

Faith Formation Board Meeting
Tuesday, October 5, 2021 – 7 pm social hall

Attending: L Heidenreich, Betty Klover, Jessica Ortiz, Kat Harris, Dave Schneider, Wendy McCann, Tammy Barry, Jane Hommel, Linea Johnson, Theresa Paul, Anna Park

Opening Prayer: Wendy McCann **Closing Prayer:** Linea Johnson

Faith Formation Report (Information) - Theresa –

We had three Sundays of classes with a variety of attendance, we have fabulous catechists, and merged a few grade levels (PS/K, 1/2, 3/4, 5 & 6)

Sacrament Preparation has begun. Three families attended the Parent Meeting where they will prepare their own children for sacraments. Theresa will also offer a Family Class where the parents work with their children in the social hall and she guides them through the material. Three families signed up for the Family Class. We have bilingual materials for our Spanish-speaking families. There is a Spanish speaking volunteer who was a DRE on the Westside who will work with those families. This semester we focus on Reconciliation, and after Christmas begin Confirmation/Eucharist.

RCIA has 4 attending.

Disciples in Dialogue (Title: *Climate Change - a Pro-Life Issue?*) begins on October 14. This is on site at Sacred Heart, but is also available through Zoom. This is not just a Catholic issue, so please share with your friends.

Theresa shared a sample of some materials that could be used at home for families. It includes the gospel, information on a saint, a recipe, family activities, etc. If we order before Advent, there is a significant discount (\$12.50/book vs \$20/book). These materials are also available in Spanish. Various board members liked that it connects well with “Keeping Your Kids Catholic” materials and hits all senses. It is a good way to reconnect with Catholic teachings. Some loved the recipes and the connecting with the saint. This is something the catechists can connect to what they are teaching in Sunday classes.

Theresa came up with an idea to encourage learning about the saints. You can submit a story and picture or a prayer and picture of the saint. Each submission earns a ticket for an ice cream treat from our local businesses. Halloween falls on a Sunday, so there is a bonus ticket if you dress as a saint.

Youth Group Report (Information) - Linea -

Things are going really well and they have had three gatherings. There are 22 youth participating with a good mix of high school and middle school.

This past week was the first small group discussion (Topic: Faith, what does it mean to you and what do you do with it?) Daniel discussed it with middle school - they stayed on topic for about 5 minutes :). High school had a really good discussion and Linea encouraged them to work on mentorship of our middle school youth. The “How do you use it?” discussion with high school was to share the faith; especially to share with middle school youth. The discussions went really well. The high school youth really stepped up and led the discussion.

This coming weekend there is a hike up Kamiak Butte on Sunday at noon. The plan is to hike the hill, eat a picnic, and come back to Pullman. This takes the place of the evening meeting.

Movie Night is Oct. 31

Keeping our kids Catholic (Discussion) - Jessica, Theresa

Jessica is subscribed to Word on Fire and found the video from Bishop Barron on *Keeping our kids Catholic*. She suggests that we encourage families and parents to be involved

in the parish in order to keep themselves and their children engaged in the faith. In her Sunday classes, Jessica sends home a weekly parent letter, hoping to engage the parents and give them discussion points as a family. Having these discussions as a family are what will help to foster and grow the faith. No matter what religion you are in, if you are actively engaged in it, the children see that modeled behavior and it helps them to see the importance. Questioning the faith is also really important. Jessica goes over the scriptures at the beginning of class so that students are able to learn. She hopes that we can get more parents talking with their children and using the catechists and Father Steve as a resource. Theresa noted that the *Keeping our kids Catholic* video supports and encourages the parents to foster this relationship as a family.

Other board members agreed that we need engage the families and give space to question the faith. Father Steve loves to answer the tough questions. Bible studies are another way to engage people.

Tammy suggested that the Faith Formation Board make themselves more available, so that families can use them as a resource (name tags? - Linea can make buttons). The board would like to engage families and get resources to the families. L suggested putting a *Growing Up Catholic* section in the bulletin where board members share memories, and ideas about engaging in the faith.

Vice President Position for FF Board - Dave -

Wendy McCann volunteered. Thank you!

Hispanic Community Engagement Update - L, Jessica, Dave -

There is a meeting planned for next week (week of Oct 10). L sent Father an email in regard to Mass being all Spanish readings and songs. Jessica would like to teach one Spanish song to the children so they can sing at Mass. Jessica will connect L with Alex Amado to help with communication with the Spanish- speaking community.

⇒**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, November 9 at 7 pm in the social hall (Please note this is the second Tuesday in order to accommodate the Mass of Remembrance)