

Education MPA

Meeting Minutes for July 22, 2009

Committee Members: Karen Banta, Kay Dougherty, Sally German, John Hoskins, Hugh Mohler, Jennifer Myers, Rosemary Peddicord, Laura Perry

Non-Committee Attendees: Jack Buchner, Terry Modica, Ray Moreau

Jack Buchner opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:40.

Hugh Mohler introduced Jack Buchner and gave him the floor.

Jack commended our group for our work thus far. He then spoke about several upcoming educational events:

- September 12, 2009 – Ministry Day of Recollection
This program is for all parish ministers. The theme is “How and Why to Keep Our Focus on Jesus.” The format of the day will include prayer, short input sessions by Jack, group sharing, fellowship, refreshments and resources for ministry.

Jack reminded us that any ministry in the church leads to a greater sense of evangelization and then spoke about:

- October 24, 2009 – Cathedral Evangelization Institute
This meeting is for all volunteer ministers to attend. The theme is “Attitudes that Facilitate Evangelization”. There will be various workshops and speakers. Jack will be the keynote speaker.
- Finally, Jack spoke about another adult educational opportunity to take place in late September and early October on Thursdays (both morning and evening). The topic will be the Psalms. Jack reminded us that we cannot celebrate the mass without the Psalms; so these sessions will look at what the Psalms are, where they’ve come from and how they can be meaningful to our daily lives.

Jack ended by mentioning that he will continue these same sessions in late October and early November with another theme, which will be the Eucharist of the Mass.

Hugh thanked Jack and asked who the target audience of these would be. Jack responded they are for anyone involved in any volunteer ministry at CMOQ.

Ray Moreau then spoke to our committee about how Jack came to be running these adult faith formation classes. The Cathedral parish has had a goal for the past 2 years to find a smart, experienced person in our archdiocese. Jack came as our parish was just starting our evangelization committee. At that time, we had no adult education plans, and Jack was asked to start some programs. With Jack’s presence at the Cathedral, we now have an expert to help implement and advise us on adult faith formation, educational and evangelization committees.

Ray continued to speak about the role of our educational committee on faith formation. He included a handout entitled, "Thoughts on Faith Formation and the Role the Education Committee at The Cathedral of Mary Our Queen". The handout included:

- Role of the Education Committee
- Things to Consider – such as the cultural diversity of our parish and possibility of having theme years (something more parishes are doing across the country)
- Existing Programs
- Where to Start – Ray emphasized the need for our committee to set a vision that is broader than the one we have already. We will also have to consider our priorities. For example, we may recommend tweaking some existing programs, but for the most part, they are up and running. Instead, we may need to identify and work on the needs of our parish that are not being met all (such as adult education). He spoke that this is a great opportunity to think outside the box and do something wonderful for our parish.

Ray ended by saying how thankful Monsignor, Father Kim and he are for our ongoing work.

Hugh then asked for and received approval for the minutes from the June meeting.

The last speaker for the night was Terry Modica, our parish website consultant. Terry is in the process of upgrading our current parish website to make it more modern (make it more functional, include podcasts and more links). There will be a focus on the ministries, and we will have to decide how we would like the educational ministry to appear on the web site. Terry gave a power point presentation on "Making the best use of your website for the Mission of the Church". She gave many facts during her presentation to illustrate the need to remember the current cultural climate while designing a website that will appeal to all ages of people visiting our website.

Terry emphasized her role is to get us started on getting ideas. The website is a tool for the mission of our committee. We need to give her our ideas. We can start small and grow; things can be added to the site later. Terry will return when school is in session to hear our ideas. There will be an email account for each committee of the Pastoral Council (we will need to come up with a name for our email account). Also, Terry wants us to send her links to interesting items to add to the website. Jennifer Myers then inquired about the need for preapproval before sending links to Terry. Ray responded that items should be cleared by him or Father Kim before being sent to Terry (this can be done by email).

Ray led us in a concluding prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 9:30.