

Meeting Minutes

Date: Feb 16, 2010

Re: Faith Formation Commission Meeting of 29 Jan 2010

Members present: [Ken Maleck](#), [Joe McBride](#), [Katie Conner](#), [Jennifer Bovitz](#), [Dan McCabe](#).

Members absent: [Mark Ristroph](#)

Deacon Ken Maleck opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:30 pm.

Each member present gave a report of the status of the ministries under their purvey. (See attached summary below.)

New Business:

Consensus was that we have sufficient ministries to have a fulfilling Faith Formation program at St. Mary's. Better coordination would be appreciated. Perhaps a clearinghouse of where to go, redoing the catalog so ministries are grouped by commonalities, common themes would be helpful.

There is a disconnect between receiving the sign up cards, and when each year's programs begin. That is, programs are well underway when the cards are received. It seems awkward to ask people to join in mid-stream.

The effectiveness of the featured monthly ministries was discussed. It was noted that IFH does quite well without anyone manning the sign up board. Some members preferred the former 1st weekend with 3 featured ministries. For seasonal ministries (VBS), the timing can be arranged to be quite timely to solicit members and/or volunteers.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

-Submitted by Deacon Ken Maleck

Faith Formation Commission—Mid-Year Report

February 16, 2010

Together (formerly Familia) – Contact & Liaison: Katie Conner

There are 3 women's teams meeting regularly this year, as well as another team that has completed the program & meets as a small faith sharing group. There are no men's teams meeting, but the Mike Lammers' men's prayer group grew out of Together.

Babysitting is a challenge for the group.

Katie plans on stepping down as leader of this ministry next year. She will begin a search for a new leader.

Small faith Sharing Groups: Contact & Liaison: Joe McBride

A Bible study program for Lent has been chosen. Booklets are on order. Joe is working on finding appropriate groups for the 24 folks who indicated an interest on the Stewardship cards.

St. Mary's Prayer Group: Contact: Fr. Ed Frank Liaison: Mark Ristroph

This group has 6-7 regular members, and a few others who participate occasionally. Fr. Ed would welcome more participants. Thursdays 7:30 pm St. Anne's Hall.

Family Night Workshops: Contact: Joan Purucker Liaison: Joe McBride

The Lenten program is currently being planned. The group conducts a workshop for the Advent & Lenten seasons, as well as other occasions during the year. Average participation is 45 parents & children.

Vacation Bible School: Contact: Joan Purucker Liaison: Jennifer Bovitz

Needs: 1. More adult volunteers. Each year, it gets more difficult to get adult support.

2. The last minute influx of attendees renders "Proper prior planning" inefficient. This makes for a chaotic situation on the 1st day.

3. Craftsmen & skilled individuals are needed to build, construct & transport the props. They are currently constructed at Joan's house & transported to the school.

If budget becomes an issue, the pre-school program can be cut. **Suggestion:** Tap into the St Joseph's Carpentry ministry to help with prop design & construction.

Catechesis Good Shepherd: Contact: Joan Purucker Liaison: Joe McBride

Numbers are OK. Looking at ways to expand it, but we lack facilities to continue on past the 2nd grade. For SMS students, this is in addition to regular classroom religious ed.

CCD: Contact: Joan & Barbara Liaison: Jennifer Bovitz

This year is going well; additional support/changes not needed. The staff appreciated the weekly presence of a priest at the opening each week.

Second Wednesday & Retrouville: Contact: John McCormack Liaison: Dan McCabe

Both ministries are active & going well this year and have no needs at this time. The attendance at 2nd Wednesday could be improved. Retrouville scheduled for Feb & Sept.

Sunday Morning adult education: Contact: & Liaison: Deacon Ken

This year we are doing the Jeff Cavins' study on Gospel of Matthew. Tony Warrenzak also assists as an instructor once a month. Typical attendance is 25-35 adults. All 25 study guides sold out quickly. We also have 6-7 high school students attending this year.

Gathering: Contact: & Liaison: Deacon Ken

No activity this year. Anticipating joining in with the diocese's "Catholics Returning Home" program, planned for Advent 2010.

RCIA: *Contact: Vicky Barnett Liaison: Mark Ristroph*

About 25-30 candidates /catechumens this year. A bus has been ordered for the trip to Savannah for the Rite of election. Running smoothly. No needs at this time.

Saturday Morning Men's Faith group: *Contact: Fr Jerry Liaison: Deacon Ken*

Fr. Jerry leads the group on 2 Saturday mornings per month. Attendance is 6-7 regular attendees. No needs at this time.

Natural Family Planning: *Contact: Rebecca Grady Liaison: Katie Conner*

Rebecca reported that inclusion in the ministry handbook & on the Stewardship cards has benefited her efforts, as well as participating in "featured ministry" table in Narthex.

Cursillo: *Contact: Jerry Marcotte Liaison: Katie Conner*

Attendance has been dwindling lately. Need more promotion. Jerry will use bulletin announcements. No other need at this time.

Serra Club *Contact: Michelle Migone Liaison: Dan McCabe*

Received their official charter in Nov. Meets regularly for prayer hour. Need more members. Has a small core of faithful members. Michelle will continue to lead this deanery-wide group.