Youth Ministry Leaders’ Monthly Gathering Minutes
August 4, 2020 – Virtual Online Meeting

Present: Brett Adams, Deb Barry, Tammy Bellrichard, Evan Brankin, Samantha Brinning, Sharon Crall, Tommy Fallon, Julia Jones, Sofia Livorsi, Alicia Lundstrom, Trevor Pullinger, Samantha Ridder, Kelly Tansey, Jasmin Tone, Trudi Westfall, Don Boucher, Barb Butterworth

I. Opening Prayer led by Sofia Livorsi.

II. Updates:

- Mental Illness Awareness Week Project
  - TENTATIVE Schedule:
    - Tuesday, 10/6, with Roy Petitfils
      - Focus: Raising Awareness and Response Strategies/Skills
      - Morning (10 AM-noon) for Ministry Leaders & Clergy
      - Evening (7-8:15 PM) for Parents, other adults
    - Wednesday, 10/7, with Roy Petitfils
      - Focus: Self-Check & Self-Care
      - Morning (10-11:30 AM) for Ministry Leaders & Clergy
      - Evening (7-8:15 PM) for Youth, Parents, School Teachers, other adults
    - Friday, 10/9, with Sean Robinson
      - Focus: Developing a Pastoral Response Plan
      - 10-11:30 AM for Ministry Leaders & Clergy
  - Resource Packet will be available
  - Finances being worked out
  - More information coming this month
- NCYC 2021. Details will be announced after January 1, 2021.
- ICYC-Middle School. Please complete the resource survey described in the recent notice.
- Steve Angrisano in September. Cancelled.
- Racism. Check out resources at [https://www.davenportdiocese.org/ff-racial-justice](https://www.davenportdiocese.org/ff-racial-justice)
- Collaborative Alpha Youth online (Evan)
  - Evan shared a bit about Alpha, what it is, how it works, and a bit of his experience in an initial launch of this. Some folks from St. Anthony-Davenport joined in, and the discussion began about the possibility of doing a collaborative around that.
  - 9 sessions in early September through early November. Avoids first few weeks of school and avoids holiday season.
  - If folks are interested, could offer some training sessions for adults in mid-August. (2 leaders, one host who asks questions/facilitates/affirms, one helper who assists in any way needed/stays in background/prays.)
  - If there was a lot of interest, could do lots of training and could end up offering Alpha nights on different nights of the week.
  - If interested, send email to Evan (in chat) or at davenportolvym@diodav.org
  - How do you get the Alpha materials? It’s free, go to [www.alpha.org](http://www.alpha.org)
  - We could get the training down to 2 hours (in August, on both days)
  - Sofia – will talk to YMs in Iowa City area to see if there’s interest in collaborating.
  - One big diocesan or individually as parishes? One big one would be challenging, but small groups is best. Could offer just nights and times and have folks sign up, and
have leaders work with each from different areas.

- Brett shared his Alpha experience in his parish. Live, great conversations, kids inviting their friends. Haven’t done the weekend yet, and this would need to be worked out.

III. Discussion: The Inefficient Innovator

We live in unprecedented times. Not only are 6 people leaving the Church for every 1 that enters, but this pandemic has caused us to rethink and retool our ministry. We will watch and listen to and discuss OSV Institute President Jason Shanks’ talk about the urgent need for unscaled innovation in ministry and evangelization.

Viewed video: https://osvtalks.com/

After video viewing, broke into four discussion groups with these three questions:

1. What did you hear? What did he say?
2. What difference does it make for you? For your ministry? For us (Church)?
3. What now? What are you going to do?

Large group report

- Wait to the Fall-Are you registered. How does this translate to YM?
- Efficiency is not bad, but you have to think about the purpose and the aim. Process needs to flow from that aim.
- This same kind of message has been repackaged, but in some ways hearing the same thing. What I liked more was the scarcity mindset versus the growth mindset. Leaning on the prayer of the Holy Spirit to put us into the deep.
- I have to remind myself a lot as I think of all the challenges that I serve a God of infinite possibilities and limitless resources.

IV. Next meeting: September 1. Don will talk with Tommy about leading opening prayer.

V. Meeting closed with Diocesan Prayer for Vision 20/20