

## Education Commission

### Minutes

August 16, 2016

9:00-10:15AM Sister Bay (adult and youth faith formation committees)

Attendees – Linda Cummer, Mary Kate McCormick, Mark Kunstman

Mark started the meeting with a reading from scripture –2 Chronicles 1:1-17

I. Adult Faith Formation Update/Review the committee discussed three choices for speakers for the upcoming fiscal year. Mark will reach out to each of the presenters for a brief description, ask for available dates and speaker fees. He will broadcast this to the committee for input prior to the next meeting.

· “When loved ones leave the Church” Joe Tremblay will be more than happy to provide a session with some video presentation as well (can talk about the latest developments in this area and the book called, Return by Brandon Vogt).

· “Hospice Nurses and Heaven and You Have Your Whole Life Ahead of You”: speaker Tina Poppe ([tpoppe@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tpoppe@sbcglobal.net))

· “When Mom or Dad Depend on You”: speaker - Elisa Tremblay ([ETremblay@gbdioc.org](mailto:ETremblay@gbdioc.org))

b. Fall small faith group program –

· Linda offered a program from Jeff Cavins called “A Biblical Walk with our Blessed Mother” (Ascension Press). She will be offering this to the families of faith (parents of faith formation) members. There are 8 sessions and the committee thought it a good idea to offer this to the small faith groups that are in formation. It was recommended that the program should begin the first week of October.

· Advent plans – it was recommended that the adult faith formation members should research options now and be made available at the September meeting.

c. Book Club update – all is going well with good attendance and great books.

d. Men’s Faith Sharing – an evening discussing discipleship is being planned for October 5<sup>th</sup> from 4-8PM. A save the date flier is in the works that will be included in the youth faith formation packet being sent next week.

II. Youth Faith Formation Update/Review – This year’s theme is “Families of Faith” which will include a bulletin board display with family pictures, personal faith stories highlighted in the Faith Formation bulletin column, family greeters at Mass, and parent readers in the classroom. Linda has ordered student textbooks, a 50" smart TV, a TV cart and an HDMI cord. The TV will also be available for many other programs for the parish. Kelly Leonard was called by the Holy Spirit and stepped forward to work as a catechist with the 6<sup>th</sup> graders this year. Much planning has already taken place which includes the entire youth faith formation calendar year and a new Christmas play in the works. A packet of information will be sent to the parents in the next week with a special meeting for parents on September 28<sup>th</sup>. Linda was thanked for her excellent work with the youth and parents.

III. 2016-2017 Budget – the finance committee chairperson sent an approved faith formation 2016-2017 budget. The committee discussed the ‘carry over’ from last year which are funds that were approved however not spent. To have a more accurate account of expenses the committee determined that it was necessary to develop their own spreadsheet to track expenses. It was recommended that Mark be copied on all expenses which he will track and make available at all meetings.

IV. Other concerns –

· Communication is key to success in reaching out to the youth and adults. In addition to regular mailings, Linda has built up an email database for the parents that has had success. A quarterly newsletter was discussed however it was noted that the younger generation gets news by Facebook, Twitter and social media’s. Mary Kate suggested the committee reach out to Ian Johnson to ask if he would be able to make some recommendations.

· New members are needed to maintain a viable committee. It was recommended that each one of the committee members reach out to someone to invite them to become a member.

· Meeting date/time – it was noted that the third Tuesday schedule often includes conflicts. It was discerned that the committee try the third Thursday of the month meeting from 9:00- 10:00 AM at Sister Bay.

Next meeting – Thursday, September 15

Respectfully recorded by

Mark Kunstman

Chairperson Education Commission