

**Catholic Area Faith Community of Jesus Our Living Water  
Area Worship Committee Meeting**

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

7:00 p.m. Church of St. Patrick, Kandiyohi

Present: Doug Bernhagen, Terry Brunson, Tim Cayler, Joan Conway, Bev Egge, Larry Fujan,  
Larry Gunter, Chris Herman, Fr. Steve Verhelst

Absent: Tim Macik

- I. Opening Prayer – Led by Fr. Steve Verhelst
- II. Enrichment – *The Francis Effect*
- III. Upcoming AFC events/dates
  - a. Year of Mercy (12/08/15 – 11/20/15)
    - i. Instituted by Pope Francis
    - ii. How will the AFC celebrate/recognize/participate?
    - iii. The Diocesan website [www.dnu.org](http://www.dnu.org) is a resource to consult to learn more about the Year of Mercy.
- IV. Pastor's Report
  - a. No mandatory scheduled committee meetings in December, unless a committee deems it necessary.

**Committee-specific agenda**

- V. Approval of Minutes from October 6, 2015
- VI. Approval of Agenda
  - a. Added items
    - i. Year of Mercy
    - ii. Sunday celebration in the absence of a Priest
    - iii. Recommissioning of the Vision Statement
  - b. Evaluate Evening Prayer of Remembrance – November 1, 4:00 p.m.
    - i. Used Candle Lighters instead of clicker lighters, with much more efficiency and comfort to those lighting. Less distraction/interruption.
    - ii. Used the Easter Candle to begin the lighting of candles. (Note – the Easter Candle has been part of this process each year.)
    - iii. Bell tolling seemed much more effective this year and created a very nice effect. Suggestion to not read more than 15 names per time.
    - iv. Noted that the song sung during the Litany of the Deceased was a nice change to the song used the past few years.
    - v. A candle was brought forward for every deceased AFC member, during the past year, by a family member, friend or volunteer.
    - vi. Advertising was noticeable – Webpage, App, Screens, bulletin, and display boards. There around 130 people in attendance.

1. Suggestion was made to use the letter sent to each family with a deceased family member as a means to give direction as to what to do when they arrive and what to do during the service.
  2. Another suggestion is to have a small piece of paper with a brief description on it to hand to everyone when they sign in or pick up their candle.
  3. Have more greeters so that when the influx of guests come in within 15 minutes or less before it starts, the signing in process can be less congested and confusing.
  4. Video record next year's event to use clips as a means of advertising.
  5. It appears that the event is becoming more and more known and better attended and that the word is spreading of how special and beautiful this event is for everyone.
- vii. Bereavement Committee assisted with the evening.
- viii. About 90 people stayed for fellowship
- c. Advent
- i. Advent Wreath
    1. Fr. Steve shared with the committee that the tradition of the Advent Wreath is more of a devotional that was done in the home, but for many years now has become part of the Advent season in the Church. Liturgically, the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent has a blessing written into the ....., and after that, it doesn't appear in .....
    2. For the past 3 years the ritual used in the AFC has been the same, completing the use Year A, B and C lectionary readings.
    3. Suggestion was made to have the candle be part of the entrance procession each Sunday, with the blessing of the wreath taking place on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent (November 28 & 29). Would be preferable to see families carrying in the Advent Candle. This can mean parents with young children, parents with grown children, multi-generational, etc.
    4. Also discussed that the seasons of Advent and Lent are penitential seasons, thus the omitting of the Gloria. Therefore the focus is more on the Penitential Act. Suggestion was made to sing that this year.
    5. Another suggestion made was to have the music be simpler, incorporate some a cappella, and create an atmosphere where less is more and building up within our assemblies the anticipation of Christ's birth at Christmas when the music will come back to fullness through instrumentation and excitement. This does not mean that the music should be slow and uninviting to participate in singing.
  - ii. Advent Evening Prayer
    1. Through consultation with individuals, it appears that maybe the Sunday's of Advent are fairly busy already.

2. What about Lenten Evening Prayer?
  3. Maybe we need to focus more on events already being offered, i.e. Stations of the Cross.
- iii. Recommissioning of the Vision Statement – “Sharing the Life of Christ, Being the Love of Christ.”
1. Commissioned the AFC on the Feast of Christ the King in 2013.
  2. Recommissioned the AFC on the Feast of Christ the King in 2014.
  3. Decision made to recommission the AFC again on the Feast of Christ the King November 21 & 22, 2015.
    - a. Since there will be more focus on the Penitential Act in the upcoming season of Advent, decision to do a Sprinkling Rite during the singing of the Gloria and then instead of reciting the Creed, do a renewal of Baptismal Promises.
- iv. Christmas
1. Area Schedule
    - a. Christmas Eve
      - i. 3:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. (Spanish) – St. Mary’s
      - ii. 4:00 p.m. – OLOL
      - iii. 9:00 p.m. – St. Patrick’s
    - b. Christmas Day
      - i. 8:15 a.m. – St. Thomas More
      - ii. 9:00 a.m. – St. Mary’s
      - iii. 10:00 a.m. – OLOL
    - c. Begin thinking about the various ministry roles and the need to have everything covered and individuals aware of what is needed of them at these Masses.
- v. Goals and Objectives
1. No discussion
- vi. Future Agenda Items
1. Ministry Fair
  2. Year of Mercy
  3. Sunday celebration in the absence of a Priest
    - a. Think of individuals who could lead the assembly in prayer in the absence of the Priest.

Adjournment

Next Meeting Date: **January 5, 2016**, 7:00 p.m. at the Church of St. Mary, Willmar

Respectfully submitted by Tim Cayler – AFC Director of Music