

Faith Formation Board Meeting Minutes

October 4, 2022

Present: Wendy McCann, Dave Schneider, Tammy Barry, Linea Johnson, Cory Dixon.

Faith Formation Report. Things are going well. We had to merge grades 5 and 6 due to Catechists dropping out and sixth grade being very small. It seems to be working well with the two grades together. RCIA started up. We have three people currently after the fourth dropped out due to family issues. Cory has kept her copied on the emails for now, and she seems appreciative of being included until she finds a different parish to work with. Cory is working on preparing some adult education and learning about our process for Sacrament prep.

Youth Group Report. We've started off strong. We have met 3 times and had between 6 and 11 youth attending. They are starting out with some icebreakers, games and other community building activities. There are 6 new 7th graders participating, which is awesome. The group has mostly been middle schoolers over the past couple of years but some of those middle schoolers are now freshmen so there have been 1-5 highschoolers each week as well, which is also awesome. Board members shared some thoughts and ideas for recruiting and maintaining members; sending post cards, emails, and making phone calls to youth families who have participated in the past, taking more local field trips, have bring a friend week, laser tag. All are great ideas and wouldn't take much to implement. Linea may even loop the youth in on some of it like writing/decorating some post cards to youth we haven't seen in a while. During the pandemic years, there were some youth who either stopped coming when we went to zoom or never joined when they became youth group age. Reaching out and getting them involved would be great as most of our older highschoolers have graduated in the past two years so there's not really any older youth attending at the moment. Dave suggested involving St. Thomas More students. This is something we've done in the past and it was great for the highschoolers especially.

F.F. Assistant Update. We have an applicant! She seems like a promising applicant, so we have invited her for an interview on Thursday at 5:15 pm with Fr. Steve, Cory and Wendy.

Young Adult Group. To serve the young adults in our community. College students, grad students, young professionals, and really anyone else who considers themselves young adults. How do we identify, and engage them. They tend to be the harder group to get in with, as they don't tend to come down to donuts or other parish events. We need to gather a core group and set them up to organize some events and activities. Doesn't have to be super structured, hikes, book groups, talks/discussions, etc. Board members are asked to help identify young adults in the parish and send them Cory's way.

Ways to engage St. Thomas More – Helping out with fundraisers have been a successful thing in the past. Possibly hosting students for dinner or hosting a dinner at STM. Dave will talk to Fr. Paul about which option they might like more.

Spiritual Autobiography Group. This is something Cory has done in the past. They read spiritual autobiographies, and then had an opportunity to share or write a spiritual autobiography of their own. Cory's past groups didn't really get into the writing aspect but did have some great discussions. Three sessions for any one particular autobiography and then start a new one. Some people would come for a particular autobiography and others would keep coming back. Cory asked the board about days/times they think might be good for such a group at Sacred Heart? Could we try one in the evening and one during the day? We may need to identify a core group and figure out what the best time for them would be. Getting it off the ground is the hardest part, but once it gets going, it should be easier to get future sessions going.