

MINUTES
Family Life Committee Meeting
Wednesday, February 17, 2010

Present: Verna Panka, Jeri Kluesner, Donna Cipra, Doris Krogman, Rob & Vicki Samples, Nancy Becker, Ann & Mark Grunwald, Virginia Lochner
Absent: Mary Novey, John Chaffee, Pat Lenzendorf, Shirley Cipra, Lettie and Maurie Oehler

Meeting opened with prayer at 6:00 p.m. because Ash Wednesday services will begin at 7:00 p.m. Minutes accepted as read. Account balance is \$700.

Angel project: Prayer cards need to be laminated and then can be delivered with the angel to family member of those deceased from December through present date. Verna will contact Family Life Committee members to make the home visit.

Welcome project: Mary Novey reported (after the meeting) that Fr. Weighner told her there are no new parishioners at this time. There will be some when they have completed RCIA.

Confirmation students should have received at least one contact from their **Prayer Partner**. Verna put a reminder in the bulletin prior to Valentine's Day. Prayers will continue through April 29, Confirmation day.

Doris Krogman reported that the **Depression Support Group** is continuing to meet twice per month. She has contacted people to recruit new members but those attending seem to be the same ones as in the past.

Faith Alive held the organizational meeting and decided that there would only be two groups due to the smaller number of participants (18). One group will meet every Sunday night beginning February 28th at 6:30 p.m. with the first meeting held at St. John's. The other group will meet alternate Mondays at 10:00 a.m. beginning February 15. The groups will be using the book and study guide *The Seven Last Words of Christ*. Dr. Ann and Dr. Mark will order the books. Nancy will send out a letter to each of the participants concerning dates and other information.

Parish website: Patrick Nolan has posted the minutes of our meetings and a description of our committee on the website. Nancy will continue to email him the new minutes and send out the minutes to committee members.

Verna will contact Fr. Weighner about the 3-day **Mission** for 2010-11.

When Verna talked with Fr. Weighner about a **special blessing for couples** on Valentine's Day, he suggested having a blessing once per month for those who are celebrating an anniversary and asked us to discuss this idea further. Ideas offered included: posting in the bulletin which Mass will have the blessing; including the

children by having a blessing for those with birthdays in that month; having those individuals and couples come to the front of church for the blessing vs. just standing in the pews. Verna will talk to Fr. Weighner about our ideas.

The Family Life Committee has been put in charge of **leading the Rosary** before Mass each weekend during Lent. Donna Cipra and Verna Panka will lead it for St. John's. Jeri Kluesner will contact Pat Lenzendorf and will try to find others to lead the Rosary at St. Gabriel's. Fr. Weighner would like the Rosary to be prayed before all Masses during the rest of the year. Discussion was held resulting in these ideas: It will be difficult to find people to lead and commit to particular dates and times; new converts are uncomfortable with this idea; suggestion to have middle and high school students act as leaders of the rosary.

Christian Experience Weekend will be held in Waukon again this year and all are invited. It was announced in last week's bulletin. Committee members are encouraged to attend.

Pat Lenzendorf has notified Verna that she is resigning from Family Life Committee because of being over-extended in other activities.

Next meeting with is on Wednesday, March 17 at 7:00 in St. John's basement.