



Pastoral Ministers' Association Meeting Minutes November 17, 2009 Meeting held at Christ the Redeemer

Introduction

At 10:05 AM Planning Team member Barb Williams introduced Fr. Joe Dailey, pastor of Christ the Redeemer, who led attendees in song and prayer. Barb announced that Nancy Clancy has joined the PMA Planning Team, joining Jen Gerada (chair), Lisa Brown, and Sandy Favrow on this year's committee. After everyone introduced themselves, they spent time at their tables sharing recent highs and lows in their lives.

Program: ACTS: A Call To Serve Overview

Nancy Clancy said that the morning's presentation would try to cover the basics of the six-hour ACTS topics in less than 90 minutes. Obviously, some things would have to be skipped and other areas condensed. She began by asking everyone to spend a couple of minutes sharing with one other person their hopes, dreams, and concerns for the future of the Catholic Church. Hopes shared with the entire group included: that the Church will become the major Christian global outreach organization; that liturgical life become rooted in individuals; that the laity fulfill their baptismal call. Concerns expressed: that the Church is going backward, not forward; lack of connectedness with young people; loss of focus on the Holy Spirit.

Nancy Mason Bordley gave a very brief review of the history of ACTS. Beginning five years ago with the Together In Faith planning process, attention and priority was focused on strengthening the Area Church, i.e. seeing ourselves and our mission as more than just the parish. Another TIF goal, increasing lay volunteerism, brought about the realization that consistent and competent training would increase both the number and effectiveness of volunteers as well as conserve resources on professional staff. The PAV, through subsidies paid by member parishes, funded the development of curriculum and training materials for ACTS: A Call To Serve. The program focuses on three areas of lay volunteerism: Pastoral Care, Parish Leadership, and Liturgical Ministers.

Ministry is defined as "attending to the wants and needs of other people." Drawing on several Church documents, including "Co-workers in the Vineyard," ACTS developers came up with a profile of a lay minister. A guiding principle of this program is that all ministry is achieved in community and all baptized share in Christ's priestly ministry.

Realizing that personality type and traits determine how we relate to others, everyone had the chance to rate themselves on how they relate to other people (introvert/extrovert); how they gather information (intuitive/observant); and how they react to situations (feeling/thinking). Nancy Clancy pointed out that traits are not correlated – each new grouping resulted in a different mix of people.

Pastoral Care ministry revolves around the concept of hospitality. How we welcome, greet, make eye contact, remember and use names all matters. Being conscious of providing our full attention to those we are ministering to. Listening without regard to our own agenda and remaining non-judgmental. Confidentiality is of the utmost importance whenever someone is acting in a pastoral role. Impediments to good communication were discussed and examples given.

The Ministry of Leadership is one of the options in a full ACTS workshop. This is geared toward parish council members and commission leaders. The elements of a good team, and how to assemble one, are discussed in detail. The four cornerstones of a good team are commitment, contribution, cooperation, and communication. Techniques for running a good meeting and what makes a good chairperson are covered.

The Lay Liturgical Minister segment stresses prayer, preparation and practice. Volunteer ministers need both proper materials and a level of comfort when conducting prayer services in the absence of a priest, funeral home prayers, or bringing Eucharist to the homebound or hospitalized. Full workshop participants spend time practicing these roles. Ready-to-use materials have been developed that can be used by lay liturgical ministers.

Collaborative/Networking/Announcements

Vicars' Report - Fr. Stan Ulman thanked everyone for their support and confidence as he begins his role as vicar. He stated that the Pontiac Area Vicariate has a great reputation and he hopes to keep the enthusiasm, cooperation and collaboration going. The new Presbyteral Council, which is also the Council of Vicars, has met once and is still getting organized. There will be four regions, with four vicariates per region. While no change in membership is expected for the PAV, some vicariates will be reconfigured to get the current 18 down to 16 total vicariates.

Other changes in the Archdiocese are also being finalized. Hospital and jail chaplaincies are being asked to find other sources of funding. Fr. Stan announced that Deacon Alex Jablonowski has resigned from his position as Pastoral Care coordinator.

VPC Report – Bonnie Banaszek reported that the Vicariate Pastoral Council will meet next on November 23rd. This group feels a big loss from the recent death of VPC Chair Jack Cashman.

Announcements (please contact the person/parish named for more details)

- Christ the Redeemer will offer a series of meetings on mental health issues called "Overcoming Stigma." The first one is Thursday, November 19, at 7 PM.
- Diane Guappone said that Doctors' Hospital is celebrating their first anniversary on November 23 with a prayer service.
- Jen Gerada gave a preview of the remaining PMA meetings. Watch for the technology contest instructions after the first of the year.
- Christ the Redeemer parish will put on a musical performance of the Gospel of Mark on Feb 4, 5, 6. All are welcome

The meeting ended at 12:10 PM

Future Meetings:

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:

Barb Williams	Catholic Community Response Team
Nancy Clancy	Christ the Redeemer
Lisa Andridge	Christ the Redeemer
Fr. Joe Dailey	Christ the Redeemer
Marilyn Lines	Christ the Redeemer
Lisa Pratt	Christ the Redeemer
Mari Reyes	Christ the Redeemer
Karen Swietlik	Christ the Redeemer
Dale Youngpeter	Christ the Redeemer
Sr. Martina Stegman, OP	Oxford OP Motherhouse
Diane Guappone	Doctors' Hospital
Carla Vandercruyssen	Holy Family Regional School
Judy Gordon	Pontiac Area Vicariate
Ann Thomas	Sacred Heart of the Hills
Jane Gimbutis	St. Andrew
Jane Peters	St. Andrew
Maureen Schreffler	St. Andrew
Bonnie Banaszek	St. Benedict
Maria Jimenez	St. Damien of Molokai
Jennifer Gerada	St. Irenaeus Parish

Terri Nelson-Drongowski	St. John Fisher Chapel U.P
Paul Borucki	St. John Fisher Chapel
Sue Buratto	St. John Fisher Chapel
Nancy Isken	St. John Fisher Chapel
Nancy Mason Bordley	St. John Fisher Chapel
Mary VanGilder, IHM	St. John Fisher Chapel
Jon Myers	St. Joseph School
Sue Audette	St. Joseph Parish
Debbie Bloomgren	St. Joseph Parish
Kathy Galbraith	St. Joseph Parish
Kathy Hasty	St. Joseph Parish
Mary Martin	St. Joseph Parish
Kimberly Myers	St. Joseph Parish
Colleen Schultz	St. Joseph Parish
Fr. Mike Verschaeve	St. Joseph Parish
Peggy Casing	St. Mary of the Hills
Laura Corrrion	St. Mary of the Hills
Chris Kozlowski	St. Mary of the Hills
Fr. Stan Ulman	St. Mary of the Hills
Ann Vlk	St. Mary's Retreat House
Dila Dusovic	St. Paul Albanian Parish