

MEETING DETAILS

Description: Family and Community Life Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: May 3, 2018

Time: 7:15 PM

Location: SJN Good Shepherd 1

Chair: Steve Chojnacki

Members

- **Present:** Lona Wacker, Norma King, Emily Hayden, Bernadette Vitullo, Deb Mason, Teresa Klippen, Lisa Okoneski (Staff), Michaela Willer (PPC Liaison), Steve Chojnacki (Chair)
 - **Absent:** Jill Tilbury, Wendy Ashbridge (Staff)
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Due to commitments to her family at home, Jill Tilbury has decided not to continue on the FCL Committee. We are very grateful to her for the time and commitment she made to this group. Thanks, Jill!

Agenda Item 1...New Ministry Updates

Long Range Plan Focus Area: Parishioner Involvement, Communication

Short Term / Current Year Goal/Objective(s): Continue to make progress on Young Adult Group and Welcoming Group for New Parishioners

- Michaela reported that the Young Adult Group has been moving forward and has been hosting meetings and events. A small group of regular attendees has been established from a list of about twenty that have shown interest.
- The Young Adult group served as bartenders and helped with food service at the Cana Dinner this year which was a great way to get exposure for this “fledgling” group and a great way for them to serve the parish.
- The Welcoming Group for New Parishioners sent emails to new parishioners informing them about the Summer Sizzle in August.

Action/Decisions Made:

- The Welcoming Group will continue to solicit lists of new parishioners from Joe Keating although typically there are very few signups in the summer months.

Agenda Item 2...Wit and Wisdom Visit

Long Range Plan Focus Area: Parishioner Involvement, Communication

Short Term / Current Year Goal/Objective(s): Foster relationship between the FCL Committee and the ministries under its umbrella

- Bridget Wickiser and Rozann Reyerson from the Wit and Wisdom Board visited our committee to discuss the group's latest activities and its future. Claudia Mikos attended as an interested party in the Wit and Wisdom Board.
- The Board appears to be largely focused on the planning of the Wit and Wisdom dinner and a few other social events (e.g., a bus to the State Fair). Rozann, who has a health care background, periodically brings speakers to the parish on topics relevant to the seniors of SJN.
- Both Bridget and Rozann expressed concern that our parish underserves our seniors. Rozann has investigated other parishes to see what programs are offered elsewhere and feels SJN could be doing more.
- There was discussion about the future of the Wit and Wisdom Board. It was felt that rather than overwhelming this group with multiple goals/objectives, perhaps they choose one or two small items and begin to move them forward (perhaps a Scripture and Coffee morning get-together).
- Steve has had limited response from the Board when reaching out to them. Some other than Rozann and Bridget have agreed that there is a need for change and renewal on the Board, but little has been done about it. Steve shared that he has long felt that if this group is not interested in moving things forward in the parish and would rather continue with the status quo, then maybe this Board only handles the Wit and Wisdom Dinner and some social programming and another group established that is interested in other ways to serve the seniors at SJN.
- It was felt that there should be continued and improved communication with the Pastoral Care Committee as there is possible overlap between the two.
- There had been a Wit and Wisdom newsletter with contributions from its members but that was discontinued largely because of mailing costs.

Action/Decisions Made:

- Rozann and Bridget will bring up the discussion they had with the FCL Committee and gauge the groups' willingness to develop programming for seniors at the next Wit and Wisdom Board meeting on Monday, May 7.

Agenda Item 3... Ministry Updates

Long Range Plan Focus Area: Communication

Short Term / Current Year Goal/Objective(s): Keep up to date on FCL ministries and discuss and act on any issues

- Steve spoke with Nancy Palacheck at the Archdiocesan Office for Family Life about the Adoption Mass at SJN. Nancy provided a document with a detailed plan for hosting such an event for anyone willing to take this on. We will be actively searching for someone to take this role, starting with a call in the bulletin. The Mass is held in November.



- In the past, the FCL Committee collected periodic ministry updates and distributed them to all ministries under the FCL umbrella. It was discussed, in the interest of good communication, if that practice should be undertaken again.
- The Cana Dinner was very successful with about 160 people in attendance. Speakers at the event included three SJN groups active at SJN: Worldwide Marriage Encounter, Marriage in Christ, and Couples in Christ-Foundation for Family and Life.
- In the interest of increasing volunteerism at Donut Sunday, Steve has been in contact with the Faithful Shepherd Middle School because the students need parish service hours as part of their religion grade. He has also contacted Nicole Bettini to ask if there are any service hour requirements in SJN's Faith Formation program that could be fulfilled by helping out at Donut Sunday.

Actions/Decisions Made:

- Steve will be sending out a request for year-end summaries from each of the FCL ministries.

Next Meeting: Fall of 2018