



MONTHLY REPORT

Faith Formation Administrative Team
November 2014

Adult Faith Formation
Dave Cushing

Live links and updates available online at:
Waterloocatholics.org/afreport.htm

Initiation

- The fall Rite of Christian Reception will conclude on Nov. 13.
- The winter series will begin on January 18 and meet on Sunday mornings at Queen of Peace Parish.
- As of this date, only one person is enrolled in the Rite of Christian Initiation which meets on Wednesday evenings at St. Edward Parish.
- 9 families attended the Baptism class in October. The next Baptism preparation class is Nov. 8 at Queen of Peace.

Evangelization

- 60 people attended the Catholic Witness Hour Sept. 29 at St. Edward Parish; the next Witness Hour is Nov. 17 at Sacred Heart. The speaker will be David Roche.
- The Singles Group meets Nov. 8 at the Cedar Falls Family Restaurant. The first Singles Potluck will be Nov. 29 at Sacred Heart Parish.

Adult Formation and Enrichment

- As of Nov. 1, over 500 persons were registered for the Matthew Kelly seminar Nov. 22 at St. Edward Parish.
- 45 people registered to receive the daily email messages from the Iowa Bishops' statement "Faithful Citizenship for Iowa Catholics" during the week of Oct. 6-11; an additional 211 (daily average of 30) people read the messages on our Facebook page.
- The Busy Catholic's Guide to Advent will be scheduled on Monday, Nov. 24 at St. Patrick Parish and Monday, Dec. 1 at Sacred Heart Parish.
- The Busy Catholic's Guide to Reconciliation is scheduled for Monday, Dec. 8. at Sacred Heart Parish.

Spiritual Growth

- The fall Care-Givers Retreat is scheduled for Nov. 8 at Covenant Medical Center. We will have a table promoting the Retreat at the Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging's caregiver's workshop Nov. 6.
- Rodney Bluml from the staff at Prairiewoods Franciscan Spirituality Center in Hiawatha will conduct our Advent Visio Divina Mini-Retreat on Saturday, Dec. 13, at American Martyrs Retreat House.

Social Justice and Interfaith

- 10 people attended the social justice presentation Oct. 24 at Queen of Peace Parish.
-

-
-
- The introduction to Taize prayer co-hosted by the parishes and First Baptist Church in Waterloo has been moved to Sunday, Nov. 30. Starting in January, monthly Taize prayer services will alternate between First Baptist and Sacred Heart churches.

Administration

- Here is the total reach (and average daily reach) for Waterloo Catholics Facebook features during the month of October: Daily Prayer 1718 (53); Daily Reading 1077 (38); Daily Examen 815 (27); Daily Inspiration 831 (44); Trending Today 639 (32); Saint of the Day 541 (34); Sunday Gospel commentary 155 (39); Faithful Citizenship messages 211 (30); miscellaneous announcements 208 (30); Total reach 6195.

Young Adult Ministry
Ellen Voegele

Cards & Care Packages for College Students & Young Adults – The next round of care packages will be going out on December 1. The theme will be Advent/Christmas/Finals. I am still collecting names and addresses for our college students and young adults so please send them to dbqwcy@dbqarch.org.

Men's Flag Football League – Games concluded on October 25. *40 men attended*

E-team (Evangelization Team) – E-team members have been encouraged to write their spiritual autobiographies or to reflect on their personal faith stories. The point of this self-reflection is to be able to better evangelize by building bridges of initial trust (Sherry Weddell's first threshold of conversion) *9 young adults are on the team*

YAP (Young Adult People) – The second YAP, a social group for women, was on October 16 at Panera in Cedar Falls. The conversation topics included in vitro fertilization, the recent Synod on the Family, gradualism, and how to approach people who may hold views contrary to the Gospel. *4 women attended (2 were new)*

40 Days for Life – we sponsored a young adult hour of prayer on Mondays from 5-6 pm from September 29 – October 27 at Planned Parenthood in Cedar Falls for the 40 Days for Life Campaign. *7 young adults attended*

Get to Know Your Neighbors - Every second Sunday of the month young adults are invited to explore other churches and religions in the Cedar Valley to enrich their own lives of faith and to grow in deeper understanding and relationship with our brothers and sisters. The first event will be on **November 9** at Prairie Lakes in Waterloo. Lunch and discussion will follow at El Patron.

Intergenerational Teaching Mass – On November 19, WCFE is hosting a Teaching Mass for all parishioners of all ages to be held at St. Edward at 6:15 pm. Principle celebrant will be Fr. Scott Bullock. Snacks and discussion will follow in the Church Hall at 7 pm.

Advent Progressive Dinner Retreat – Plans are coming together for this awesome opportunity on December 5 hosted by the priests of the four Waterloo

parishes. One course (appetizers, salad/bread, main course, and dessert) will be offered by each pastor at their parish. Participants will enjoy all of the classic retreat elements – prayer, food, reflections, fellowship, and discussion. We will begin promptly at 5:30 pm at St. Edward and will conclude at 9 pm at Blessed Sacrament.

Promoting:

- Fall Clean-Up at the Catholic Worker Playground – November 2 (SE Social Concerns)
- Matthew Kelly: Living with Passion & Purpose – November 22 (AFF)
- Advent Mini-Retreat – December 13 (AFF)

Young Adult Ministry Communications –

- Flocknote – We continue to work on building subscribers to Flocknote (flocknote.com/cvyoungadults)
- Webpage – We have put off creating a “young adult ministry” section on waterloocatholics.org because we are in the process of getting a new website for faith formation very soon.
- Facebook – our facebook page (facebook.com/cvyoungadults) is up and running. We post daily on a variety of topics including upcoming events, prayers, discernment, saints of the day, Catholic pages to “like” etc., feedback to help in programming etc. If you are on facebook, please invite all young adults (age 18-39) you know to like our page. *66 young adults have liked the page*
- Adoration Sign-Up – working on getting an online sign-up process for the adoration chapel at Columbus. An easier process will be much more likely to engage young adults.

In process:

- Men’s Bible Study – will target the men who played flag football
- Community Meal at the Catholic Worker
- Monthly Movies with Fr. Bullock - starting in January every 4th Friday of the month there will be a movie night with Fr. Bullock.
- Parent Faithtext subscription

Children & Family Catechesis
Cathy Mills

Wednesday Evening Religious Education

- Currently 156 total children enrolled
 - 65 children from Hispanic –adult non-English speaking households
 - Letters of invitation were sent to households who did not make the transition to either the summer RE or the new combined Wed. RE program.
 - I will be comparing registered parishioners from all four parishes to the RE/CVCS enrolled lists to seek out children ages k – 8 who are not being served in any formation program. A letter of invitation will be sent.
 - Parishes will be given data regarding which of their families are served through a faith formation program grades K-8th.
 - Oct 15 Taize Prayer Service - 90% family attendance
 - Oct 22nd DIACORE Catechist In-Service “Leading 21st Century Disciples to Jesus” - 100% Metro Wed RE Catechist attendance
-
-

R.E. Programming

- Reviewing the new Archdiocesan K-8 Religion Curriculum
- Completed the Arch Data Survey for all Faith Formation Programs
- I will be attending a one-day conference in Des Moines pertaining to new approaches in education (faith-based) for children who are categorized by a diagnosis of a brain/ learning disorder.
- Currently exploring two programs to discuss for the Metro area.
 1. Totus Tuus program serves children grs. 1 – 6 & 7-12 in a weeklong class during the summer. The program is led by trained teams. Parishes support the program by providing volunteers, housing, and hospitality/food. FFAT in discussion
 2. Catechesis of the Good Shepard serves children age 3-12 in a Montessori “format” of learning. FFAT in discussion regarding this program.

Intergenerational

- On Nov. 19th WCFF is hosting a Teaching Mass for all parishioners of all ages to be held at St. Edward at 6:15pm. Children and families have been invited to fill specific roles with in the Mass. There will be refreshments and discussion following Mass.
- Information was sent home through both Wed. & Summer RE and the schools. The information was also shared in the church bulletins.

Children’s Liturgy of the Word

- Blessed Sacrament weekly at Sunday 10:30 Mass
 - average between 10 –15 children
- Queen of Peace 2nd & 4th Sunday Noon Mass
 - average 50 children per Mass
- Sacred Heart 2nd & 4th Sunday 10:45 on going
 - average 15 – 25 mostly Burmese population
- St. Edward’s 1st & 3rd 9:00 Mass / 2nd & 4th 11:00 Mass

CVCS PreK – 8th

- Created and distributed laminated church year calendars for classrooms per teacher request.
- Creating packets of seasonal Prayer Service/Mass samples for teachers who do not have this resource available.
- continue to dialogue with teachers regarding new religion textbooks as the RE programs will be utilizing same series 2015-16

High School Youth Ministry
Annie Zeets

Oct. 5th & 12th: Confirmation Session: Focus was on what the students ask from the church and what the church asks from them. We also spent some time talking about their relationship with Jesus. Thank you to the adult team of Deacon Ray Larsen, Jenna Adams, Jenny Schmitz & Chris and Carrie Evans. Also thank you to parent volunteers Julie Hayes, Tom Kneeland, Kathy Bailey and Catherine Boesen for their support.

Oct. 5th: Movie Night. 32 students gathered to watch “God’s Not Dead”. We had a wonderful discussion led by junior Jake Nemmers. The evening ended with spontaneous prayer led by students.

Oct. 7th & 21st: Faith sharing at CHS

Oct. 12th: Topic Night: “Who Am I?” 21 students came together to talk about who they are with others, themselves and God.

Oct. 15th, 22nd, 29th: SWAG: Saved With Amazing Grace Bible Study. Students meet each Wednesday. Averaging 4-5 students, wonderful discussions.

Oct. 17th & 29th: KAIROS meetings

Oct. 21st: WAYM youth rally work day

Oct. 25th: Tenth Avenue North concert at Gallagher Bluedorn. 22 students and 3 adult chaperones attended. We all met at the CF HyVee before the concert for pizza and pop. Myself and 3 students were invited to attend a question and answer session with the band before the show. Students were given autographed posters for attending the Q & A.

Nov. 2nd: 29 students and 5 adult chaperones attended the Archdiocesan Youth Rally in Waterloo. Jesse Manibusan and Spork provided entertainment.

Coming Up:

Nov. 3rd: NCYC 2015 information meeting

Nov. 4th & 18th: Faith sharing at CHS

Nov. 9th & 12th: confirmation sessions

Nov. 15th: Service Saturday

Nov. 16th: Lunch and attend CHS play

Nov. 20th-23rd: KAIROS retreat

Nov. 30th: Advent prayer and activity

Professional Development:

Oct. 28th: Attended FFL & CSA renewal day in Cedar Rapids

Dec. 4th-7th: Attending the National Conference for Catholic Youth Ministers (NCCYM) in San Antonio

Middle School Youth Ministry

Jenny Schmitz

October 1: CORE

October 4: Topic Night on Mary – 2 students and one helper came to learn more about Mary our Mother, and make rosaries.

October 5: Helped with Confirmation Session

October 7: Faith Sharing @ CHS

October 8: CORE

October 15: CORE

October 17: Youth Night: Haunted Hayride. 18 Students and 3 Adults enjoyed an evening of pizza and a ride through the haunted woods with the Waterhawks in Evansdale.

October 21: Faith Sharing at CHS

October 29: CORE

November 1: Arch-Diocesan Youth Rally. 9 Students and I attended the Rally at St. Mary’s in Waverly. Jesse Manibusan and Spork provided entertainment.

COMING UP

November 5: CORE

November 9: Confirmation Session

November 12: CORE

November 13: Lead Like Jesus Workshop

November 19: Intergenerational Event

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

October 24: Attended the Pastoral Leadership Study Day in Cedar Falls

October 28: Attended FFL & CSA renewal day in Cedar Rapids

January 12-18: Will be finishing my Spiritual Mentorship program in Kansas City, KS.

Burmese Ministry

Pam Johnston

- I have three students in grades 3-5 who attend public schools who want to prepare for Reconciliation and Eucharist. I will be meeting with them for the next 4 Sundays so that they can celebrate Reconciliation in December with the other students.
 - There is one young adult Burmese who wants to join the Catholic Church so John Lazum and I will develop a schedule to do and RCIA process with him.
 - There is one 11th grade youth who wants to prepare for Confirmation. He has met the requirements to participate in the metro program. Annie will be including him in the metro preparation sessions, retreat, and celebration.
-
-

Sacramental Prep

Pam Johnston & Dave
Cushing

- Dave, Rosario, and I have completed the follow-up meetings with parents who did not attend meetings nor receive the home study materials.
 - We are working with 2nd grade RE catechists and school teachers to make sure that children/families are completing the lessons.
 - We are creating a worship program for the celebrations.
 - Jenny will be creating the certificates for each child.
 - We continue to plan for First Communion parent meetings, the retreats, and parish celebrations in the spring.
-
-