



Pastoral Ministers' Association Meeting Minutes September 15, 2009 Meeting held at Guest House

Introduction

Planning Team member Lisa Brown welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new year. She introduced Dan Kidd, President and CEO of Guest House. Dan gave a very brief history of Guest House and the Scripps Mansion. He said that one of Guest House's guiding principles is Benedictine Hospitality and that he was pleased to host the PMA.

Lisa explained an ice-breaker activity that she had prepared. She encouraged everyone to get into very small groups, with people they did not know well, and take turns sharing the answers to quick questions that were available on the tables. Some examples of the questions are: "If you had one more hour each day, how would you spend it?" and "What book made the biggest impression on you as a child?"

Mini-Retreat "Finding Abundance, Blessing and Meaning in Scarcity"

After an opening prayer and song, Lisa introduced the speaker for the day, Dr. Anneliese Sinnott, O.P. A member of the Adrian Dominican Sisters, Dr. Sinnott is Vice-President for Academic Affairs and Dean and Professor of Systematic Theology at the Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit.

In her presentation, Dr. Sinnott discussed the "Myth of Scarcity" – the idea that there is enough to go around although it is not distributed evenly. Rich nations such as the U.S. fall prey to the idea of never having enough. Insatiable desire can make us greedy, mean, and unneighborly. When the urge for more is not satisfied, anxiety, addiction, and alienation can result.

The 1986 Pastoral Letter, "Justice For All," examines issues of distribution and fairness. It details that both the old and new testaments, as well as the psalms, all proclaim that there are enough resources for all. The dominant view in today's world is that life is for winners and that more is better. Dr. Sinnott said we are summoned to challenge this view and present an alternative. She quoted presidential advisor Rahm Emanuel, "A crisis is a terrible thing to waste."

Dr. Sinnott distributed sheets that contained passages pertaining to faith and justice and questions for thought and discussion on how our church and parishes can respond to this time of crisis. Everyone discussed these at their tables then briefly reported to the entire group.

Collaborative/Networking/Announcements

Vicars' Report - Fr. Jerry, who remains PAV Vicar due to an extension of his term by Archbishop Vigneron, had to leave early to attend a meeting at Sacred Heart Seminary. Lisa stated that the plan is for two current groups in the PAV, the Council of Vicars and the Presbyteral Council, to be combined into one group. One priest will be chosen from the PAV to serve as representative to this group, and also as vicar. Fr. Jerry expects this to occur in the next month.

VPC Report – Bonnie Banaszek reported that the Vicariate Pastoral Council met in August and has formed their committees for the year. A Hispanic Gathering was held at St. Mary of the Hills on September 6 and was a big success. The next major effort will be the PAV Fall Assembly, on October 26 at St. Andrew Parish.

Announcements (please contact the person named for more details)

- Jen Gerada said St. Irenaeus is starting a career path network to assist those who are unemployed
- Kathy Hasty said St. Joseph's will have a movie night for married couples on November 7 showing and discussing the film, "Fireproof."
- Colleen Burke said that the Lourdes Senior Community has two support groups, one for caregivers and one for bereavement. Both are directed by a social worker and open to anyone who calls Lourdes.

- Nancy Mason Bordley said that the next ACTS session, scheduled for September 19th, needs at least 3 more participants.
- Sr. Martina distributed flyers for retreats at St. Mary's Retreat House in Oxford and Via Rose in Waterford.
- Lisa Brown said the PAV Fusion Young Adult retreat will be September 25-27 in Lexington. She offered to send a personal invitation to any young adult who may be interested in joining this active young adult community.

Future Meetings:

- October 26, 2009, 6:30 PM - PAV Fall Assembly at St. Andrew's
- November 17, 2009, PMA at Christ the Redeemer, 10 AM
- January 19, 2010, PMA at Holy Family South Campus
- February 16, 2010 PMA at St. Joseph, Lake Orion
- March 11, 2010 – PAV Spring Assembly at St. Paul Albanian
- May 18, 2010- PMA at St. John Fisher

Attendance:

Carol Jadach	Archdiocese of Detroit
Nancy Clancy	Christ the Redeemer Parish
Lisa Pratt	Christ the Redeemer Parish
Karen Swietlik	Christ the Redeemer Parish
Sr. Martina Stegman	Dominican Sisters
Dan Kidd	Guest House
Kathy Schiffer	Guest House
Joe Stong	Guest House
Colleen Burke	Lourdes Senior Community
Jill Mistretta	Marist Academy
Diana Atkins	Marist Academy, Lower Division
Sandy Favrow	Marist Academy, Pontiac
Diane Guappone	Doctors' Hospital
Peggy Devaney, IHM	Oakland County Crim Justice Min.
Maria Jimenez	St. Damien of Molokai
Sr. Rebecca Hodge, OP	St. Andrew Parish
Pat Metz	St. Andrew Parish
Joe Soncrant	St. Andrew Parish
Bonnie Banaszek	St. Benedict Parish
Keith Burke	St. Irenaeus Parish
Jennifer Gerada	St. Irenaeus Parish
Terri Nelson-Drongowski	St. John Fisher Chapel U.P
Paul Borucki	St. John Fisher Chapel
Lisa Brown	St. John Fisher Chapel
Fr. Jerry Brzezinski	St. John Fisher Chapel
Sue Buratto	St. John Fisher Chapel
Nancy Isken	St. John Fisher Chapel
Nancy Mason Bordley	St. John Fisher Chapel
Michelle Pittel	St. John Fisher Chapel
Mary VanGilder, IHM	St. John Fisher Chapel
Kathy Hasty	St. Joseph Parish
Mary Martin	St. Joseph Parish
Fr. Mike Verschaeve	St. Joseph Parish
Peggy Casing	St. Mary of the Hills Parish
Judith Kozlowski	St. Mary of the Hills Parish
Chris Kozlowski	St. Mary of the Hills Parish
Fr. Anton Kcira	St. Paul Albanian Parish