

**Catholic Area Faith Community of Jesus Our Living Water**  
**Area WORD Committee Minutes**  
**Tuesday, May 5, 2015**  
**7:00 pm – Church of St. Patrick**

**Joint Agenda**

**Opening Prayer** - Holy Spirit Prayer

**Recommitment of Our Vision** – “Sharing the Life of Christ ~ Being the Love of Christ”

**Pastor’s Report**

- 5/17/15 Baccalaureate Mass at StM and 5/31/15 at OLOL
- 5/6/15 Final Class for Faith Formation Students at OLOL and StM
- First Communion celebrations concluded May 2 except for one family at OLOL.
- 6/14/15 9:30am Father Steve’s 25<sup>th</sup> Ordination Anniversary Mass at StM with coffee and donuts afterwards – everyone invited.
- Tonight will be the last committee meeting until September, 2015, be mindful of anything that needs attention.
- The AFC Budget will be presented on Thursday, May 7, to the Stewardship Committee and then Area Pastoral Council.
- Staff Days are scheduled for May 20 & 21 – add to your agenda input to help in planning for next year: what went well this year, what could we change or what should be dropped altogether.
- 6/7/15 Week-end Mass schedule will change for the summer– it will effect only StM – English Mass at 9:30am and Spanish Mass at 11:30am. The Fall Mass Schedule will be given in August.

**Area Word Members Present:** Pat Laib, Diane Cronen, Debbie Becker, Randy Suter, Anisabel Palma, Erin Wendt and Diane Pyka.

**Absent:** Aurora McCleary

**Review and Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of our last meeting, April 7, 2015, were read and approved.

**Approval of agenda – add:**

Staff Planning Meeting 5/20-21/15 – committee’s input to staff  
Report on Philadelphia Conference by Anisabel Palma

**Discussion/Action Items**

Erin Wendt, Area Faith Formation Director for grades 3-6 gave an update of the year. She is using the Loyola, “Finding God” curriculum and reported good feedback from

catechists and parents. Catechists enjoyed having materials provided each week and subs found the lessons easier to teach. Erin is planning on having twelve parent sessions for 2015-2016 (two for each grade at each site). She will be revising one-third of the Sessions for grades 3-6 this summer and plans to have a binder with all lessons for the year to present to catechists this fall.

**Budget** – Faith Formation budget was finalized and will be presented to the Stewardship Committee on Thursday, May 7. Each department’s budget either went down or stayed the same.

**Staff Planning Recommendations** – no recommendations were given but committee members shared that Liturgy of the Hours was a good addition at StM and Small Christian Community Gatherings were valuable. The SCC’s that met with Confirmation candidates was also an asset.

### **Faith Formation Opportunities**

6/7/15 Matthew Kelly –“Living Every Day with Passion and Purpose” 4-8pm at the Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in Marshall. Tickets \$39 – call 859-980-7900 or [www.DynamicCatholic.com](http://www.DynamicCatholic.com)

1/27/16 Faith Formation Volunteer Spiritual Enrichment Evening 6:30pm at OLOL. Debbie Becker suggested that we get feedback from Faith Formation volunteers attending the Appreciation Dinner on May 13, for suggestions on a topic they would recommend for the evening. There is money in the budget to obtain a speaker and Father Lon Konold from Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo will be contacted.

Adult Mission – Anisabel led a discussion about having a mission/retreat leader with bilingual ability that would be able to do presentations in the coming year in English and Spanish. Randy Suter made a motion to ask for up to \$750 for such a presenter. Anisabel asked for input on a topic and Pope Francis’ theme of Mercy was recommended and approved by everyone.

Anisabel reported on the trip she attended to Philadelphia April 29 – May 1, 2015, to attend the Conference called “The Year of Encounter with Pope Francis”. She presented a handout with details regarding the trip and details about an adult faith opportunity called “Year of Encounter with Pope Francis” (using text from “Joy of the Gospel” by Pope Francis). Father Steve recommended that interested parishioners should start with a book study on the “Joy of the Gospel” possibly during October and

do “The Year of Encounter with Pope Francis” during Lent for those who were interested.

**Membership Openings** – Father Steve shared that it is ideal to have representation from each parish but doesn’t always mean that it is going to happen. He said it was permissible to add a couple of other members from StM and OLOL if a 6-8 membership was needed for more balance. Randy Suter suggested bulletin announcements asking for new members in the Fall.

**Future agenda items:**

- Mission Presenter
- Joy of the Gospel Book Study Calendar Dates
- Faith Formation Update
- Faith Formation Program Report
- Faith Formation In-service on January 27, 2016
- Membership opening from StP and StTM

Submitted by Diane Pyka