

Parish Life Committee – 6 Dec. 2017

Attendees: Lisa Barnett, Ron Barnett, Janet Brimeyer and Rick Brimeyer

Our meeting convened at 7:00 pm with an opening song (Spirit and Grace).

Old Business:

Update from Pastoral Council

Ron provided a report from the November Pastoral Council meeting.

Parish Life Organizations

No changes were noted in leadership among Parish Life organizations.

Parish Life Leadership Social

Two improvements were noted for next year's Social:

- 1) Encourage each organization to send a representative; if the leader cannot attend, encourage a designee or at least have them send notes.
- 2) Send out a map to the Oscar Romero Room prior to the meeting.

We did a rundown on Actions assigned to Parish Life from the Social:

- Follow-up with Stewardship Committee to understand future plans for Time & Talent Survey and Ministry Fair → Rick and Mary Staniger talked via phone. The Stewardship Committee is currently discussing where their focus should be and they welcomed our input. Rick stated that the Ministry Fair has been a valuable tool for the various Parish Life organizations to recruit members in the past and we strongly encourage continuing this event. The Time & Talent survey has had mixed results, especially when implemented as a batch over a weekend. In order to be successful, someone has to ensure that each organization follows up with every person expressing interest as Bill Haas did with the last survey.
- Help member organizations recruit new members → We brainstormed several ideas (listed below). At future meetings we will prioritize these and discuss tools that we can provide (e.g., bulletin announcement template) to facilitate their use.
 - Bulletin announcements (same location in bulletin)
 - Bulletin inserts
 - Mass announcements
 - Hosting Coffee & Donuts (audience for announcement)
 - Narthex table
 - *Let's Stay Connected* Email
 - Welcome packets (with a good system for follow-up)

- Website feature
- Monthly “spotlight” organization or blitz (use any combination of above)
- Ask in person
- Table tents at Coffee & Donuts
- Ministry Fair
- Parish Facebook page or other social media

Clothing Drive

- The Parish Life Committee decided to take the lead for St. Cecilia on the Clothing Drive for the Society of St. Vincent DePaul in Waterloo. This allows us to model our advice to member organizations that they include service, spiritual and social activities in their calendars. Collection will be at Masses on the weekend of Jan. 27-28 with pick-up on Jan. 29. Rick is working with St. Thomas and our parish office to coordinate and communicate the event. Members present at the meeting volunteered to help collect donations at various Masses.

Thank You Cards for Parish Life Leaders

- Members are sending Christmas cards to the leaders of the organizations for which they are the liaison. It was decided that the card could be sent to the main leader to share with all officers or co-leaders then to each. **Action: All members** please email Rick when your cards are sent.

New Business:

Leader Transition

Sue Scoles and Rick met to discuss the leadership transition. Sue will take over at our January meeting. We reviewed the status of our Initiatives for the 2017 Strategic Plan and believe we made good progress against these for the year. A point of emphasis for the next few meetings will be following up on our action from the Parish Life Leadership Social to provide tools to help member organizations recruit new members.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wed. Jan. 3. It will be held in a conference room in the Parish Office.

We ended the meeting with a closing song (O Come, O Come Emmanuel) at 7:50 pm.