



Pastoral Ministers' Association Meeting Minutes September 16, 2008 Meeting held at St. John Fisher

Kim Myers began the meeting with an opening prayer at 10:00 AM. She set the tone for the morning by reading the gospel of the Good Samaritan. A brief introductory activity followed that allowed those present to reflect on and share what it means to be a good neighbor.

Presentation: "Who Is My Neighbor?"

Kim introduced Dr. Patricia Cooney-Hathaway, Associate Professor of Spirituality and Systematic Theology at Sacred Heart Major Seminary. Dr. Cooney-Hathaway began her presentation by highlighting the universal call to holiness by Pope John Paul II. She explained the change in emphasis on the laity that began with Vatican II, namely, that all Christian faithful are called not just those who are ordained.

Dr. Cooney-Hathaway suggested that how we see ourselves has a direct bearing on how we see others. We must start by being a good neighbor to ourselves before we can proceed to being neighbor to our family and to the outside world. She detailed the ongoing studies that define the four generations that comprise today's Catholic Church. They are:

- Pre Vatican II – born before 1940; affiliated with the institution; numbers are declining
- Vatican II – born 1941-1960; "Discovery of the Laity"; take responsibility
- Post Vatican II – born 1961-1075; Generation X; spirituality vs. religion; minimal institutional loyalty
- Millennials – born 1979-1987; have grown up with secularism; more tolerant; no "sacred canopy"

Central to everyone's search for belief and meaning are questions of identity (Who am I?), belonging (Who am I with?) and meaning (What does it mean?). Each of the generations answers these questions differently. The challenge for ministers is to respect each group and value their gifts. We need to be willing to interact with and value those who think differently from us.

The retreat ended with time for reflection on what it means to be neighbor to ourselves, our families, and those in our community.

Collaborative/Networking

Vicar's Report – Fr. Jerry invited everyone to the PAV Fall Assembly on October 6 at Sacred Heart of the Hills. Jill Rauh, from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, will speak on the topic, "Who Is My Neighbor in the Fall Election?" Fr. Jerry also gave an update on the Pastoral Care of the Sick Implementation committee that continues its work this year. The PAV priests as well as those from other nearby vicariates have been invited to a meeting to discuss options for sharing the burden of sacramental duties at area hospitals.

Fr. Tom Slowinski reported on the recent Vicars' meeting. The primary focus of that gathering was organizing and planning for this year. Major areas that will receive attention are stewardship, education, and parish life.

VPC Report – Bonnie Banaszek said the Vicariate Pastoral Council has met once this year. All committees have been set up and are active. The fall assembly is the next meeting on the VPC calendar.

Announcements

- Sacred Heart of the Hills is having a one-day seminar on October 4 called "Is Christianity Relevant Today?" Michael Stach requested help publicizing the event. Contact Michael (248-853-4170 ext. 14) or visit <http://www.pontiacarevicariate.org/news/news.htm> for more information.
- POH Medical Center is starting a Spiritual Care Department and is looking for volunteers. Contact Marie Bristow at 248-338-5199 for more information.

- Nancy Mason Bordley announced the next ACTS: A Call To Serve training session will be on Saturday, September 27 at St. John Fisher. Contact Nancy at parishserv@aol.com or visit www.pontiacareavicariate.org for more information.

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

Upcoming PMA Meetings

October 6, 2008, 6:30 PM - PAV Fall Assembly Sacred Heart of the Hills

Info and registration at: www.pontiacareavicariate.org/vpc/assemblies/assemblyOct2008.htm

October 21, 2008 at St. Irenaeus

November 18, 2008 at Oxford Dominican Retreat House

January 20, 2009 at St. Mary of the Hills

February 17, 2009 at St. Andrew

March 23, 2009 - PAV Assembly at St. Benedict Parish Hall

May 19, 2009 at Christ the Redeemer

Attendance:

Tom Donahoo	Archdiocese of Detroit
Georgene Wojciechowski	Archdiocese of Detroit
Carol Jadach	Archdiocese of Detroit, Office of Faith Formation
Marge Huggard	Catholic Social Services of Oakland County
Susan Masiak	Catholic Social Services of Oakland County
Barb Williams	CCRT Office
Carleen Ward	Children's Village
Nancy Clancy	Christ the Redeemer
Rakhi Roy	Genesis Ministries/Woodward Corridor
Sr. Karen Hawver	Holy Family
Carla Vandercruyssen	Holy Family
Marian Harvey, IHM	Lake Orion Nursing Home
Diana Atkins	Marist Academy Lower Division
Fr. Leon Olszowski	Notre Dame Prep/Marist Academy
Peggy Devaney, IHM	Oakland County Jail Ministry
Judy Gordon	PAV Administrative Assistant
Marie Bristow	POH Regional Medical Center
Michael Stach	Sacred Heart
Ann Thomas	Sacred Heart
Mary Andrews	Sanctuary at Bellbrook
Joe Soncrant	St. Andrew
Michelle Szczepanski	St. Andrew
Fr. Tom Slowinski	St. Andrew
Pat Metz	St. Andrew
Bonnie Banaszek	St. Benedict
Maria Geryk	St. Benedict
Ft. Tom Kuehnemund	St. Benedict
Jen Gerada	St. Irenaeus
Fr. Frank Pollie	St. Irenaeus
Nancy Isken	St. John Fisher
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
Michelle Pittel	St. John Fisher

Sr. Mary VanGilder	St. John Fisher
Fr. Mike Verschaeve	St. Joseph Parish
Kathy Galbraith	St. Joseph Parish
Kathy Hasty	St. Joseph Parish
Kim Myers	St. Joseph Parish
Colleen Heacock	St. Joseph Parish
Mary Martin	St. Joseph Parish
Jon Myers	St. Joseph School
Peggy Casing	St. Mary of the Hills
Chris Kozlowski	St. Mary of the Hills
Judy Kozlowski	St. Mary of the Hills
Fr. Stan Ulman	St. Mary of the Hills
Dila Dusovic	St. Paul Albanian