

Faith Formation Council Minutes

Sept. 12, 2017

Attendance:

FFC Chair	Joe Baumgarten	Present
FFC Vice Chair	Paula Gallt	Present
FFC Meeting Minutes	Darcie Tallman	Present
FFC Member	Melissa Bowker	Present
FFC Member	Elin Herrman	Present
FFC Member	Sarah Mansell	Present
Pastor	Fr. Jim Secora	Present
Deacon	Deacon Ron Smith and Charles Bernhard	Present
Pastoral Associate	Jarrett Wendt	Present
Director of Faith Formation	Katie Patrizio	Present
Director of Youth Ministry	Anna Steele	Present
Coordinator of Middle School Youth Ministry	Zekiel Mientkiewicz	Present
Coordinator of Elementary Faith Formation	Jacob Brancaleon	Present
School Board Liaison	Kari Kellen	Present

Opening

- Jarrett Wendt opened with prayer
- In-Service: Watched a video from Bishop Barron about anger and forgiveness
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eY8CffVn5Sk>

Marriage Preparation

- Jarrett Wendt and Deacon Ron Smith presented a new marriage prep program called Witness to Love
- Program includes having engaged couple complete an inventory (something engaged couples currently take), however, the couple would choose a couple they know/respect to be their mentor couple. The idea is that they would form a closer/more natural relationship that persists after the wedding.
- It is a dynamic mentor-based marriage prep program that prepares engaged couples to transition into a welcoming community of faith after they are married. For example, to transition them into an Evangelical Catholic small group.
- By allowing the engaged couple to choose their own mentor couple, a concrete connection and integration into the parish is developed. Through the sharing of the mentor couples' own marriage journey, the engaged couple inherits a "lifeline" of support in their commitment to Christ and the Church. The mentors are not tasked with teaching moral or sacramental theology, but serve as powerful witnesses and guides, all the while growing in their own marriage through

the development of virtue. Witness to Love enable the parish to build on this relationship to help rebuild trust between the engaged couple and the church.

- The FCC believe this is a way for St. Cecilia's parish to fulfill the first of Archbishop Jackels four Mission Priorities of the Church: "Strengthening Programs for On-going Education in the Faith".
- It is recognized that this program can't fit all couples. The idea is that our current program, Fully Engaged, would also be used.
- The commission watched a video and materials were distributed about Witness to Love.
- Jarrett and Deacon Ron will meet with current sponsor couples to get feedback.
- They will also inform the Archdiocese.
- Feedback will be brought back to the FCC for a decision in November.

Man-Up

- Due to decreased attendance and difficulties finding leadership to manage the group, Man-Up is ending its programs for the rest of the year after the Sept. 18 meeting with Bishop Pates.
- FCC will discuss the future of Man-Up at a later meeting.

Discuss FCC initiatives

- The Commission felt progress has been made in all three of the following initiatives:
 1. Provide faith sharing resources for singles, families and family groups
 - a. Greenish yellow (more green than yellow ☺)
 - b. What we do well: Evangelical Catholic, One Percent mission, so much more...
 - c. What we can improve: better ways to reach out to singles, get them involved, make them feel that they are an important and valued part of our community.
 2. Implement processes for recruiting, forming, placing, and mentoring lay leaders and promoting active involvement
 - a. Green
 - b. What we do well: EC small groups, new marriage prep, teen leaders
 3. Implement the catechetical plan for the lifelong faith formation needs of all parishioners, esp. adults
 - a. Green
 - b. What we do well:
 - i. One Percent Challenge and plans for future missions. "Prayer is the fundamental foundation of any plan."
 - ii. very strong in child/youth/teen formation.
 - iii. Becoming laser point focused (parish mission around prayer)

Future Agenda Items

- Working with the Hortons to offer programming for parents during faith formation a couple times during the year as a joint effort with St. Cecilia and St. Thomas.
- Discuss if/how our parish can support caregivers of loved ones with dementia.

Reports

- **Director of Youth Ministry: Anna**
 - a. See her report.
- **Coordinator of Middle School Youth Ministry: Zeke**
 - a. See his report.
- **Coordinator of Elementary Faith Formation: Jacob**
 - a. See his report
- **Director of Faith Formation: Katie**
 - a. No report.
- **Pastoral Council: Joe**
 - a. No report.
- **Catholic School Board: Kari**
 - a. No report.

Closing

- Prayer
- Next meeting Tuesday, Oct. 10 at 7 p.m. in the St. Louis Room.
- Adjourned 8:35 p.m.
- Respectfully submitted by Darcie Tallman