



Pastoral Ministers' Association Meeting Minutes May 20, 2008 Meeting held at St. Paul Albanian Parish

Jan Hall began the meeting with an opening prayer at 10:00 AM.

Presentation: "Essential Ingredients of Effective Collaboration"

Kathy Hasty started off her presentation by asking everyone to think of a time when they had a positive experience collaborating. After sharing at their tables, the comments of the entire group revealed these elements that were central to good collaboration: openness, embracing the big picture, listening, humor, communication/community, common focus, patience, respect, and creativity. Kathy applauded everyone for recognizing these elements. She said she was probably going to be "preaching to the choir" in her talk.

She then elaborated on twelve ingredients essential to effective collaboration and gave examples of each. Some highlights included:

1. Respect for the gifts of each person; honor those gifts
2. Understand different ways gender, personality, and culture affect our view. She gave an example of the different things introverts and extroverts bring to collaboration.
3. Sensitivity to expressions of power dynamics (patriarchy, paternalism)
4. Environment of safety for all; conflict resolution and honoring confidentiality
5. Discernment of the "sense of the faithful"
6. Strong sense of common mission and purpose
7. Balance of processing and decision-making
8. Care for one another
9. Evaluate and pass along experience of collaborative ministry; document lessons for those to follow in your footsteps
10. Teachability and openness
11. Maintain an atmosphere of forgiveness and reconciliation
12. Celebrate together

Kathy then directed the audience to a handout titled "Personal Examination of Consciousness." This sheet had questions pertaining to each of the above twelve elements that were intended to help reveal personal attitudes. General questions at the end asked what strengths and weaknesses we see in ourselves and in the team we work with.

Nancy Mason Bordley conducted the second half of the presentation. She gave instructions for a group project involving case scenarios in typical parishes. The table groups were asked to pick one of the scenarios then come up with the best step-by-step approach for solving the problem in the most collaborative way.

PMA: Looking Ahead to 2008-09

Jan thanked Nancy and Kathy for their excellent presentation. She then thanked outgoing Planning Team members Sue Buratto, Diana Atkins, Kathy Hasty, and Jan Hall. The 2008-09 Planning Team will include:

- Kim Myers, DRE, St. Joseph, Lake Orion (continuing from this year)
- Sandy Favrow, Principal, Marist Academy middle school
- Barb Williams, Director, Catholic Community Response Team
- Jennifer Gerada, Christian Service, St. Irenaus
- Lisa Brown, Campus and Young Adult Pastoral Associate, St. John Fisher

While the incoming Planning Team will be free to make changes, the following meeting dates and program topics were suggested for next year, all developing the theme "Who is my neighbor?" **This list is tentative and subject to change.**

Date/Location	Topic
September 16, 2008 St. John Fisher	PMA mini-retreat, "Who is My Neighbor?" Speaker: Patricia Cooney Hathaway
October 27, 2008 PAV Assembly Sacred Heart of the Hills	"Who is My Neighbor?" Put in context of election Possible Speakers: Ron Rolheiser or Brian Hehr
November 18, 2008	"Who is My Neighbor?" In-reach education and resource sharing with our parish communities Possible panel discussion or short presentations on career services, immigration, MI in Crisis, Faithful Citizenship
January 20, 2009	Mini-Retreat
February 17, 2009	"Who is My Neighbor?"
March 23, 2009 PAV Assembly St. Benedict Gym NDP/MA host	Tentative Speaker: Michael Crosby, Cap Topic: "Who is my neighbor in Exile?"
May 18, 2009	Planning meeting for next year

Attendees were asked for comments and suggestions on the PMA meetings. Additional ideas are welcome and can be sent to Judy at admin@pontiacarevicariate.org.

Collaborative/Networking

Vicar's Report – Fr. Jerry presented certificates of appreciation to these PMA members who are retiring or moving to new locations: Henry Mucha, Jan Hall, Sr. Pat Malone, Sr. Mary Ann Dixon, and Pat Busch.

The Vicars' meetings at the AOD have been quiet this year. They are working on parish consolidation documents and ongoing Together In Faith work. There is not much new in the offing.

VPC Report – Bonnie Banaszek reported on the May VPC meeting. She said that all of the feedback from the Regional Assembly in April has been positive. Bonnie said that Cathy Wagner, from the Department of Parish Life, indicated that other regions may try to have multi-vicariate assemblies.

Announcements

- Sue Buratto distributed surveys from the Dept. of Parish Life to Christian Service coordinators. They are asked to complete them and return to the AOD.
- St. Irenaeus is starting an Earth Ministry and would like to contact other similar groups. Please contact Jennifer Gerada (stirenaeuscs@mycomcast.com) at St. Irenaeus if there is an Earth Ministry at your parish.
- Fr. Joe Dailey announced a summer Scripture program at St. John Center in June. More information at www.aodonline.org under "St. John Center."
- Fr. Leon gave these statistics about Notre Dame Prep: It is one of the top 50 Catholic high schools in the U.S., it is the top-rated Catholic HS in the state, and the only Catholic HS to offer the International Baccalaureate degree. Kudos to all at NDP who worked to make this happen!
- Rakhi Roy will be traveling to Australia his summer for World Youth Day. She is also starting up a Theology on Tap program in June.

The meeting ended with a closing prayer and lunch at 12:10 PM.

Attendance:

Tom Donahoo	Archdiocese of Detroit
Georgene Wojciechowski	Archdiocese of Detroit
Barb Williams	CCRT Office

Karen Sweitlik	Christ the Redeemer
Henry Mucha	Christ the Redeemer
Fr. Joe Dailey	Christ the Redeemer
Rakhi Roy	Genesis Ministries/Woodward Corridor
Marian Harvey, IHM	Lake Orion Nursing Home
Diana Atkins	Marist Academy Lower Division
Fr. Leon Olszamowski	Notre Dame Prep/Marist Academy
Peggy Devaney, IHM	Oakland Jail Ministry
Judy Gordon	PAV Administrative Assistant
Maria Jimenez	Pontiac Catholic Community
Sr. Pat Malone	Pontiac Catholic Community
Fr. Tom Slowinski	St. Andrew
Nancy Clancy	St. Andrew
Kathy Fabian	St. Andrew
Pat Metz	St. Andrew
Bonnie Banaszek	St. Benedict
Pat Busch	St. Irenaeus
Jen Gerada	St. Irenaeus
Fr. Frank Pollie	St. Irenaeus
Nancy Mason Bordley	St. John Fisher
Paul Borucki	St. John Fisher
Lisa Brown	St. John Fisher
Fr. Jerry Brzezinski	St. John Fisher
Sue Buratto	St. John Fisher
Sr. Mary VanGilder	St. John Fisher
Terri Nelson	St. John Fisher
Fr. Mike Verschaeve	St. Joseph Parish
Kathy Hasty	St. Joseph Parish
Kim Myers	St. Joseph Parish
Colleen Heacock	St. Joseph Parish
Peggy Casing	St. Mary of the Hills
John Griffith	St. Mary of the Hills
Jan Hall	St. Mary of the Hills
Fr. Stan Ulman	St. Mary of the Hills
Fr. Anton Kcira	St. Paul Albanian
Dila Dusovic	St. Paul Albanian