

Minutes of the May 6, 2010 Stewardship Commission Meeting

Attendees: Deacon John Nicholson, Fr. Michael Bova Conti, Ted Vander Els, Jenn Sneath, Jim McCarthy

Stewardship Commission Chairperson: Deacon John, who has been serving as chairperson since the commission's inception, would like to implement a one-year rotating chairperson, starting in September 2010. This would allow another member of the Commission an opportunity to bring a fresh perspective in setting the agenda, working in concert with members and Fr. Michael.

Strategic Planning: It is acknowledged that we as a parish family need to implement a pastoral planning process, requiring collaboration among parish councils, commissions, and ministries. Holy Family Parish in Concord introduced a "2018 Initiative" as a pastoral planning process. We could consider a similar collaborative process. Our June meeting will be on Monday, June 7, at 7:30pm., and will be a combined PPC and Stewardship meeting, to discuss pastoral planning and collaboration.

Proposed Newsletter: The bulk of the May 6 meeting was spent discussing a proposed newsletter. The following assumptions are under discussion:

Newsletter Objectives:

- To reinforce our parish emphasis on sharing our time, talent, and treasure
- To provide a way for councils and ministries to communicate to the broader parish family
- To use the newsletter to accomplish several of Charles Zech's "Best Practices" for Stewardship

Newsletter Scope:

- It would be a parish-wide communication vehicle, not specifically a Social Outreach newsletter.
- Stewardship Commission would be the sponsor of this parish-wide communication
- Published quarterly
- Available via email as well as mailed to homes

Newsletter Content:

- Each quarterly issue would include at least two lay witness accounts, accompanied by a small photo
- Person writing an article, or writing a lay witness account, would be given a word total quota, e.g. not-to-exceed 250 words.
- 4-pages per issue, double-sided, optimize for mailing
- Include small photos where appropriate
- Cost-effective, printed copy is black & white, email copy is color
- Newsletter is not a repeat of the weekly parish bulletin

Next Steps/Action Items:

- ❖ Deacon John to email a draft newsletter to Sherry Hutchins and ask her whether a Microsoft Publisher format can be accommodated in ConstantContact. (done)
- ❖ Ted Vander Els and John Riordan to provide a draft article on the new St. Vincent de Paul Conference ministry (done)
- ❖ Jim McCarthy to revise the newsletter template to reflect a parish-wide scope rather than a Social Outreach scope.

- ❖ Stewardship Commission members are asked to submit recommendations as to possible articles and lay witness accounts for the first two issues. (The St. Vincent de Paul article already submitted would be a good candidate)

Next Monthly Stewardship Commission Meeting: Monday, June 7, 2010 at 7:30pm. (This will be the last Stewardship meeting until September). The June 7 meeting is a combined PPC and Stewardship meeting, as the PPC had requested this joint meeting with the Stewardship Commission to share ideas on pastoral planning.