

Quad-Parish Faith Formation Commission Meeting, Aug. 5, 2008
Summer Report
Youth Ministry Report

June-July 2008 Highlights

1. Youth Ministry Focus Meetings

A group of adults and teens came together to work on developing a mission statement and summer event calendar for the youth ministry program. After a lot of discussion and creative thinking we came up with the following.

Mission Statement

“We strive to offer opportunities for young people to grow and mature as disciples of Christ by experiencing a deeper relationship with God, the Catholic Church and our community.”

Summer Schedule

Tuesday, June 24 – Youth Ministry Summer Kickoff Bonfire

Tuesday, July 1 – Chapel Work Night

Tuesday, July 8 – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday, July 15 – Bonfire

Tuesday, July 22 – Catholic Youth Expeditions Present

Sun, July 27 – Wed, July 30 – Catholic Youth Expeditions Retreat

Tuesday, Aug 5 – Mystery Night

Tuesday, Aug 12 – Olympics Night

Tuesday, Aug 19 – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday, August 25 – Serving meal at N.E.W Community Shelter

Tuesday, August 26 – End of the Summer Party and Potluck

2. Stepping Right with Jesus

June 12, 2008

Nine students from the Quad Parishes headed down to Holy Family Parish in Brillion for a day-long event with priests and sisters around our community. Students played games, talked and prayed in faith sharing groups, went on a hay ride, heard talks on vocations, experienced adoration and mass with their peers. The day was led by Fr. Tom Long, the diocesan Vocations Director along with young adults from Catholic Youth Expeditions.

3. Extreme Faith Camp

June 16-18, 2008

Extreme Faith camp was a highlight of the summer for the three middle school students who journeyed out to Minnesota for the week long summer camp. The week was packed full with daily mass, small group faith sharing, praise and worship music, confession and adoration, a dance and organized recreation (including archery, slingshot, kickball, mountain climbing, boating and water biking, fishing, service activities, crafts, swimming and more). The girls got up every morning to take the polar bear plunge and jump in the lake to get the day started. Brrrr it was chilly! They also

enjoyed a prayerful Holy Hour of Adoration in front of the Blessed Sacrament. After we returned one seventh grader told her mom that she knew that God was real. Amazing! God is so good.

4. Youth Ministry Kickoff Bonfire

June 24, 2008

Nothing like a night of kickball and sitting around a campfire roasting marshmallows to get a summer started! Middle school students, high school students and parents came out on a beautiful summer night. This was a great time of fellowship and we built some great relationships that night.

5. Chapel Work Night

July 1, 2008

Youth and adults worked hard to convert a classroom on first floor into a chapel that is now up and ready to use for youth ministry, faith formation and parish activities. We carried the chairs, altar, crucifix and tabernacle down from the convent. These items are on loan to use from Relevant Radio. This space is going to be so nice for prayer experiences and discussions. There are plans to have young people continue to have a part in completing the chapel by making stain glass windows and a mural.

6. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Fr. Andy came over and led a Holy Hour in front of the Blessed Sacrament. We sang some praise and worship songs, prayed together and did night prayer. It was a beautiful night of prayer and time spent with Christ. Thanks Fr. Andy!

7. Vacation Bible School

July 14-18

Fifteen students going into grades K-5 gathered for a week in the rainforest for the Quad-Parish Rainforest Adventure Vacation Bible School. The students learned about Stewardship using the daily themes of Share, Give, Grow, Love and Praise. They learned about rainforest critters, Shari the butterfly, Bill the toucan, Tad the frog, Esme the macaw and Cleo the monkey. They also learned about some great Bible stories including Boaz sharing grain with Ruth, Elisha giving food to 100 people, our faith is like a mustard seed, Jesus is the vine and we are the branches, and Jesus entering Jerusalem. A special thanks to Anna, Spencer, LeeAnn, Kevin, Mackenzie and Scott, our teen helpers for the week. And to our adult volunteers Mary, Cari, Chris, Pamela, Tina, Barb, and Ken with his sidekick Squeaky...we couldn't have done it without you. Also, thanks for the generous contributions from Peggy and the free lunch program out of Annunciation for lunches every day! We have already started recruiting help for next year! It was a great week.

8. Bonfire Night

July 15, 2008

We opted to stay inside and hang out because of some very warm weather! We also made stepping stones to be sold for a fundraiser and the St. Joseph Parish picnic.

What To Look Forward To:

Check out the Youth Ministry Calendar above!