

5 Parish Faith Formation Committee Meeting Minutes

August 21, 2017 8:00pm – St. Rose Basement

Attendance: Present were Sharon Kremer, Chris Wibbenmeyer, Missy Moeller, Judy Forsthoefel, Jackie Garman, Katie Dippold, Mike Bertke, Nancy Broering, Jim Moeller, Betsy Huelsman, Ted Dirksen, Jessica Bruns, Kathy Broering, Carla Hartings and Natalie Rethman. Absent was Julie Brunswick.

Opening Prayer: Led by Chris Wibbenmeyer

V. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.

R. And kindle in them the fire of your love.

V. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.

R. And you will renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray. Lord, may everything we do begin with your inspiration and continue with your help, So that all our prayers and works may begin in you and by you be happily ended. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

New Business:

A. Welcome Members – We're all new & excited to see how this committee can enrich our faith formation programs within the Marion cluster.

B. Talk about the purpose of our committee - The formation of faith in the hearts and minds of our parish members is at the very core of the purpose for which our five parishes exist. This ministry is concerned with our Children's Liturgy of the Word, Sunday school, Kindergarten through High School Religious Education, Adult Formation and Outreach to the inactive and unchurched. We want this to be the voice of our RE programs.

C. Secretary & Chairperson – We will rotate parish CRE's to lead our meetings. No secretary elected yet. We will meet 3 times per year.

D. Northern Area Congress (September 16th) – Open to all catechetical leaders. The main topic this year is the VOCARE certification program.

E. Catechetical Sunday (September 17th) – All catechists will be recognized & receive a blessing at each Mass during the weekend of September 16th & 17th.

F. Social Media Policy (Facebook Page / Instagram / Photos) – We briefly talked about the revised social media policy.

G. VOCARE – “Called to Teach” is the meaning of VOCARE. Catechists are now asked to grow their faith with our new certification program. All catechists are required to complete 10 credits per year. This new program is online based and very simple to use. This new program will be paid for by the parishes. Carla Hartings talked about how much a person can learn by being a catechist. We discussed having catechists turn in their receipts on December 1st and June 1st for reimbursement.

H. Volunteer Agreement – We talked about having the volunteers of our parish programs sign a volunteer confidentiality agreement.

Reports:

A. Youth Ministry – Natalie Rethman spoke to us about our youth ministry programs and some of the things youth can be involved with. She talked about the highlights of the Steubenville Conference, service opportunities and youth nights. She spoke about how the program was weak but has built over the years. Social media helps a lot. We talked about Catholic Youth Summer Camp which has grown over the years. There is a parent/student meeting in Minster on September 14th.

B. Vacation Bible School – Kathy talked about how great “God is our Rock” was this year. The program was created from scratch and enjoyed by everyone. A puppet show was added this year and the kids seemed to really enjoy that. A special thanks went out to all of the volunteers who made this program possible. We had 100 kids this year and had to turn a few away. A mention was made about CCD and how we should possibly look at a different format for CCD in the future. The way VBS is set up seems to work very well.

Open Discussion: Due to the lateness of the meeting, nothing else was discussed.

Next Meeting: Monday, January 15, 2018 at 7:30pm.

Minutes Written By: Chris Wibbenmeyer

Minutes Approved On: