

The Catholic Area Faith Community of Jesus Our Living Water
Area Word Committee Minutes
Tuesday, October 6, 2015
7:00 pm – Church of Our Lady of the Lakes

Joint Agenda

Opening Prayer

Recommitment to our Vision

Pastor's Report

Area Word Members Present: Pat Laib, Debbie Becker, Randy Suter, Anisabel Palma, Christine Pinto

Absent: Diane Cronen and Aurora McCleary

Review and Approval of Minutes

The minutes of our last meeting, May 5, 2015, were read and approved.

Discussion/Action Items

1. Election of Officers/Membership—

- a. Pat Laib has been reelected as Chair
- b. We need more members for the committee. Fr. Steve suggested not being focused on equal representation, rather find/invite people who are visionaries. People who are area-minded, can dream and think outside the box.
- c. We discussed Millenials—they'll participate if there is a cause, how do we as a Church reach out to that generation? Perhaps looking at some of our involved young people who have been confirmed. Members should think about possible people who would be good and come up with some names.
- d. Christine shared that the Area Directors of Faith Formation met over the summer to talk about a change in focus for the Area Word Committee. Rather than focusing on information about the youth

formation programs, they would like to see the focus of the committee be Adult Faith Formation.

2. Joy of the Gospel

- a. There are six Small Christian Communities using the Joy of the Gospel for their sessions and three sessions at Church: OLOL—9:30 am on Thursdays, StM—9:30 am and 6:30 pm on Mondays.
- b. The study lasts six weeks (5 chapters and the introduction). It is easy to read, comes with a study guide and questions. The study ends in November; there will be nothing for Advent, then another study using the Joy of the Gospel and other Pope Francis documents to focus on Encountering Jesus.
- c. There was a suggestion to choose a different day other than Monday evening (due to choir practices in the AFC).

3. Retreat/Mission

- a. We began to talk about the possibilities of a retreat experience or adult faith formation opportunity for Lent 2016. Discussion points included:
 - i. Whatever we do would probably be in English with translation equipment used for those who are Spanish speaking.
 - ii. Questions we thought would focus our work: 1) Who is our focus group? 2) Who are the 72 that we want to send out? 3) Who do we want to form? 4) How do we reach others?
 - iii. Retreat: Perhaps on the Year of Mercy, Joy of the Gospel, or using the book Rediscover Jesus by Matthew Kelly. Start with a retreat experience that equips people to step out into the world. Perhaps offer an opportunity to use the book as small groups after the retreat experience has been completed.
 - iv. Matthew Kelly's Rediscover Jesus is about developing a relationship with Jesus—it is a book that can be read for the 40 days of Lent. If we purchase multiple copies, the cost is dramatically less (\$1 for 500+ copies, \$3 for 6-499 copies)
 - v. Another option is to look at preparing lay people to be leaders, evangelizers, etc. To help parishioners become involved in

spreading the Gospel message. Perhaps helping people to know how to talk to others about their faith, about Jesus, maybe even role play.

- vi. In the past we have had speakers present to large group audiences. We do have money in the budget to bring in someone (\$750). If the cost is more could we ask local businesses to help sponsor the speaker? Pat and Anisabel are going to look into Dynamic Catholic to find out the prices and expectations of having one of their speakers come in and present. Check with Sr. Ellen (from last year's retreat) to see if she would be willing to come and present on the topic of Mercy.

4. Survey

- a. Christine brought copies of the survey that was done via Survey Monkey a few years ago and suggested members take a look at possible ideas we can use for Adult Faith Formation in the AFC, based on what parishioners have indicated in the past.

5. Future Agenda Items

- a. Retreat/Adult Faith Formation Opportunity(ies)
- b. Survey
- c. Membership