that this year. She has scheduled two for K-6; two for 7&8; and two for 9-12 (where parents will attend with the student)

5. Other Business or Concerns

- a. Fields of Faith-Allyson attended the last planning session. She reported that the leaders are preparing “cards” to give attendees as to whether they have/will accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior, as well as follow-up contacts to those who do sign the cards. Allyson will get more detail as to what the follow-up will involve,
- b. Bible Study at school is lead by Marcus Weymiller (??)
- c. She is waiting for the name of the second adult speaker and she is not sure who the student speakers will be.
- d. Same skit as last year....most of us expressed concern over the skit.
- e. Allyson will attend their next planning session;
- f. St. Pat’s (Allyson) will plan some sort of social gathering after the event for any student who may have questions about what is discussed at Fields of Faith.

- 6. Closing Prayer was the “Closing Prayer” in the Leader’GRAM. Meeting closed at 7:03pm. Our next meeting is October 15th at 7pm.