

Parish Life Committee – 2 March 2016

Attendees: Deane Belcher, Sue Belcher, Janet Brimeyer, Jo Anne Dalhoff, Susan McNicholl, Sue Scoles, Sue Sprong, and Rick Brimeyer

Our meeting convened at 7:00 pm with our opening prayer.

Minutes of the February meeting were approved.

New Business – Klingseis Bequeath Celebration:

Susan McNicholl gave us an introduction to the plans to celebrate the Klingseis gift. Current plans call for a four-part celebration including a renowned speaker, a Called & Gifted workshop on discernment, an amped up St. Cecilia music festival and a gift CD. We liked the ideas presented.

We agreed that volunteers from throughout the parish will be required to support the above. Some activities align nicely with the charters of various Parish Life organizations. Susan and Parish Life agreed that the small committee that is working to define the celebration should compile a list of specific resources required to pull everything off so we can begin asking for help.

Old Business:

No changes to the Parish Life chart were made during February.

Several team members reported on their initial contacts with Parish Life organizational leaders:

- Sue Sprong discussed Special Events. After several years of minimal activities, the past year has been quite busy. Judy Trumpy is looking to transition out of the co-chair position. Jane Baty is willing to stay on if a co-chair can be identified. Jane feels it should be someone with food service experience. Parish Life members identified a handful of parishioners whom Sue will pass on to Jane. The question was also raised if perhaps someone with event planning experience might also make for a valuable co-chair. **Action: Rick** contact former parishioner Mary Ellen Metzger to see if she knows of other parishioners involved with food service.
- Sue Sprong reported that Coffee & Donuts co-chairs Sue Seaton and Marlene Weisshaar are looking to step down in June. They plan to advertise the need in the bulletin. Parish Life team members encouraged promoting the opening at Coffee & Donuts to those that take advantage of this service.
- Sue Sprong attended the February Welcoming Committee. She showed us the impressive package of goodies which they have assembled for newly registered parishioners. Included in the package is a flyer on the Play Group. This may be an opportunity for other Parish Life Committees that are looking for new members to promote their group.
- Sue Belcher reported on her discussion with Claire Uldrich of St. Anne Circle. Claire is also having trouble identifying her replacement. A conversation ensued regarding the benefits of

introducing 2-3 year terms and perhaps a leadership progression (similar to the Knights) so that others are willing to step into leadership roles.

- St. Mary's Circle is very vibrant with several new members during 2015. Kudos to Paula Weibel!
- Janet Brimeyer reported on her discussion with Diana Weber of Funeral Luncheon. This group shares leadership among four individuals which rotates with each funeral. This appears to be working very well and could be a model for other "event-type" service organizations.
- It was suggested that we have a picnic, coffee or ice cream social with leaders (members?) of the various Parish Life organizations in the fall.
- **Rick** still has the **action** to follow-up with current CAYAC leaders to see if it makes sense for them to be included in Parish Life.
- **Janet** still has the **action** to follow-up with Carolyn Konechne to define whether Parish Life should be interacting with the individual circles or with SCCCW.

Some initial work on our Initiatives has occurred:

- Educate ourselves about hospitality
 - Sue Belcher shared the dictionary definition of hospitality:
 - Cordial reception
 - Kindness in welcoming guests or strangers
 - The act of service of welcoming, receiving
 - Generous and friendly treatment of visitors and guests
 - Sue Sprong is starting to read the book *A Seat at the Table: A Generation Reimagining its Place in the Church*
- Bridge the gap with our Hispanic parishioners
 - Rick has emailed a couple of Hispanic parishioners regarding interest in joining the Parish Life Committee. No response has been received to-date. He will follow-up with Carlota or visit personally at Dean John McCully's birthday party following the 5:00 pm Mass on March 13.
 - Jo Anne Dalhoff contact Carlota who advised that she has been using the terms the Spanish speaking parishioner of St. Cecilia or Hispanic Parishioners

New Business:

We agreed that we will meet during the summer months with the exception of July.

We again viewed the updated parish. Bill Haas has suggested we use the Liturgy Committee's tab as a benchmark for how Parish Life's tab can look in the future.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 6 at 7:00 pm at the Brimeyer house (2615 Southridge Circle).

The meeting closed with a prayer at 8:15 pm.