

Minutes of the March 12, 2009 Stewardship Commission Meeting

Attendees: Deacon John Nicholson, Fr. Michael Bova Conti, Elisa Riedl, Donna Biggins, Ted Vander Els, Jim McCarthy

Review of February Meeting Minutes:

Stewardship Calendar: We continue to schedule individual ministries to be featured at monthly Hospitality Sundays and Souper Saturdays:

Nov 1, 2	Honduras Mission Trip, Flower Committee	Complete
Dec 6, 7	Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Music Ministry	Complete
Jan 3, 4	Too busy after holidays – do not schedule	n/a
Jan 31, Feb 1	Pastoral Visitors, Children’s Liturgy of the Word	Done, follow-up needed
Feb 28, Mar 1	Stewardship Commission, Parish Nursing, Knights of Columbus	Done, follow-up needed
Mar 28, 29	Religious Ed/Catechists, and 1 or 2 others (PPC is considering this weekend)	
May 2, 3		

Results from Feb 28/Mar 1 ministry features:

- Stewardship Commission: no new sign-ups
- Parish Nursing: need follow-up, any sign-ups?
- Knights of Columbus: need follow-up, any sign-ups?

❖ Deacon John will confirm Religious Ed and PPC participation for Mar 28/29 weekend.

RCIA: Deacon John had contacted Fr. Brian Mahoney to discuss training available from the Archdiocesan Office of Worship and Spiritual Life. 6-week RCIA workshop starts Apr 15 at St. Paul’s in Wellesley. Current plan is for Deacon John, Ted Vander Els, and Jim McKelvey to take this RCIA training, and launch an RCIA program in autumn 2009.

St. Vincent de Paul Ministry: Deacon John contacted Deacon John Pepi (St. Bridget, Maynard) who has an active ministry running there. Deacon Pepi felt the best way for us to get started was to attend a monthly Council meeting in the area, to observe how the ministry functions. Current plan is for Deacon John, Ted Vander Els, and possibly Claire Nicholson to attend the Thurs, Mar 26, meeting at St. Bridget’s.

Breaking Bread: Parishioner interest and sign-ups continue to be very encouraging; we are now up to 102 participants. Feedback from the first round of meals, Mar 7/8 weekend, has been very positive. We agreed to reschedule the May 2/3 second round of meals to May 16/17 to avoid a conflict with a fundraiser for the Carvelli Family on May 2. Donna Biggins has drafted an email to all participants advising them of the date change, encouraging them to invite new members,

soliciting some testimonial quotes, and encouraging individuals who would like to combine with another individual to join the Breaking Bread family experience. We had a brief discussion about whether we expected to see something tangible from these dinners. We will continue this discussion in the context of building community within our parish family.

With the successful launch of Breaking Bread, Donna Biggins will likely need additional support in managing and coordinating it. The question was raised “Should Breaking Bread be considered a new ministry?” The Commission will continue to discuss how Breaking Bread might evolve in support of our Stewardship objectives.

Stewardship Commission Objectives/Priorities:

Consensus was Charles Zech book, *Best Practices in Catholic Stewardship*, may be a good base document to assess where our parish currently stands in terms of stewardship implementation, and where our focus and efforts may be best applied. We continue to assess how OLF stacks up versus Zech’s eight best practices:

- ❖ Jim McCarthy has created and will maintain a separate document which includes all our discussions and actions regarding Zech’s eight best practices. So this one document should help us focus on how we are tracking in terms of implementing Zech’s best practices.

Collaborative Update: We had a brief discussion regarding the recent 4-night Lenten mission/retreat at Wayland/Weston/Sudbury parishes. Feedback was positive. It was agreed that parishes should be vibrant in a number of areas before they start pastoral planning and collaboration. It is important that parishioners understand that collaboration among parishes is of critical importance.

Next Monthly Stewardship Commission Meeting: Thursday, April 2, 2009 at 7:30pm