

Family and Youth Initiatives Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2023 5:00 p.m.

Present: Kari Mathys, Jenny VandenLangenberg, Neil Saindon, Theresa Williams, Doug Wichman, Mitch Peterson, Amy Rouleau, Donell Bonetti, Joan Huntoon, Deacon Jeff

Minutes from the last meeting (11/15/2022) were approved via Flocknote and have been posted to the parish website.

1. RE update

- Theresa provided a report/update in advance of the meeting, see below.
 1. Theresa does not need help from our committee at the moment. The next Together in Faith will be in Lent.
 2. Fourth grade Mass will be the next grade Mass on January 14/15 weekend.
 3. She will consider doing a collaborative Christmas program with FYI in 2023 that involves more parishioners and doesn't take up class time on Wednesday evenings for practices . We briefly discussed ideas and will help support whatever is decided.

2. Youth & Young Adult Update

- Neil provided a report/update in advance of the meeting, see attached.
 1. A Young Adult Committee has been formed. They are meeting to discuss the specifics of their new committee and will meet quarterly. They are interested in focusing on service projects and collaborating with other committees.
 2. Katie Summers, the Young Adult Coordinator for the Diocese, will be involved with this new committee.
 3. On January 31 at 6:00, members of our committee and the YAC will meet to discuss how we will work together and divide events.
 4. Mitch will start getting cards together for college aged, former RE parish members with info regarding Mass times and activities going on at POP, along with a Starbucks gift card. We will use our committee funds to buy the gift cards.
 5. Neil will be on the planning committee for a World Youth Day event on August 6th. The event takes place in Portugal, but a group from the Green Bay Diocese will plan a viewing celebration at the Resch Center.

6. Jenny suggested that POP could host a tour for our families and parishioners at the Cathedral and Diocese Museum this Lent. She will get back to the group with details.
7. Babysitting Ministry: Tara O'donohue is looking into what it will take to get a babysitting ministry going. She will work with Neil on specifics.

3. FYI Committee Events & Ideas

- Breakfast in Bethlehem/Magi Market on December 11th recap: This event was well attended and enjoyed by old and new faces.
- Movie Night will be Thursday, June 8 at 6:00.
- FYI Family Lenten Event: possibly on Palm Sunday, family friendly event. We could do a story, craft, Easter themed snack. We will also plan to do an Easter egg hunt on the parish grounds after Easter Sunday Mass. We already have plastic eggs. We need candy and people to fill them; Neil will ask the YAC to help with this.

- Children's Collection Disbursement:
Distribution in December: \$750 was disbursed to Preble high school families in need. Their stories were shared to the kids at Gospel Time and to the parish during Mass. We will continue to distribute funds throughout the year.

- Updated Parish Mission Plan organized per committees: We will review this document as a group at the All Committee Workshop

Next Meeting: February 11, 9:00-11:30 at the All Committee Workshop

Faith Formation/Religious Education Report to FYI

January 10, 2023

- 1. REGISTRATIONS** - Registration for the 2022-2023 year to date are at 234 students.
- 2. GRADE LEVEL MASSES** – Our next grade level Mass is Sunday, January 15, at 10:00 AM with our 4th graders taking part. Sunday, February 19, at 10AM our 3rd grade class has their Mass. That sign up will go out soon.
- 3. RECONCILIATION** – All students in grades 2-9 experienced the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday, November 30. We had 4 priests here. We were not able to get through all the grade 7-9 students. We had Liz Rehberg’s class remaining, so Father will come back for those few at a later date.
- 4. TOGETHER IN FAITH** - On December 7th we will be had a Together in Faith night. Titled “Clothed in the Sun,” we presented 4 of the Marian Apparitions (Guadalupe, Lourdes, Fatima, and Our Lady of Good Help). We received a lot of positive feedback from the families that this was knowledgeable for both the kids and parents. Many said it led to more conversations within the family outside of the evening and that the children were asking to pray the rosary as a family or go to the nearby shrine.
- 5. THE SAVIOR’S BIRTH CHRISTMAS CONCERT** - All Classes met on December 21 for our Christmas Concert where each grade sang one traditional Christmas song. We had cookies and apple cider following. It was well received. Due to lack of time to practice with students, a play or concert may not be the best type of event, so I will be looking into different possibilities for a family event next year such as having the parents coordinate a play to present to students, having various stations to learn about the Nativity, or coordinate with Breakfast in Bethlehem/Magi Market to encourage participation in that instead. I am open to any new ideas.
- 6. IN-SERVICE** - We are having in-services for the catechists/core teams on Sunday, January 15, for Purpose (Grades 10-11) after the 6PM Mass and on Wednesday January 18, for Grades 1-6 from 6-7 PM and LifeTeen (grades 7-9) from 7-8 PM. I am looking for a couple additional aides or catechists primarily for Grade 2 and 5 at the 5:30 timeframe.

7. SCIENCE AND FAITH SUMMIT- I am attending GRACE's Faith and Science Summit for DRE's and teachers on January 16 from 8:00 - 3:00 at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. In the morning, bioethics professor, Dr. Warren Johnson, will be presenting on the compatibility of faith and science. Lunch will be provided. In the afternoon, Mother Mary Catherine will share a spiritual reflection and lead the group in prayer. Our students have expressed many questions on how science interacts with our faith, so I believe this will be very beneficial especially for our Edge, LifeTeen and Purpose students.

8. TUITION STATUS – I have sent out tuition reminders for those who have a balance due. Most were because the family chose two installments when they registered or forgot to add their sacrament fee on. Payments are due January 15th.

9. SCRIP POLICY – We met with Susan Rosek to update the Prince of Peace Scrip Policy and clarify how the implementation of the new Raise Rite Scrip Program will work for the Religious Education families. I need a signed statement from each family (handbook last page) that they understand the policy before funds can be released to families. I am resending to 4 families that have not turned this in yet but have funds coming.

10. UPCOMING DATES/EVENTS

January 11	RE Classes (4:15, 5:30, 7:00)
January 15	4 th Grade at 10:00AM (Grade-level Mass)
January 15	Core Team In-Service – Grades 10-11 @ 7PM
January 16	Theresa Faith & Science Summit 8-3PM
January 18	Core Team In-Service – Grades 1-6 @ 6-7PM, Grades 7-9 @ 7-8PM
January 25	RE Classes (4:15, 5:30, 7:00)
February 1	RE Classes (4:15, 5:30, 7:00)
February 8	RE Classes (4:15, 5:30, 7:00)
February 15	RE Classes (4:15, 5:30, 7:00)
February 19	3 rd Grade at 10:00AM (Grade-level Mass)
February 22	8 th Grade at 4:15PM Ash Wednesday Mass (Grade-level Mass)
February 25	1 st Communion Retreat 8:30-10:30 AM

Youth and Young Adult Ministries Report to FYI

Jan 10th, 2023

1. **PURPOSE/10th GRADE**– Now that the students have finished with the Confirmation Hurdle, there are several that we no longer see. However, there are still several that we DO see and that means a lot to me. Of our 34 candidates that were confirmed about half still attend. Rather than seeing this as a step down from 34 I am looking at this as a step up from 0. We are offering a chance for the kids to continue to connect with the CoreTeam and some of them are taking advantage of that. We must remain aware of the trap of using numbers to grade our ministry.

2. **LIFETEEN AND EDGE** – 6th grade has seen remarkable changes since last year. The kids are still 6th graders, but they are very engaged, willing to talk, ask questions, and we've been able to intentionally focus a good amount of time on the Eucharist, specifically adoration, which is both one of our goals as but also addresses a significant pattern of unbelief in the Eucharist within the Church.

3. **YOUNG ADULT** – We've put together our YA committee.

Erik Wiegand (Chair), Lisa Patz (secretary), Tara O'Donahue, Liz Rehberg, Cassie Nooyen, Sarah Farah, Calyn Saindon

I believe that Erik and some others are going to try to set up a meeting with Jenny (of FYI) to walk through the specifics of committees within POP and I've got them working on a Mission Statement, Vision Statement, Statement of Activities (What they'll do and what they won't) and currently the meetings are every other month. Depending upon how that goes for the Committee they may meet more or less frequently. Several of the members are also Catechists for the LifeTeen Groups, and so it was generally agreed that this committee would also oversee the Youth Group and get involved with FYI if and when there is an opportunity to support any social activities that span their target ministerial groups.

4. **YOUTH GROUP**- This group will be moving to the oversight of the YA committee as mentioned above. However, for purposes of keeping everyone up to date, I want to say that we've begun to get inquiries from folks outside of our Parish because there isn't a group at their Parish. There have been several big shake-ups downtown and so many of those families are willing to drive to come out to see us. I can say I've seen about 6 kids that are not parishioners in the last several weeks. I have also been investigating a change in the direction of the Youth Ministry. I know it isn't old enough to need to be changed, but I also know that it is a LOT OF WORK for all

involved and so I am checking out Everett Fritz's work in Youth Ministry. He's revolutionized several Diocese in the US that struggled with one very simple change in methodology. I can sketch it out quickly if people are interested, or just bring it to the new committee when we next meet.

5. **RCIA-** I will be taking several sessions from Deb as she is overloaded with Funerals etc. The next session is on the Eucharist and Dcn Jeff and I will be leading it.

6. **UPCOMING DATES- PURPOSE/10th** – Catechist in-service Jan 15th classes resume Jan 22nd. We were meant to have a class on Jan 8th but we cancelled it due to the Packer game being moved to the late slot.

7. **UPCOMING DATES- Youth Group-** Jan 11th, Jan 25th, Feb 16th, March 9th

8. **UPCOMING DATES- Young Adult-** Jan 23rd. We're trying something new this time. I'm going to give an introduction to the Catechism and several "Spiritual Classics." My #1 question from YA is "the bible is hard, what else can I read to learn about The Church?" So, I figured I'd see how this goes. It also Dovetails very well with the creation of Fr. Mike Schmitt's "Catechism in a Year" so they can go from this directly into that.