

NOTES from Faith Formation Board Meeting March 5, 2024

Present: Cory, Linea, Angela, Jane, Wendy, Charlotte, Ryan, Jessica

FF Update: Annual safe environment teaching happened March 3. The content rotates over three years, with subjects presented at age-appropriate levels, so kids get the same topic more than once. RCIA—two prepping for baptism, plus one child (small brother of a candidate). One person will be confirmed/received. Scrutiny/dismissal has gone better than the first time. Advent book study has gone well, good discussions.

Youth Group: Good attendance and participation/discussion this semester. CYC happened the first Saturday in March. Two SHC (8th & 10th) youth attended and want to go next year. Steubenville will be July 12-14. Linea is planning to take youth to Spokane to serve at House of Charity + Laser tag, McCanns will help. Will youth help at Easter?

Family Friendly Stations: Went very well, 35ish people, good comments. Readings were simple and short, yet meaningful. Ending with soup was great, many people lingered to chat. Re. the final station, resurrection, have people come into a dark room and light a candle? **For next year**—Allot more time than half an hour. Use classrooms for more space instead of just the hallway. Use props to set the scene (like Ryan did with his station). Have more volunteers so someone can welcome the group, and volunteers aren't covering more than one station. This should be easier now that people are familiar with it. Use a different song between stations or vary the songs. Use a cross kids can carry on their backs (take turns). Save a document of ideas for next year!

Involving Young Adults: Theology on Tap hasn't gone well. Different topics? How to present topics? Is Paradise Creek cost-prohibitive? Wendy suggested we must be on social media to reach this age group, but staff does not have the ability. An intern could set it up, which would help them compile a portfolio. Ellie Thomas may change her major to marketing, Linea will talk to her. Try a YA event after Mass Sunday, maybe just social?

Follow up re. Bullying: Jessica talked with Dave and Kat. A WSU basketball player lives with Dave who could share with the kids, but he is international, maybe upper class. Have more than one person share? An event might need to happen next year, but it would be good to address racism and bullying and equip our kids. Jessica said online programs & forums from Georgetown university have good discussions on the topic.

Follow up re. Take-Home bags: It's difficult to get people to come to extra/evening meetings, so make grab and go bags with reading, reflection questions, etc. people can use for growing in their faith. Dave suggested meeting to talk about topics and plan bags. Linea suggested QR links to videos from Fr. Mike Schmidt or Busted Halos, and Fr. Steve's "Homilies on the Palouse". Those interested can meet after Easter.

Other: Jessica suggested it's good to present the positive—stories of saints and lives of Catholics like priests who have stayed in Ukraine to help—as well as addressing the negative. On Sunday she noticed one of our kids absorbed in a graphic novel. Angela recently bought 2 copies of The Graphic Bible and 3 graphic novel saint stories, both bibles were borrowed immediately. Inspiring stories and examples are great for our kids!

Next meeting: April 2. Snacks: Ryan, Opening prayer: Dave, Closing prayer: Jessica