

FFAC Meeting 2009  
3/4/09

Present

Art Z.  
Nancy Mc  
Nancy C.  
Mary Pat  
Maureen  
Ellen C.  
Cindy  
Ellie

Discussion of the three areas chosen at our first Meeting.

**1.) How can FF be more intergenerational?** What might it look like?  
What type of things might be offered? How can the things we do be more intergenerational?

Key to this discussion was the acknowledgement that WCC is a style of meeting FF needs—it is about the “how” -- it is a process of presenting FF not the content of FF. This is the direction we are moving in at St. C’s and have been since 2002.

Becoming more intergenerational should be a parish wide goal and moving on this is a process not a declaration.

Art, and Nancy Mc presented some ideas they had researched and thought about.

Nancy brought web information from St. John the Baptist Church. They are a 1200 family parish in Mankato, MN. They run the Generations of Faith Program, from Harcourt Publishers, with good success. Nancy outlined the ideas shared on this site. For more information on this program see; [www.generationsofffaith.org](http://www.generationsofffaith.org) Look under ”Parish Models and Stories”.

Nancy also shared information from a paper presented by Dr. Diane Shallue, from the Luther Seminary. This looked at positive effects of and difficulties in using an intergenerational approach.

Art, presented each member a sheet of info containing:  
a list of 3 resource books about WCW.  
a list of possible topics that might be looked at  
a list of ideas about how we might extend a more intergenerational approach to FF and other areas of the parish, such as a Whole Community Sunday session on prayer. Have 3 elder members of the parish discuss why and how they pray and why it is important to

them and have 3 middle schooler/teens discuss their experience with prayer. Have the community listen in and participate at the end of the discussion.

Need to have more dialog type sessions not just reactions to short presentation on church doctrine. This could increase the intergenerational aspect of our WCW and WCS events. Include more and varied presenters on WCSs.

We had good discussion around these presentations.

## **2.) How do we chose FF themes for the year? Where do we get ideas?**

What resources are available?

Maureen talked about the wide-open nature of choosing themes. There are lots of resources for this.

Ellie mentioned that the Archdiocese has Standards that must be considered for each grade of elementary school level for FF.

We had discussion around using a yearly theme and having the monthly themes be arms of this overall theme.

## **3.) Points of contact. The when, where, who of FF.**

How do we find out where people are in their FF journeys and what they need/want form FF at St. C's.

Nancy C. studied the evaluations turn in last May-July 2008.

Not a lot of new information- but that we have a wide range of desires about what people want from a FF program. Could look at different options of days and times.

No one-day or time is good for all.

This lead to discussion on how we survey the parish about wants/needs. And about how to and should we present material to parish members that they “**need**” i.e. about church teachings on SJ, Liturgy, sacraments **and** meet the **wants** of the parish members too.

We do not have to present everything wanted here at St. C's but should be open to giving information about where some needs/wants could be met outside of St. C's as well- for example –Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

We talked about how the information is presented and the PR is important to attendance at FFF events.

We talked about how to do a parish survey. Mary Pat and Maureen will take this to the Parish Council to see if they are going to do a Parish wide survey. If not then FF should look into doing a survey using small group meetings al well as survey forms.

**Good discussion around these areas.**

**The recommendations of the FFAC to the FF staff for this year are:**

Consider using a yearly theme to guide selection of the monthly themes.

Do a more all-encompassing parish survey about FF needs.

Invite all parish committees to be more intergenerational in inviting youth and young adults to be part of their groups- this will required not just inviting youth but also possible changes in format so that they are really able to contribute.

“ Prayer” would be a good yearly theme to start with.

Better advertising with more thorough information about the sessions to be included in all information going out about events each month.

Next year FF will get an email in August to help set the stage for the three meetings next year. One possibility is looking at making a long range- 5 –year plan? To be recommended to the FF staff. Question about having an “informative presentation” at the meeting will be raised in the email contact in August.