

Minutes for ACTS Core Team Meeting

January 9, 2012 at Mary Immaculate Rectory

Opening Prayer

Brief moment of silence followed by a prayer led by Sandy Klevinskas.

Review of Last Month's Minutes

Sandy motioned that we accept last month's minutes as-is and Rosemary seconded that motion.

Prayer Exercise

Deacon Ken started by explaining that today is the last day of the Christmas season. He explained that in the Gospel of Matthew we read the story of the Magi, which were in a sense well educated, wealthy members of royalty. Since they were accepted by Herod they must've truly been royal in some way. Recent studies also show that there would've been an astronomical sign during the time of Jesus' birth, which the people of that time would've called a star. Herod the Great is most known for the reconstruction of the temple and the city of Jerusalem. He was a fierce politician and although his family were pagans, they converted to Judaism in order to rule over Palestine as the "King of the Jews." He feared that his own family would try to remove him from the throne in order to take his place and had many of his family members put to death to protect his kingship. Herod was concerned with holding on to his place as king, the Magi were concerned with giving homage to the true "King of Kings."

Deacon also shared a message from St. John of the Cross and quoted him saying that his heart burned for the Lord. He explained how we as well are on fire for the Lord and seeking after Him. He added that we will fail at times, but that God's Word will help to guide us. The answer to all of our questions is Jesus Christ. Our lives are journeys of love, at times it is difficult, but we can do all things in Him. Our very practice of Christianity goes in contrast to what our society tells us.

Rosemary played a song called "Here I Am Lord" and we sang along.

Open Floor to Non-Core

The following issues were brought to the attention of the Core:

- ✦ **Lydia Carrizosa:** Susan spoke on Lydia's behalf about her concern for paying for supplies for the retreat. Sal will bring the receipts at the next meeting and we'll figure it out then.
- ✦ **Lillian Elsey:** Deacon read a letter from his wife explaining that Tom Wilson had given her a donation of \$400 from the Tukesbrey fundraiser dinner.

Coordinator Reports

Each member of the Core gave an update:

- ✦ **Social:** Susan wants to put together gatherings and she had spoken with Lydia and Fr. Steve Conserva about the small faith communities. She explained that Community is essential to ACTS and that Fr. Steve told her that it's a very fine line. They discussed the idea of getting together for a community rosary that could be open to anyone. Deacon Ken added that his only concerns are that many of the ACTS members have kids in school meaning they'd probably have to bring their kids and that we'll have to be careful about overlapping too much during the 13 weeks of the preparation process for each retreat. Susan stated that the people who aren't necessarily on team or who are willing to do more than one thing at a time should have the opportunity to practice their faith. Ricky asked if this rosary group would need to be an official ACTS group and Susan clarified that she just wanted to express her idea to the Core. Sandy motioned that we get the rosary started and Ricky seconded that motioned. It was decided that Susan will organize a group rosary.
- ✦ **Financial:** Sal stated that we have about \$15,000 in our checking account. Carmen asked if we can have an estimate on expenses for each retreat.
- ✦ **Support:** Tom said that he has been very busy lately and that there is an issue with the trailer. He stated that the license plate for the trailer is missing. Ron asked if Danny could contact a few of the people who were involved with the inventory. Andrew sent a copy of the letter for Bishop Wilkerson thanking him for his support and presence at the men's welcome home Mass at Santa Rosa. Ron asked that all three

parishes be named on the letter. Ron asked that the Retreat Support Coordinators give feedback at each Core meeting during the retreat preparation to make sure that everything is going smoothly with the men's and women's teams. Rosemary added that we make sure Send-Off is better prepared and to make sure to ask for help from the team.

- ⤴ **Fundraising:** Rosie asked for ideas for fundraisers. Danny mentioned that we purchase some tickets to Disneyland and raffle them off. Andrew added that Disney has an office that we should contact about it. He also added that we pursue the Carl's Jr. coupon books for \$1 each and sell them for \$5. There is a minimum purchase amount of 100 books. Ron mentioned that we could do some kind of fundraiser at Tony's which will give us 15% of the proceeds. Tom added that See's Candies also does fundraising. Rosie asked if holding a poker game would be frowned upon. It was decided to stick to a bunko night.
- ⤴ **Supplies:** Danny will be doing inventory this Saturday at 7-9am at St. Ferdinand. He asked that Ricky send an email asking for volunteers. Also asking that anyone who has any supplies from the retreat to make sure and bring them. Danny asked if we can purchase 3 or 4 plastic bins for inventory.
- ⤴ **Co-Facilitator:** Carmen mentioned that the Christmas caroling at the convalescent homes was very successful and suggested that we do something similar in the future.
- ⤴ **Communications:** Ricky presented his progress on the website and stated that he plans to have the site ready to go live by next month.

New Business

- ⤴ **Men's Retreat Director:** Ron explained that the men's team needs to start meeting on March 6th and that we should begin the process of taking nominations. Ricky will send out an email request for nominees. We will make the selection at the next Core meeting in February.
- ⤴ **Core Nominations:** Ron also explained that he spoke with Tom Peterson in San Antonio and he was told to ask each Core member individually if they would like to remain in their position and since all of the Core decided to keep their positions, no further action was required.
- ⤴ **Retreat Crucifixes:** Carmen stated that she is in favor of keeping one crucifix for all retreats. The idea being that we would have a unified look. She will look into the options and bring it up at the next meeting.
- ⤴ **Letter to Bishop:** See Coordinator report above. Carmen added that letters should also be written for St. Fatima of Pavorello, Tom Wilson, and James Tukesbrey.
- ⤴ **Tuition of Retreat:** Ron explained that the new retreat center estimate was higher than originally explained. Instead of being \$5,000 it will actually be \$4,000. Also, since the next two women's retreats will be held at St. Vincent de Paul he suggested that the price for all retreats this year could be \$160. And since the parishes are still owed money, we can take a little off the top and begin to pay back that money. Sandy motioned that we accept the proposal and Tom seconded that motion. It was decided that the cost of future retreats will be \$160.

Meeting Evaluation

There was positive feedback all around about tonight's meeting.

Next Meeting

The meeting will be held February 6th. Carmen will do the opening prayer and Ricky will do the closing prayer. Rosemary will be bringing the snacks.

Closing Prayer

Rosemary played a song "We Are Faithful" and led the closing prayer.