

## COUNCIL OF MINISTRIES

Thursday, Feb. 28, 2008

IC Education Center – Conference Room – 6:30 p.m.

**MEMBERS:** Fr. Jim Brinkman; Dan Johnson, Catechesis & Faith Formation; Arlene Tenner, Education; Dave Crosby-Chair, Finance & Administration; Pat Derrington, Stewardship; Jane Derrington, Worship & Spiritual Life; Karen Nerby, Outreach; Andrea Statz – Vice Chair, Parish at Large; Tanya Weinzierl, Parish at Large; Jason Pape – Trustee

Absent: Pat Derrington, Andrea Statz

**CALL TO ORDER:** Dave Crosby called meeting to order with evening prayer led by Father Jim.

Dave Crosby reminded Council members that June is the end of the term. Any member may serve only two consecutive terms of one year.

### **Ministry Reports:**

**Finance Ministry** by Dave Crosby. The finance ministry met to clarify distribution of some of the Immaculate Conception Restricted Investments. Funds will be grouped to earn better returns, but individual scholarships will be tracked within the investment.

**Stewardship** Ministry by Pat Derrington. No meeting in January. The ministry is continuing to feature different ministries on the front page of the church bulletin. After Easter the Ministry will meet to plan the rest of the year.

### **Worship and Spiritual Life** by Jane Derrington.

We have heard only positive comments on the new Breaking Bread music issue.

Our parish was blessed to have Fr. Zuelke present our Parish Mission. Attendance varied between 75 and 125 in attendance at the five sessions. Pretzels and beverage was a popular snack as we gathered for fellowship after each session. The freshly baked pretzels after Mass on Thursday were especially popular!

The group discussed possible involvement of high school youth for music as well as other ministries at the 7:00 p.m. Mass on Sunday, making that a Youth Mass opportunity.

Jane Derrington has resigned as chair of the ministry and the position is open at this time.

### **Catechesis and Faith Formation** by Dan Johnson

Adult enrichment night is going well. The Lenten series topic on different aspects of Social Justice is in progress. First Communion preparation has begun and Confirmation program is going well. Heidi Johnson had to resign so the ministry is looking for a new member. Common Ground (New Richmond Youth Leaders) is sponsoring the RAGE for students in grades 6-8. Flyers are being distributed. Catholic Youth Rally in Hudson is planned for April 2. Bishop Christensen will be the presider for the evening with the Band SONAR providing entertainment. Flyers are being distributed. Please encourage your youth to attend.

Fr. Jim commented on the results of the PEW research. It indicated that all religions have seen numbers shift downwards. Included is the link to that research. We may address this information in the future.

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/743/united-states-religion>

**Ministry of Education** by Arlene Tenner. School budget for 2007-08 is on track. Kindergarten registration has 29 applications for 24 positions. New Richmond School District has requested that St. Mary's provide a fourth section for the 4Y program; St. Mary's has applied for that fourth section. NRSD is looking at the possibility of a split schedule for the school day for the 2008-09 school year. St. Mary's will wait to know the outcome of those decisions to determine if changes need to be made in their schedule. At this time the school is pursuing the possibility of purchasing school lunches through the NRSD for the upcoming year.

**Buildings and grounds** by Fr. Jim. There is an elm tree in the power lines to the south of the playground/parking lot. Mike Bernd is in contact with the city of NR to determine whose responsibility it is to take the tree down. Knights of Columbus will spend some time this spring trimming some of the other trees on our lot. One tree in front of the church will have to be taken down by professionals because it is leaning.

**Outreach Ministry** by Karen Nerby. COME meal was hosted by IC in February rather than January due to a schedule change. 125 meals were served. Volunteer appreciation Sunday will be in April. The Outreach Ministry is making efforts to welcome new parishioners. A personal phone call is made when the Outreach member receives a copy of the registration. Father Jim wondered about the possibility of making a personal connection (mentor/host family) and invitation to come down for coffee and donuts after the 9:00 a.m. Mass, even if that is not the schedule they usually will have.

MOMS group has met three times with new Moms joining each week. Currently 15 different Moms have come. As the group grows, a larger space may be needed. Plans are to meet during the summer, but not in the school building.

**Parish Social** – Donuts for Sunday morning have been not up to previous standards. It was determined that the shipment was inferior and we will be compensated appropriately. Our new shipment is acceptable again.

**At large** – nothing to report

Jason Pape inquired as to the status of the committee interested in building a Catholic High School for the area. The plan is on hold at this time. Bishop Christensen would like to meet with the committee before the committee is closed.

**Old Business:** none

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Our next regular meeting will be Thursday, March 27, 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., in the Education Center Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Derrington – Secretary

Attached are the IC Mother's Group Goals

**IC Mothers Group  
An Outreach Ministry**

**OUTREACH GOALS FOR THIS MINISTRY**

- ✚ To invite mothers and young children into our faith community by providing spiritual opportunities and dialect with in a group setting.
- ✚ To provide opportunities for friendships to form which are faith filled.
- ✚ To discuss current parenting issues.
- ✚ To encourage faith sharing among mothers

**Planning**

- ✚ Where - room 15, at St. Mary's School
- ✚ Time – 10:30 to 12:00
- ✚ When - Thursdays

The group will meet once a week.

**Group Meetings**

- ✚ Each meeting will begin and end with prayer
- ✚ Parenting topics, scripture passages, faith based books and/or the bible may be shared during sessions
- ✚ Kim Palmer will present the Safe and Sacred Guidelines as it relates to our group and motherhood in general. This will take place on the second group meeting
- ✚ An occasional gym time will be scheduled with Mrs. Patterson the day of or prior to meeting. It is understood that the gyms primary use is for students. The group will only use the gym with permission.

**Future Goals**

- ✚ To attend Catholic mother retreats – where we can explore our Catholic faith and other dimensions of the Catholic faith
- ✚ To form a lasting mothers group that benefits the mothers and children in it, Immaculate Conception and St. Mary's School.
- ✚ To provide a strong Catholic Mothers Group base for new and existing mothers to belong to.
- ✚ To invite speakers into the group to speak on topics of interest in regards to our faith and family.
- ✚

**IC MOTHERS GROUP**

**Goals**

- © To bring in faith based materials such as books, scripture and the bible for discussion among our group.
- © To get to know other moms from our community of faith.
- © To expose our children to other children of the same and different ages.

**Sharing**

**What we like about having an IC Mothers Group.**

- © That we have a time set aside for moms to come together and share. To talk about life, our family/children and our faith.
- © That it is in St. Mary's. Some of us have children at St. Mary's. Some of us like the friendly atmosphere. Some of us will have or want our children to come to St. Mary's.
- © That our group is child inclusive. It is hard to find babysitters.
- © That there are moms of different ages.
- © That there is not a huge commitment