

NOTES from Faith Formation Board Meeting, September 3, 2024

Present: Cory Dixon, Linea Jonson, Ryan Booth, Kat Harris, Felix Munoz-Garcia, Muriel Parra, Angela Nelson, Jessica Cassleman, Liane Moreau, and Emma Ambrosini (youth representative).

Faith Formation Update: The catechist retreat went well, with theme “Pilgrims of Hope” from Pope Francis. Half the Catechists attended. Safe environment training will happen separately.

Youth Update: We had four youth at Steubenville. Kids were enthusiastic on the drive home and talked about starting Catholic Clubs. Sacred Heart had six kids at Middle School camp (grades 6-8), plus a junior counselor. There was a parent meeting on August 25, *with plans to host dinners for the group occasionally. The McCann’s will host first.* Youth group will be split into middle school (6:00-7:00 pm) and high school (6:30-7:30), with an overlap in between. October 6 there will be a collaborative meeting with Concordia Lutheran. Linea is considering more combined meetings with other youth groups. Also, there will be youth masses like last year.

Meetings and Snacks, and VP: We’ll meet over Zoom during December, January, and February. Otherwise, we’ll meet in the Holy Family room on the first Tuesday of the month from **6:30-8pm (new time!)**. Kat (chair) will be in Switzerland for 3 months this semester, and Ryan agreed to be vice chair.

Parish Picnic: This Sunday after mass at 12:30 there’s a F.E.A.S.T. event, (families eating and sharing together), a picnic at Klemgard park. We can’t reserve the structure because of the Fair. The Knights will BBQ. Muriel will go after the 8:30 mass to hold the structure. The Knights will come early as well. FEAST events originally came out of the Faith Formation board. Emma suggested for next year that we do an outdoor mass, which others liked.

Adult Faith Formation: According to Mary Sutherland, women have asked about a Bible study for those who work during daytime. Would anyone want to lead this? Jessica shared there will be a women’s retreat at St. Gertrude’s in Cottonwood October 25-27 with Fr. Steve. If more want to attend than fit in the house, there may be rooms at the Spirit center. This came out of morning coffee group. Linea will meet with them re. budget. Emma suggested concurrent events for parents and kids. Kat suggested activities like pumpkin carving that involve everyone, or meeting monthly at a restaurant to socialize. This could incorporate new families. Emma asked if there were support groups. It’s difficult to anticipate what people need/want, and find times. In 2016 Sacred Heart did a **Needs assessment**, which was used to link people together, and several successful groups began. We need activities that aren’t staff-led. Have a new assessment both by paper and email. Include those who don’t attend mass. Assess both needs and gifts/skills people can share.

Other: Muriel asked why there isn’t a social media group for Catholics in Pullman. Do we need a moderator? New people in town don’t know how to find other Catholics. Felix mentioned the emails (bulletin) are too difficult to read. They could be split into different topics, or use headings with links for more information. Others including Emma mentioned the app for the church (the website?) is confusing, and it’s hard to find things. Do we communicate information to younger people? Facebook is mostly older people, nevertheless 100+ people watch Mass through FB. Jessica said this doesn’t work on her computer. Emma suggested YouTube for younger people, and Kat mentioned Snapchat. Linea said current staff is not able to set this up or maintain it. We have a volunteer to help with online content, but she’s a student who also works. Better communication online and with younger people is a need.

Kat gave a summary and action points, and suggested we bring feedback and “fixes” to the next meeting, which will be **October 1 at 6:30. Felix can bring snacks.**