

Family and Youth Initiatives Meeting Minutes

July 24, 2024

Committee Members Present: Kari Mathys, Jenny VandenLangenberg, Loren Vandenplas, Tara O'Donohue, Tammy Malach, Red Sember

1. Movie Night Recap- June 12th See Document here: [POP Outdoor Movie Night 2024](#). A couple changes for next year- start the 2nd movie at 7:45 pm and don't offer nachos (didn't sell well); do bags of chips instead. We brainstormed ideas to hopefully increase attendance at Movie Night next year- see document.
2. Camp Tekakwitha Scholarship Recap - 4 scholarships at \$125 each have been awarded to 3 families at POP that have children attending camp this summer. Our committee has budgeted another \$500 for next year's scholarships.
3. Blessing Bags Update- Red has purchased some supplies for the bags and we are repurposing some items that we've had in our FYI inventory. There are 24 bags made that include books, prayer cards, crayons, small toys, coloring sheets, etc. We would need to add a sign in the bags that says to return the bag back to the basket near the rack- Tara will print and laminate these signs. We will need to arrange for people to clean and restock the bags- maybe adults and RE kids on Wednesdays? We'd like the Blessing Bags ready for August 24th Backpack Blessing day. The bags target age is 2-8 years old.
4. Playdates update: Mondays and Fridays July 19 - August 5, 16. Fridays have had less attendance but Mondays are going well. Red is watching attendance and suggests holding these mid week in the future as Fridays have not been popular.
5. Backpack Blessing Weekend - Aug. 24/25. Two members from FYI committee at each Mass are needed to hand out tags and rulers. So far we have Saturday 4:30 Mass- Tara, Sunday 8:00 Mass- Kari, Sunday 10:00 Mass-Kari and Mitch, 6:00 Mass- Tammy & Jenny. We will fill in the blanks with our family members or other Mass attendees.
6. Sunday, September 8th-Grandparent Event Celebration-Here is the shared planning sheet [Grandparent Day Celebration Planning Sheet](#)
 - a. Will be held in the St. Frances Cabrini Community Room after 10:00 Mass.
 - b. Discussed ideas for food and activities for this event. For food, we can do donuts, snacks, coffee, juice, oranges, and cheese. We'll plan for Bingo with prizes (Jenny, Mitch, Katie?), doing a craft (kid handprints on a cardstock for grandparents to keep), and provide a meal prayer for the table, and a photo station with the POP backdrop.

Jenny will make a sign up, Kari will order donuts and get snacks from Costco, Loren will get cheese, oranges, and juice. Tammy will order the craft supplies. This event will start at 11:00, Bingo will be from 11:45 to 12:30. We will plan for about 125 people at this time. Jenny will get the event info to Red so she can advertise.

7. Pet Blessing - Sat. Oct. 5 9:00 a.m.
 - a. Discussed what we would like to include as part of the event this year. Here is the planning document for us to work with: [Pet Blessing 2023/2024](#). Father Bill will do the blessing. Committee members attending so far- Jenny, Loren. Can we get some others involved? Confirmation Students, Youth Group? We will plan to do the decorated picture frame and pet picture again and can use the new POP backdrop.
8. Boxes of Joy - Cross Catholic Outreach
 - a. Approved with Helping Hands Committee for collection the month of October
 - b. Theresa ordered 100 boxes, which is the goal we would like to pack.
 - c. Boxes will be packed on November 3rd during and after 10:00 Mass
 - d. Lead on this: Mitch? We can utilize other parish members as well. We need to work on the promotional plan asap.
9. Childcare Ministry - Tara updated that she has been asked to set up an example of how she envisions the room where childcare will take place to look like. A meeting with members of the FYI Committee as well as members of the Parish Council and Office Staff will take place after the Church Picnic to work out the details.

Save the Dates:

- Pumpkin Carving Event - October 27th
- Date for Breakfast in Bethlehem and the Magi Market - Dec. 15 (Gaudete Sunday)
- Thurs. Dec. 12 Parish Lectio Divina Event - Child Care Request by Discipleship Committee
- Epiphany Celebration - Jan. 6th

To think about:

Do we want to schedule a date for sometime in winter to have a movie night to show Father Stu: Reborn?

FYI Committee Events & Initiatives for 2024 See working document here: [FYI Events and Initiatives 2024](#) Please feel free to add in your ideas and updates as we move along through the year.

Next Meeting: August 28 at 6:00