

Minutes from 10 June 2009

Community Life Group Meeting

Members present:

Jean Choplinsky, Rhonda Crowe, Philip Fave, Grace Jones, Barbara Tennyson, Bill Ungvarsky

The meeting was called to order and prayers were offered for the sick and recently deceased of the parish, as well as for the success of each of the activities within this program.

New representatives Philip Fave and Barbara Tennyson were welcomed and made a self-introduction.

OLD BUSINESS:

Key persons were thanked for their continued efforts to spread the word of activities within the parish. A report of the various activities followed, comments and point of contact as noted.

- **Grief, Care & Concern – Grace Jones:** Grace noted that she and Geri Tarkington are now sharing the responsibilities for this ministry. She noted the continued success of their program, but also cited a need for more help when receptions following funerals are held in Crawford Hall. She also noted intentions for starting another Grief Seminar in the fall.
- **Brownies – Tina Fries:** Tina could not attend but her email comments were read into the minutes.
 1. The 16 girls who make up Brownie GS Troop 851 once again appreciated the opportunity to sell GS cookies after masses at SOS this year. It's a great experience for the girls and we appreciated the visibility and friendliness of everyone.
 2. The Scouts also were extremely grateful for the opportunity to hold our meetings in the back section of Crawford Hall this year (i.e., the school cafeteria section)... We also appreciated the extra space (esp. when the girls were earning their dancercise patch -- we had a dance instructor come in and teach the girls hip hop!).
 3. The majority of the girls in our troop will be in 3rd grade next year and we'll be on the look out for meaningful service projects for them. Might they collect toiletry items from SOS students/parents to donate to the outreach ministry, for example? Any ideas for consideration are appreciated.
 4. The scouts are looking forward to hosting the coffee/donut/cookie hospitality after Mass in the coming school year. Thank You!
- **Cub Scouts – Carl Parker:** No representative was present; the Scouts are enjoying their summer off from meetings.

- **Events Committee – Vince Bogan/Bill Ungvarsky:** Bill reported on recent activities including the “WINTERFEST”, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner, Children’s Easter Egg Hunt, and the Ice Cream Social to mark the end of the WCC program for the children. He also spoke of the upcoming Parish Picnic and fall activities of the “Hot Dogs and Hayride” and “Caroling by the Sea.” He also spoke of a new event planned for August 21st, a variety show “Star of the Sea’s Got Talent.” The evening will be in the form of an “open mic” and try to draw talent from all fields – from reading poetry, to singing, to dancing, comedy, and feats of athleticism and more. The event will be open to individuals 14 and up.
- **Friends of St Francis Men’s Club – John Cornett:** No representative present; the continued work of this group for making general repairs and performing upkeep around the parish grounds was commended.
- **Girl Scouts – Vacant:** It was noted with so many girls in the Brownie Troop that perhaps there will soon be a resumption of this ministry.
- **Legion of Mary – Philip Fave & Jeanine Ritz:** Philip commented on the status of their group, noting the concerns expressed by the regional council as to the shortage of membership within the SOS program and the potential for having the group disbanded. He noted Father Steve’s desires that whether the program is recognized by the national council or not there is merit in the program and the work the group is performing; e.g., home visits, prayers and welcoming new parishioners. All were asked to try to get the word out to try to have more people join this ministry.
- **Military Family Connection – Mike Crowe and Dale McPhail:** Rhonda Crowe reported on behalf of Mike who was at another meeting that the program is trying to gain momentum and a survey of veterans was recently conducted. At present there is still some concern as to what the ministry will do for the parishioners; specifically, active duty and perhaps retired members. Rhonda noted there were approximately 35 people at a reception to thank and recognize military personnel from within the parish over Memorial Day weekend (i.e., following the Sunday Noon Mass).
- **Ministry to the Sick and Homebound – Pat McGlinchy:** There was no representative present but all agreed the work of this group continues to be very much appreciated.
- **Mothers’ Faith Sharing Group – Ann Mooney:** No representative and no information to pass.
- **Parish Advocate/Disabilities – Carol Melatti:** No representative. Jean Choplinsky noted Carol has attended various meetings within the diocese and continues to try to be an advocate for the disabled.
- **Parking Lot Teams – Grace Jones:** Grace noted the summer season is upon the parish and the need for volunteers remains high for working the parking lot for special holiday weekends; the next need would be for the 4th of July; other weekends include Labor Day and the Neptune Festival. Money from this ministry is used to pay for the parish debt reduction. All were asked to make sure all know it’s a great activity and lots of fun.

- **Senior Adults (“Shining Stars”) – Barbara Tennyson:** Barbara noted she has recently taken over the ministry from Toni Eizember and she and her husband Al are just starting with their duties and responsibilities. The group remains active and has various activities planned including monthly birthday luncheons and day trips including a possible trip to a baseball game.
- **Welcoming Committee – Rhonda Crowe:** Rhonda noted her group is doing well, but they are in need of volunteers to help work the desk; and in particular, the Noon Mass. She provided everyone one of the new gifts presented to visitors: a small card with the stained glass window image on one side and the ☐Prayer for Peace☐ on the other side.
- **Women’s Club – Jan Carlson:** Barbara Tennyson noted that as a member of the group the group is preparing to be a part of the School’s winter craft show, and they were participants in the recent Parish Craft Show. The group continues to make prayer shawls and bears.
- **Young Adults – Vacant:** Jean noted she has recently received information from a couple of young women in the parish that might be willing to take a role in re-activating this ministry; she will see what happens and report on her progress at the next meeting.
- **Youth Group – Carolanne Immello:** No representative, however Jean noted the youth have an active summer planned including day trips to theme parks, camping trip, baseball games and the Diocesan Youth Conference.

It was recommended that contact be made with JoAnn Clarkson to be present at future meetings to address the Parish’s Hospitality Ministry.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bill briefed the group on his recent appearance before the Parish Council on June 3rd, 2009. He noted the parish Council has given the ‘go ahead’ for conducting a “Crises in Our Lives Seminar” that will be an informational forum with subject matter experts from within the parish and local area providing advice for how to prepare for a potential catastrophe within a household. There will be three major theme covered: unexpected loss of a loved one, a major illness diagnosis, and the loss of one’s job and or reduction in salary/wages. The event is being planned for August 23rd at 2:00pm and last about two and a half hours, and include light refreshments. Rhonda noted, it’s like a hurricane emergency preparedness drill or evaluation.

A “Ministry Fair” is being planned within the parish to occur during the weekend of October 3/4 following each Mass. All ministries are to have representation present to discuss their respective ministry as each ministry will be given a booth/table to man. To help entice parishioners into the hall there will be light refreshments offered.

The next meeting was set for Sunday, November 8th at 2:00pm in Crawford Hall.