

## ATTENDANCE

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Barb, Kathie, Alana, Terese, Rudy, Tom, Pat, Mary, Greta and Julie

## OPENING PRAYER

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Kathie read the gospel reading for Sunday. It was very short, yet many reflections on that reading were shared.

## MEETING NOTES

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Minutes of April meeting were approved. Terese will add Mary Cox to the committee roster and email that to all.

## VBS

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Barb shared samples from a program that targets grades K through 5. It includes the program with storytelling, craft packets, games, a music guide and a snack guide. It is designed for a 3-hour block, and we would probably have a 2-hour block, so we would adjust the curriculum slightly, maybe by eliminating the games. This would be run with stations for the activities and 1 adult per station.

We are considering an evening, as daytime seems to be very complicated with most parents working, and needing to get children to daycare/babysitter, etc. So, the program would be 5 evenings from 6pm-8pm. The target week is July 29 – August 2.

### Additional thoughts:

- Barb is planning to reach out to a local business to see if they would be interested in funding t-shirts for the program.
- In the past she has had a potluck at the end of the session for the families. It was suggested that we have the potluck on Saturday after the 4:30 Mass.
- We would want to have early registration, so that we could plan.
- Parents could stay and volunteer for the 2-hour block.
- Wednesday evening may be an issue with Arnold Hall, so Barb will contact Pastor Rogers.
- Barb will ask Rita to put this on the parish calendar.

## ADULT BIBLE STUDY

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This program would run for 8 weeks in the Fall on Monday evenings again, set up for 1.5-hour sessions. In the past, the Tuesday morning group was very small. After some discussion, it was decided to try offering the program on a weekend morning. Saturday was chosen over Sunday, as the time would be more limited on a Sunday, fitting in between the Masses. So, we will try 9:30 on Saturdays.

If we begin right away in the fall (early September), the program would be complete prior to Thanksgiving. This would be good considering the weather, and that it would end prior to Advent.

Barb had looked into materials that are available: Paul's prison letters, the Letters to the Romans and Galatians, Revelation, and the Pastoral Letters plus the letter to the Hebrews. There was some discussion on preferences. Barb will look into the programs with Paul's letters to the Galatians and Hebrews, and check on any resources on some of the lesser-known books of the Old Testament.

## ADVENT REFLECTION

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We discussed having this on an evening, rather than a Saturday morning. Possibly Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00-8:30. The evening would be started with dinner, followed by the reflection on the season of Advent. This may be more Mary-focused this year.

## LENT REFLECTION

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We discussed having this on an evening as well, and a soup supper was suggested. There was also discussion on having a Seder meal. Each family would bring a candle, dishes, and their own wine glass. We would provide jug wine, a meal of chicken, roasted potatoes, matza, etc. It would be as close as we could get to an actual Seder meal. In the past, Barb had worked with a Rabbi on this type of event. There would be readings, and songs commemorating Passover. It was suggested to host this on Monday of Holy Week.

Kathie described an event that was held in the past at St. Roman's. They hosted a modified Passover meal on Holy Thursday, and then transitioned that to the celebration of the Eucharist that we now have.

## SERVICE PROJECTS

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This discussion was mostly a brainstorming session, discussing the following service projects:

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- food packs for World Wide Hunger Relief
- peanut butter & jelly sandwiches
- dignity kits
- sorting food at the Hunger Task Force Center on Hawley
- working at the Hunger Task Force farm in Franklin
- meal preparation at Ronald McDonald House
- directly serving those in the community around the parish – similar to what the scouts did last year.

We are already collecting gifts at Christmas time, and school supplies in the early fall. We need to determine a schedule so that requests to the parishioners are spaced out. We can also possibly look at doing a project that could be tied in with Grades 5-8 in Religious Education.

## MISCELLANEOUS

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We would still like to bring in a Rabbi and the lady from the Islamic Center. The previous event like this was well-received and having these types of discussions is still relevant.

Pat shared some of the topics on the survey for Theology on Tap. Those can provide some information on topics that are being discussed in other programs, and what may be of interest at our parish. There was discussion on something that fits the “Catholicism 101” topic, noting that we would need a better name for the session. We can also still consider “What does faith mean as you get older”. This could apply to all, as we all grow and change, not just for the senior citizens.

There was some discussion on the Covenant Agreement with St. Peter’s Episcopal church. They still have the agreement on display in their church and offer prayers for our congregation. The joint Stations of the Cross that were held at McCarty Park were in 2004. It seems this may have fallen to the wayside before Fr. Charlie and Barb were at St. Rita. Barb will look into this.

## MEETINGS

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Future Committee Meetings are scheduled for the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday (except for November):

August 28<sup>th</sup>  
September 25<sup>th</sup>  
November 20<sup>th</sup>  
January 22<sup>nd</sup>  
March 25<sup>th</sup>  
May 27<sup>th</sup>