

Minutes of the January 4, 2006 Stewardship Commission Meeting

Attendees: Bert Sellier, Sheila Leonard, Ursula Lyons, Bill Starr, Father Bova Conti, Deacon John Nicholson, Jim McCarthy

Ministry Directory: We need to complete the task of contacting our assigned liaison ministries. As a reminder, the requested information is:

- Ministry Directory updates, edits?
 - Would the ministry like to be spotlighted at a Hospitality Sunday gathering?
 - Would the ministry like anything added to their website content?
 - Would the ministry like the liaison to attend any of their meetings? Any suggestions for improving communications?
- ❖ Forward updates to Deacon John by Jan 14.
 - ❖ Deacon John to update hardcopy pdf Ministry Directory file by Feb 1.

Spotlight Sundays: Because we are not having a Ministry Open House in 2006, we had decided to allow ministries the opportunity to be featured at Hospitality Sundays. We need to finalize the list of ministries who would like to be featured.

- ❖ Sheila Leonard to re-send her featured ministry requests to Deacon John.
- ❖ All commission members should confirm their featured ministry requests to Deacon John.

We discussed whether it was feasible to also provide this opportunity after the 5:00pm Saturday Masses. It was suggested that maybe it could be combined with the monthly soup meal after the 5:00pm Mass.

Ursula Lyons also suggested a possible Welcoming Weekend for new parishioners, hospitality after Masses, at which individual ministries could be featured.

- ❖ Ursula to propose one or two possible weekends when this might be feasible.

Additional Communication/Community-Building:

- **Ministry-leader Meeting in 2006?:** In 2004 and 2005 the Stewardship Commission hosted ministry-leader meetings to share our Stewardship vision, plus to prepare for the Ministry Fair. Since we are not having a 2006 Ministry Fair, the question arose as to whether we should host a ministry-leader meeting in 2006. We agree that, if a meeting is scheduled, it must be well-planned, must be productive, and there must be follow-up/closure on items raised.

There was much discussion as to what the overall purpose of the meeting would be, what the Stewardship Commission should focus on, and how we could possibly gather quantifiable, measurable feedback as to whether we are seeing an improvement in communication/community-building. Given the limited resources of the Stewardship Commission, how/where would our efforts have the most impact?

- ❖ Bill Starr and Jim McCarthy to e-mail Deacon John with their proposed overall purpose and agenda for a 2006 ministry-leader meeting.

- ❖ Deacon John to raise this topic for discussion at the Jan 9 PPC meeting.
- **Appreciation Dinner in 2006?** Feedback from the 50th Anniversary Dinner Dance was favorable. Should the parish host an Appreciation Dinner/Dance in 2006 for all ministry participants? Would the parish-wide St. Patrick's dinner/dance, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus serve a similar purpose? Should we focus more on community-building or showing appreciation, or both?

Treasure – Gifts/Bequests: While the Stewardship Commission has been focusing on Time and Talent, we also need to start to focus on Treasure. Fr. Bova Conti clarified that gifts/bequests are not being used to pay for day-to-day operational expenses of the parish. How can the Stewardship Commission help introduce/reinforce the importance of the Treasure component of Stewardship? More discussion and action needed.

Next Stewardship Commission Meeting: Wednesday, Feb 1, 2006 at 7:30pm. We are now targeting the first Wednesday of each month.