

Evangelization Committee Minutes

Location: St Mary of the Hills

Date: Nov. 18, 2015 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Attendance: Deb Valot, Clem Valot, Mark Joyce, Karen Schenk,
Jay Fedewa, Beth Belesky, George Phillips, Susie Phillips

1. Opening Prayer (George Phillips)

2. New Business:

a. Parish Council Request: SWOT Self-study Questions (George Phillips and All)

- i. The group discussed and answered the SWOT Self Study Questions for Commissions/Committees/Ministries. The combined answers are attached to these minutes.

3. Project Updates: (All)

#	Title	Leaders	Status
1	ChristLife	Clem, George, Jay	Need to get answer from Father Stan: Is it okay to give Sharing Christ graduates a certificate and blessing at mass on December 13? George can make certificate, and will check for example on ChristLife website. Deb will talk to Father Stan about giving the certificate and blessing at 11:00 mass and Susie/George will let Sharing Christ participants know the time.
2	Prayer Intercessors	Susie, Karen Schenk	Susie will advertise Friday rosary to parish (bulletin, Narthex, website) and Karen will keep in touch with Ladies Bible Study. Karen has also talked to Janet Sheerin. Janet will keep evangelization on the prayer list for that Bible study group.
3	Marketing/ Advertising/ New Ideas – Item 1	Karen Schenk and Deb Valot	Christmas bookmark: Karen and Deb discussed two possible printers. The group gave feedback on the draft of the bookmark that Deb sent out. We will also send feedback by email to Karen and Deb so they can finalize in order in time for Christmas.
4	Marketing/ Advertising/ New Ideas – Item 2	Karen Schenk and Deb Valot	Periodic blessings: Suggested plan is "blessing of the brains," in late August for the new school year. Beth will keep in contact with the Worship Commission. There are other special blessings we could offer, such as a blessing for volunteers. Karen will look into a good time for this blessing, possibly pairing it to a patron saint for volunteers.
5	Contacting New Parishioners	Karen Schenk, Deb Valot, Mark Joyce, Beth Belesky	Calls are partially complete for those who joined the parish from June to September. Beth and Karen captured feedback, which is being sent to Laura Corrian. Beth will call the people who registered in October.

6	Library	George	Word on Fire's "Mystery of God" was ordered. Jay Fedewa would like to make this available for weekly viewing and discussion with Bravehearts. Word-on-Fire is aware of a problem with the DVDs in Samsung DVD players, and they will send a 2 nd set of DVDs. Mark suggested another new purchase for the library: Steve Ray's "Crossing the Tiber."
7	St. Paul Street Evangelization	Mark, Clem, Deb	Mark, Clem and Deb have corresponded with Randy Husaynu, who is an instructor. They will attend St. James workshop in Novi on December 12. We could bring evangelization training to St. Mary's. There are a number of options for training in how to evangelize. Different lengths (2 hours – 12 hours are available). Suggestion is to do Team Training in April. One other possibility is a 90 minute presentation "10 Traits of an Amazing Evangelist," which could be advertised in December/January and held in February. Other parishes could be invited. For outdoor evangelization in the spring, Randy also suggested "Team Kickoff Training," with the team going to the street corner on the same day. This is the model used last year for the Woodward Dream Cruise. Mark will start looking at the calendar and propose some dates.
8	Vocations Committee	George, Jay	The committee is formulating a plan for a program or event or speaker. Jay will contact Father Mathius who teaches at Sacred Heart. George will contact Chris Kozlowski about SMYG, and can ask Tom Merlo if he is available to speak to SMYG and the parish.
9	Electronic Sign proposal	Susie	Susie sent a spec sheet and requested estimates from six companies. Four companies sent responses in varying level of detail. In summary, a 4 x 8 double-sided LED full color sign on our existing monument would be about \$27,000. This information was given to Christ Kozlowski and the Finance Committee. Less money could be spent if we choose a smaller or a one-color sign (like red letters on black background), but this is not state of the art.
10	Night Fever for Rochester Hills Fireworks	Beth, Mark	The proposal is to have a "Night Fever" event on the night of the Rochester Hills fireworks. The church could be open for prayer, music, and confession. There are a lot of details to consider and planning would be required. Beth created a one-page summary of points to be aware of and discuss. Beth will bring it up to Chris Kozlowski, with possible presentation to Parish Council in December.
11	Spring speaker	Jay	Jay will contact Richard Lane and see his schedule and fees for March/April. Susie will contact Nick Jorgensen about availability of someone local and/or partnering with the vicariate's "Spring Assembly."

1 2	Religious Freedom bulletin articles	Susie	The suggestion is a series of bulletin articles highlighting Catholics' duties as citizens. A great deal of good material for inspiring and educational short articles is available from Popes, USCCB, church leaders, and books. Proposal is to start weekly articles after January 1, 2016, using a consistent header such as “Catholic Decision 2016” to keep attention on importance of Catholics living their faith in their civic life. Mark will look for some short-term Religious Freedom topics as well. “Faithful Citizenship” in USCCB is a good source.
1 3	Matthew Kelly at St. Andrew's October 2016	Mark, Beth, George	St. Andrew's contact is Tina Howell. Tickets are available. Susie will look for Tina Howell emails to see what status is at St. Andrew’s and ask if the program can be advertised to our parish. Need to put into the SMOTH bulletin.

4. **Announcement: (Susie)**

- a. Called and Gifted Workshops (at St. Irenaeus) is canceled due to low registration.

5. **Roundtable (All)**

- a. There was discussion about bulletin content.
 - i. Articles should be **signed** and **should pertain to parish or Catholic issues**. Bulletin space is limited and secular events should not be advertised in the bulletin.
- b. Discussion of changing Saturday mass time to 4:00.
 - i. There were questions about “why” this was being considered, and concern that this is a big and unnecessary change since many neighboring parishes have earlier Saturday masses. Eleven parishes within 10 miles have a 4:00 or 4:30 p.m. Saturday mass.
 - ii. Possible downsides: Shortening the day for other Saturday programs, reduced participation in Reconciliation, confusion (since the 5:00 mass has been in place for over 25 years), and reduced mass participation if this is not what the majority prefers.
 - iii. The suggestion is to gather data to understand the amount of support and lack of support for this change.

6. **Closing Prayer (Mark Joyce)**

FUTURE MEETINGS:

SMOTH Evangelization Committee Meetings:

St. Mary of the Hills – 7 – 9 p.m.

December 9 (EOF)
January 13 (WOF)
February 17 (WOF)
March 16 (WOF)
April 13 (WOF)
May 18 (WOF)
June 8 (WOF)

SMOTH Parish Council Meetings:

November 21
December 19
January 16, 2016
February 13
March 19
April 16
May 21
June 8

PAV Evangelization Committee Meetings:

St. Mary of the Hills – St. Andrew's classroom 7 – 9 p.m.

November 23 (tentative reschedule to November 30)
January 25, 2016
February 22
March 28
April 25
May 23