

Liturgy & Faith Formation Committee Minutes

February 19, 2025 6:00 PM

Members Present: Underlined

<u>Greg Hansen</u> , Server Coordinator 25-27	Bob & Alice Mayers , EMHC Coordinator, 25-27
<u>Tess Koltes</u> , Chairperson	Julie Ortloff , Business Manager
Scott Wallner , Lector Coordinator 25-27	Dan Ortloff , Sacristan Coordinator, 25-27
Brian Eisenschenk , Usher Coordinator, 25-27	Other Members: <u>Patty Dumonceaux</u> , <u>Wendy Theisen</u> , <u>Katelyn Jochman (Confirmation)</u> , and <u>Amy Lehmeier</u>
FF Coordinator: Tess Koltes	
Other members:	

Old Business:

- Breaking Bread: Caroline Linz heading it up with Dottie and Gene Eisenschenk. There will be 2 more events in the 2024-25 school year. **February 23 (SKIP):** Serving Cookies and Coffee after mass; March 16: Hot dogs, chips, cookies; April 27: Tacos in a bag, also First Communion Day (3 families) Goal: To do about 4-5 each year—already had 2
- Servers in Training: Frankie McNair, Tucker and Beckett Burg were trained. **Tucker has served a couple of times. Beckett dropped out. Frankie has not served yet. ACTION:** Tess-check if Frankie is still interested. Have Tucker go around to classrooms asking for help in serving.)
- Advent: NEW IDEA: Have an adult in the parish who is not a lector read the description of Advent and have a 9th or 10th grader light the candle. **Grade 9-10 students stepped up. Had 4 sets of parent/students. Thanks to Greg and Dan for getting volunteers.**
- Christmas Eve, 5:00pm at the Abbey Church: Went well, had great helpers from St. John's and St. Joe.
- Reconciliation: First Reconciliation on December 14, 1:00PM: **Suggestions (new details) for next year's program were typed up by Tess and added to the file. Many compliments from priests and parishioners on the program.**
- Sesquicentennial Events: Faith Formation will have a Saint project for classes to work on. Each week a write up by a FF student will be placed in the bulletin in a corner called, "Sesquicentennial Saints." Tess will create a format for information about the saint for the child to share. Then in October, we will do a walk to the cemetery with a scavenger hunt about the saints. When we get to the cemetery, we will discuss the saints and the items they found which represent the saint.

Tess will develop a sheet for students to fill in. She will write up and submit the saint information for bulletin publication. Saint Scavenger will be October 12, 2025. **(ALL ACCOMPLISHED BY TESS—WAITING FOR ALL STUDENTS TO HAND IN MORE INFORMATION)** Any thoughts or comments? All positive comments thus far.

- Adult Sessions: Possibility of getting Barbara Sutton to discuss Soul Collages—diving into diversity and how to appreciate every else’s gifts, opinions, and thoughts. It makes us stretch beyond the normal “lecture, ask questions” format. It would be a five session presentation. Thoughts....
Discussion of Adult Enrichment possibilities...
Barbara Sutton: Have her present in January with the session called, “Hello, my name is..” to get a picture of what her series would be about. Possibility of having evening sessions with her or Saturday/Sunday afternoon sessions. **Barbara presented in January and led the Advisory Council Retreat.**
ACTION: Check with Barbara about SoulCollages opportunities.
- Thank yous were sent by Tess to the St. Joe Jaycees and the St. Cloud Morning Optimist Club. Both gave \$500 for the Kids Fighting Hunger project. The craft sale brought in \$356.**

New Business:

- Outdoor Mass:** Was one of the top rated positive aspects of the parish. DO we need to come up with a core set-up and take-down crew. It is the same people—how do we encourage others to help?
ACTION: Ask one more couple to help out with set-up. Ask for helpers at the end of mass to bring things back to the Parish Center.
- Suggestion was made by a visitor who was staying at the House of Prayer; She was the environment person at Joan of Arc Parish in the Cities. She came to look at our worship spaces. She loved the big hall as the furniture is moveable. She said there are so many more options for set up to worship. She also saw Mary Chapel and thought it was amazing. Her comment—**Stations of the Cross** are too large for the space. Suggestion of using numbers, similar to those in the Abbey Church on the walls for the Stations. Thoughts....
Suggestion: What has happened to the Roman numerals from Assumption Chapel? Maybe we could take those and place them in Mary Chapel. It would be a good way to bring part of our old worship space to our present worship space as part of our Sesquicentennial events. **UPDATE: Fr. Brad brought the copper framed Stations from the Assumption Chapel. (THANK YOU!) They are in the Office and will be hung for Lent.**
ACTION: Hang the Stations in Large Hall for Lenten Stations—move to Mary Chapel after this year. Stations will be in Large Hall with a variety of Station books and author’s being used. Suggestion to have a cross bearer and candle holder.
- Speakers for 2025:** All are set.
Feb. 9: Kathy Janku on the St. John’s Bible
ACTION: Have a field trip to the St. John’s Bible in the Fall ‘25

Feb. 23: Br. Wally Kieffer and Tom & Shelly Carlson will talk about maple syrup harvesting. Ice cream sundaes with syrup and sunflower seeds will be served.
March 16: Sesquicentennial Trivia; questions made by Peggy and Bruce Bechtold master of ceremonies. **Need a prize(s). Suggestions??**

ACTION TAKEN: Knights of Columbus Breakfast tickets (Tess pick up on March 2.) Fish Fry Tickets, Theater Candy, gum, pencils

March 23: Kids Fighting Hunger Field trip—**NO Adult Enrichment—Julie will cover locking the Parish Center**

ACTION: Field Trip forms in and enough drivers???

March 30: Fr. Michael Peterson and his recorders

April 13: ~~Margaret or Chris Conway: Topic TBD~~

Instead— STATE OF THE PARISH

April 27: Peggy Roske: Parish History, Part 2

4. **Kids Fighting Hunger:** All students in grades 3-10 will be invited to attend this event. We can only send 50 people. I will be sending home field trip forms on February 9 to students to get a head count. Once I have the drivers and children counted, I will open the event to the people who attend adult enrichment.
ACTION: ONLY FF PROGRAM attending
5. **Stations of the Cross:** Will happen all the Wednesdays of Lent. We ordered additional booklets of some and a new Station booklet. There will be a different form of Stations on every Wednesday at 5:00 in the Large Hall during Lent.
ACTION: Need candle and cross holder
6. **After Easter: Stations of the Resurrection**—every Wednesday night at 5:00pm in the Large Hall. We will try it this year and evaluate if there is interest.
ACTION: Tess leads unless she needs a sub.
7. **Tentative Faith Formation Calendar** has been established for 25-26 school year. As requested by the surveys, we will be having four sessions of Bible Study in the Fall and four sessions in the Spring. Dr. Vincent Smiles will be teaching about the Old Testament in Fall and New Testament in Spring. Other speakers will be contacted. **Suggestions for speakers?**
ACTION: ADD in STATE of the Parish in January, someone from Daniel Funeral Home on Funeral Preparation and regulations/Pre-paying
8. **Living the Promise Grant:** Can spend up to \$ 600 on the FF Program and \$450 for Adult Enrichment. **Thinking of:** FF Program—adding story books to preschool bins and updating good Bible story books for classrooms or the library upstairs and spotlight NEW books in parent letters. Adult Enrichment: Buying Adult bibles for Bible study purposes in the 25-26 school year.
ACTION: Look at St. Mary's Press and Liturgical Press Bibles—make a decision
9. **Scott, Bob & Alice, Dan, Brian, Greg: Will you please extend your terms as being in charge of the ministries listed on the chart?**
ACTION: Most said yes—so just changed the dates

10. **Teachers for Next Year:** I will be texting teachers/helpers at the end of March about next school year.

ACTION: Tess will send an email to all the beginning of April to know who is returning.

11. Tess made a **new web address for Faith Formation** for Next Year. I will transfer all files there over the next months/year. It is listed in the bulletin to eliminate the use of a personal email address.

ACTION: May project for Tess to complete.

12. Any other ideas, suggestions.....

ACTION: Paint FF Office—ask

ACTION: FF Budget due April 1

ACTION: Get more people to attend the FF/Lit Committee Meetings—online??

13. Holy Week:

Choir: Mary, Genny, Tess, Karen, Mitzie, Check with Fremos, Anthony, and Paul Friebe (Ph. # 761-2488)

Foot Washers: Katelyn, gr. 10; Patty and Damien; three First Communion Kids; Dan Backes; FIVE FF Teachers

Thoughts for 25-26:

Christmas Caroling to the parishioners in Nursing Homes or homebound

Living Stations of the Cross by grades 7-8-9-10

Finding active lessons for grades K-1, Reconciliation 2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

How to connect more with St. Joe Youth Group???