



The Church of the Holy Redeemer

We, the diverse faith community of the Church of the Holy Redeemer,
are called to be church through Baptism to continue the mission of Jesus Christ.
With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we gather for word and worship.
We use our gifts to reach out in service to all.

Education Advisory Committee

Monday, September 7, 2009 - 6:00 pm at Roncalli Room, Parish Center Meeting Room

Opening Prayer.

Education Advisory

Members:	Becki Johnson	Staff:	Carol DeSmet
	Cindy Sanders		Lori Timmerman
	David Johnson		Ryan Langr
	Kirstie Meyer		Ruth Larson
	Jill Gordon		
	Gabe Pieper		

Review of Minutes: Approved

Approval of Agenda:

Reports:

1. School
 - A. **Staffing:** Kari Buysse, third grade morning teacher; Linda Seeley, Spanish; Jen Keely 7/8 grade Language Arts; and Brittney Van Kuelen, long term substitute. Kim Louwagie, assistant principal.
 - B. **Enrollment:** A new family picnic was held on August 27th. We have 15 ne families in kindergarten and six new families in 1-8 (six students) 279 students and 177 families.
 - C. **Extra-curricular:** Alyssa Vandeputtte to coach volleyball with practice starting September 3rd, first game September 10th. Kayla Van Kuelen, director of STARS. Kim Louwagie to coach Knowledge Bowl.
 - D. **Calendar Items:** First School Liturgy – Thursday, the 10th; Virtus Training – Saturday, the 12th; Kindergarten begins – Monday, the 14th; Home and School Meeting – Tuesday, the 15th; Environment Fair (6th grade) - Tuesday, the 22nd; Magazine Drive Kick Off – Friday, the 25th; and NWEA testing – Monday, the 28th.
2. Faith Formation (Elementary)
 - A. **Teacher Training:** September 9. We are working diligently on finding our teachers.
 - B. **Preparing for the year:** Handbook and registrations were sent, books ordered, classroom boxes are being organized.
 - C. **Opening Mass:** Opening Mass/Parent Meeting will be on September 16.
 - D. **Donut Sundays:** An announcement in the bulletin looking for adults to help with the baking, setting out rolls and helping in the kitchen. (*Calls will need to be made to get the volunteers.*) We hope to find volunteers for that and then just have the classes come in to set up, serve and clean up. Donut Sundays will run from October – May.
 - E. **Fair Parking:** Fair parking seemed to work well. It is a fundraiser for the youth/youth group.
 - F. **Early Catholic Family Life** – Training was held in the Cities on August 29 and 3 people attended. Jill Gordon is chairing the project. We plan to offer a session this October.
3. Faith Formation (Secondary/Youth)

- A. **Life Force:** Looking to meet with “Life Force” members in two groups (7-8, 9-12) to help plan events and brainstorm Ideas for the year.
 - B. **TNT:** The first meeting of TNT is scheduled for September 13th in the FF Center. I will be supervising the meeting and evaluating the current format.
 - C. **YTM:** I am in contact with the three YTM youth to advise them on how to follow up with their project.
 - D. **After School Hangout:** I plan on having the youth room open 3-5pm on M, T, TH. I will be there the whole time so they are supervised.
 - E. **Other Planning Initiatives:**—I have briefly begun looking into other opportunities such as Mission Trips, movie nights, lock-ins, and Christian Concerts. More follow-up will come after I meet with Life Force and the school year gets started.
4. RCIA
- A. **Inquirers for RCIA:** From last year and over the summer we had acquired fifteen individuals who were inquiring to become Catholic. I have interviewed all of them and at present we have seven who will start classes this fall.
 - B. **Confirmation Classes:** We have three individuals at present who are seeking Confirmation. If we have more who are interested I will set up another group that will meet if not the three individuals will join my RCIA group for the second stage of Catechesis and the stage of Purification and Enlightenment. They however, will be confirmed by the bishop in late April with the youth.
 - C. **Classes:** The class schedule has been established for the coming year. There will be ten sessions of inquiry starting September 23rd. The Rite of Acceptance will be November 29th at the 10:00 AM Mass. The Period of Catechesis will have eleven sessions and the Rite of Continuing Conversion will take place on February 21st in New Ulm. During the Period of Purification and Enlightenment will have five class sessions. The Second Scrutiny will be celebrated at the 10:00 AM Mass on March 7th and the RCIA retreat will be at the Faith Formation Center on March 29th from 5-9 PM. At this time I have planned to have four sessions of Mystagogia after Easter and the classes will be done by the last week of April.
 - D. **Children in need of Sacramental Preparation:** I have met with Gustavo our Hispanic Minister to discuss the needs of Sacramental Preparation for youth. He has identified three families at this time. We visited about possible ways to meet the catechetical needs of these families looking at materials and possible classroom instructional times. We both believe it would be best to do family instruction at an alternative time.

Sub-committee:

- 1. Home & School:
 - A. **The HRS Float** is complete and participated in the Sounds of Summer Parade. There was good parent and student participation.
 - B. **Mentor Family Program** to help new families assimilate into the school, church and community will be implemented.
 - C. **Welcoming picnic** for new families was sponsored by H&S. Many positive comments were received.
 - D. **Camden Creek Cookie Dough Fundraiser** is underway. Leslie Decramer is chairing this event.
 - E. **Playground Blessing** for the new playground equipment will take place on the first day of school.
- 2. Technology: New computers have been purchased and installed for teacher and Administration use.
- 3. Recruitment: See above.
- 4. RCIA Advisory: Will meet to begin interviews and planning for program.
- 5. Youth Advisory: Will meet to begin plans for the coming year.

Unfinished Business:

- 1. Early Catholic Family Life program (ECFL). See above report under Faith Formation (elementary).
- 2. Donut Sunday. See above report under Faith Formation (elementary).

New Business:

1. Virtus – September 12, 2009
2. “CD of the Month Club,” is a program that would provide adult formation on a number of topics, delivered through an audio CD program. We are looking at beginning during the Lenten Season.
3. President’s Address was discussed and will be handled by the school administration.

Closing Prayer:

Next Meeting: **October 5, 2009**