

Education Committee
Minutes from 9/17/2009 Meeting

Members in attendance: Karen Banta, Kay Dougherty, John Hosler (Chair), Anne Merwin, Rosemary Peddicord and Jane Rohd
Clergy in attendance: Deacon Ray Moreau
Absent: Sally German, Hugh Mohler, Jennifer Myers, Laura Perry, Kelly Scheel and Kathleen Willis

John Hosler opened our meeting with prayer.

Members approved the minutes from our previous meeting.

We will expand the Survey by adding questions pertaining to programs for children and teens. We plan to send the Survey out in the Fall and have it available on-line.

John mentioned that he had spoken with Carol Augustine from the Archdiocese. She stated that some parents do not enroll their children in Religious Education as they think the family should educate their child. Therefore programs for the whole family are needed.

Jane Rohd stated that CASPA has a budget for speakers and they usually have three (3) a year. The speaker scheduled for November is from Loyola and will talk about volunteering as a family. Karen Banta mentioned that Jane may want to touch base with the Chairs of the Service Committee (Ellen Franklin and Kristen Kinkopf).

We would like to select an image from the Cathedral (i.e., sculpture, stained glass window) and a quote from Scripture that represent the Education Committee for our web page. The passage should speak to learning, wisdom, growing and knowledge. Suggestions included:

Proverbs 2:10: For wisdom will enter your heart And knowledge will be pleasant to your soul;

1 Corinthians 1:5: that in everything you were enriched in Him, in all speech and all knowledge,

For finding a scripture passage, Ray recommended the website "Bible.com". Users can enter a keyword and edition (use the New American Standard version).

Anne Merwin suggested that we research saints who were involved in education, like St. Thomas Aquinas or St. Ignatius Loyola.

We can email our suggestions for an image to John. He will take pictures and bring them to a future meeting for us to consider.

Rosemary Peddicord recommended that the image focus on Jesus teaching to a group and reaching out. It was felt that St. Ignatius has ties to Loyola, not Cathedral. Her recommendation is the sculpture located in the North Bay 3.

Karen asked the members which upcoming educational events they planned to attend. She would like to have at least one member of the Education Committee at each event. Rosemary is attending the series on the Psalms. Anne plans to attend the Dynamics of the Eucharist. We should solicit feedback on the programs.

Ray is looking into purchasing equipment (camera and tripod) so we can record Jack's talks and include them on our web page.

Karen mentioned that 18 people attended the Morning of Recollection.

Keeping in mind our goal to begin work on our Strategic Plan after the first of the year, John proposed a schedule for our next four meetings.

- October: Finalize the Survey and distribute.
- November: Present, discuss and decide upon verse and image that represents the Education Committee for our web page. Members present their findings from their study of other parishes' educational programs for discussion. Philosophical elements of strategic planning are discussed.
- December: Begin the strategic plan.
- January: Finalize the strategic plan.

Carol Augustine provided John with a list of certain parishes that do certain programs well:

- St. Isaac Joques – good group of staff (John)
- St. John, Hydes – sacramental prep (Karen)
- St. Louis, Clarksville – intergenerational programming (Rosemary)
- St. Margaret, Belair – Adult Education (Karen)
- St. Thomas More – Susan Keating (John)

We will look at their web sites for information on the programs offered (see above). In addition Anne will look at Grace Fellowship and some other sites for Protestant churches.

Anne added that she thought there were two issues facing teens in Baltimore that were not being addressed: sports taking away from family time and drinking/partying. It was suggested that perhaps we could have John Harbaugh speak about Sunday games and family time.

It was added that the needs of youth ages 14 through 18 are not being addressed.

The meeting concluded with the reminder to look for an image and Scripture verse. Review the survey and email suggestions to Karen/John. Review web sites for other churches to see the programs on catechesis and faith formation that are offered.