

St Therese Faith Formation Committee

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

6:30 pm

Minutes

Members present: Cathy Anderson, Tammy Badger, Bridget Dahlin, Kathleen Hawks, Karen Heiling, Barbara Lockwood, Michelle Pellman, Nancy Seaman, Twyla Steinberger, Fr David Stevens

- I. Prayer – led by Fr David
- II. Approval of August minutes – approved as submitted
- III. **Fr David – Vision for Faith Formation at St Therese**
  - 1) Parents are the primary teachers of the faith. Priest, staff and committee members are to help serve the families in carrying out that role.
  - 2) Father David is the primary person within the church to administer faith formation. Parents and other interested adults are collaborators in the faith to serve and give feedback to the priest.
  - 3) Areas of Faith Formation: Father David identified several areas/categories on which to focus: Children's, Junior High, Senior High, Youth Ministry, RCIA, Young adult in their 20's & 30's whether single or married, Adult education, and Marriage preparation. Father David also mentioned working closely with Barbara to promote our Catholic Schools.
  - 4) Faith formation committee goals

Overall, Father David, was very encouraging in what the committee has developed. He asked that the committee be realistic in the priorities set for the coming year and involve him in all aspects as we move forward.

    - **Childrens** – Fr David will take an active role in all aspects of religious education. He likes to be very engaged. He also places a high priority on summer programs offered including Vacation Bible School and Totus Tuus.
    - **Youth** – Fr David hopes in the next 6 months to hire a youth minister. He stressed the importance of hiring the right person, and not rushing the process. Fr David supports a Youth Parent Council, and believes youth ministry must include 3 elements to be successful: academic (catechesis), social and service.

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- **Adult** – important to kick-off adult education activities in the right way and recommended holding off on bible study group, and instead host monthly, one-topic events to learn about our faith. That could include guest speakers, Fr David, apologetics, why do Catholics do what we do, etc.
- **Vocations** – Liked the upcoming plans for Sister Eileen's celebration, and upcoming speakers and topics for Vocations Week in January.

#### IV. Old Business

- FFC Goals on web page – Twyla will confirm with Fr David if the current wording of goals is acceptable and if he is ok with the goals being posted to the FF web page, versus the minutes page where they are currently located.
- FFC funding – Knights of Columbus - Twyla will contact Grand Knight Travis Behnke (sp?) on status. Kathleen reported an anonymous donor will match up to \$300 of the KC money to faith formation committee needs.

#### V. Sub-committee reports

- **Children**
  - 1) Monthly Service project - September youth service project was distributed to students in religious ed classes. Starting in October additional flyers will be printed for the youth table in the gathering space, possible inclusion in the weekly parish bulletin, and flyers to be included in the St Lambert School monthly newsletter.
  - 2) 2011 Vacation Bible School – committee is already investigating theme ideas for next year, in an effort to partner with the Brandon and Valley Springs vacation bible schools and share props and decorations as St Therese did this past year.
  - 3) 2011 Totus Tuus – Dates for 2011 have been confirmed for June 19 – 24, 2011.

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- **Youth**

- 1) Corn Maze – Divine Collision event at McKennan Park, Sept 19 with mass at 5 pm. A youth ministry activity has been scheduled at the corn maze for September 26, with a rain date for October 3.
- 2) Goals for 2011 – Until receive more specific direction from Fr David regarding a youth minister (see Fr David notes above), subcommittee will support Bridget as needed on faith formation 6-12 grade activities.
- 3) Set meeting date – working on finding a standing meeting schedule for the subcommittee that is conducive to all.

- **Adult**

- 1) Adult ministry activity – Blessed Mother Teresa video showing to celebrate Respect Life month on October 24 at 2 pm at St Therese.
- 2) Per Fr David's recommendations above, discuss hosting monthly topics of interest to parishioners for adult faith formation activities.

- **Vocations**

- 1) Sr Eileen's celebration is tentatively scheduled for October 17 after the 10:45 mass, though Twyla is confirming with Sr Eileen. The celebration will be very similar to Fr Dan Smith's reception.

VI. Other – **Next meeting, Tuesday, October 12.**

VII. Closing Prayer – led by Barbara Lockwood