

MONTHLY REPORT

Faith Formation Administrative Team
March 2017

Adult Faith Formation Dave Cushing

A. Initiation

1. **RCRA.** The next session of the Rite of Reception begins April 3. An information meeting is scheduled for March 27.

> Learn more about RCRA here:

<https://waterloocatholics.org/rcra>

2. **Baptism Preparation.** 04 families attended the Baptism class in February. The next Baptism preparation class is March 11 at Sacred Heart.

> Learn more about baptism preparation here:

<http://waterloocatholics.org/baptizing-infants-and-children>

> Read cumulative evaluations from Baptism preparation here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-JKRWWJSY/>

3. **Adult Confirmation Preparation.** 05 young adults are participating in preparation for Confirmation meeting on Monday evenings at St. Edward Parish.

> Learn more about Adult Confirmation Preparation here:

<https://waterloocatholics.org/adult-confirmation>

B. Evangelization

1. **Catholic Evangelization Outreach.** The March Witness Hour will be cancelled. The next Witness Hour will be May 22 at Queen of Peace Parish.

> Learn more about the Witness Hour here:

<http://waterloocatholics.org/catholic-witness-hour>

2. **Friends in Faith Singles Ministry.** The next Singles Mingle is March 11 at Cedar Falls Family Restaurant; the next Singles Potluck is March 25 at Blessed Sacrament Parish.

3. **Inactive Catholics.** A discussion session for inactive and alienated Catholics meets on the third Wednesday evening of the month at COR.

> Learn more about Inactive Catholics here:

<http://waterloocatholics.org/information-for-inactive-and-alienated-catholics>

4. **Gay and Lesbian Catholics.** A discussion session for gay and lesbian Catholics meets on the fourth Wednesday evening of the month at COR; a discussion session for family members of gay and lesbian Catholics meets on the fifth Wednesday evening of the month at COR.

> Learn more about Gay and Lesbian Catholics here:

<http://waterloocatholics.org/information-for-gay-lesbian-catholics>

C. Adult Formation and Enrichment

1. **Winter Forum Series.** 26 people attended the Winter Forum Series presentation by Jacob Kohlhaas and Martin Lohrmann Feb. 2; 19 attended Charlotte Martin's presentation Feb. 9; 66 attended Msgr. Wilgenbusch's presentation Feb. 16. Total attendance for the Winter series was 136.

> Read evaluations from the Winter Forum Series here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-X7PG8X93/>

2. **Critical Choices Workshop.** 04 people attended the Critical Choices workshop Feb. 22 at St. Edward Parish.

> Learn more about Critical Choices Workshops here:

<https://waterloocatholics.org/critical-choices-workshops>

3. **Busy Catholics Guide to Catholic Living.** Three sessions of the Busy Catholic's Guide series are scheduled this month: Guide to Prayer Mar. 8 at St. Edward; Guide to Reconciliation Mar. 23 at Sacred Heart; Guide to Holy Week April 5 at St. Edward. These one-hour sessions are designed as an introduction for new Catholics and review for veterans.

> Learn more about the Busy Catholic's Guide to Catholic Living here:

<https://waterloocatholics.org/busy-catholics-guide-to-catholic-life>

4. **Lenten Faith-Sharing Groups.** (See Ellen's report)

D. Spiritual Growth

1. **Lenten Online Retreat** -- "Living Lent with Love" is the theme of our online Lenten Retreat March 20-26. This year's retreat will feature a daily scripture reading, reflections by Pope Francis and prayers by Sr. Chris Koellhoffer IHM.

> Learn more about the online Lenten Retreat here:

<https://waterloocatholics.org/2017-busy-catholics-online-lenten-retreat>

2. I will be posting a daily Lenten reflection

E. Social Action/Interfaith Relations

1. **Interfaith Dialog on Economic Inequality.** 50 people attended the first of three workshops in this series on Jan. 29. The second dialog is scheduled for Sunday, March 5, at First Presbyterian Church, Cedar Falls and will feature a discussion of Robert Reich's documentary "Inequality for All." This discussion series is co-hosted by Cedar Falls Mennonite Church, Cedar Falls Presbyterian Church, the Cedar Valley Unitarian Universalist Community and the Catholic Parishes in Waterloo.

F. Administration

1. **Waterloo Catholics on Facebook.** Total daily reach for the Waterloo Catholics Facebook page for February was 3,990 (daily average: 143; daily range: 87/363).

2. I completed a one-day workshop Feb. 17 to be certified as a Catholic Advanced Care Planning Consultant for the Archdiocese.

**Young Adult/COR at 220 East
Ellen Voegele**

COR at 220 East

Administration:

Hospitality Ministers Training B - February 18 - *7 people were trained*

Training A - March 18, 9 am - 12 pm @ COR

COR Golf Outing - May 25, 2017

Jeff Lappe is organizing this fundraiser for COR. We have been working together on recruiting parish liaisons, hole sponsors, publicity, etc. Jeff has been awesome and very proactive. This is going to be a wonderful event.

Rentals for Private Events - Posted an ad in bulletins and on facebook for people to rent out COR for private parties. We have 4 events scheduled for the spring so far.

Faith Formation-Sponsored Events:

Monthly Offerings:

Catholic Q&A - Thursday, February 2 - *0 people attended*

Next up: Thursday, March 2, 7 pm

Discussion Night - Monday, February 20 Topic: Immigration - *2 people attended, 1 inquirer for RCRA*

Next up - Sunday, March 19 Topic: Who is God and How do I know and feel God's love?

Monthly Movie Night with Fr. Bullock - Friday, February 17

February Movie: The King's Speech - *14 people attended, 2 from Meetup group (social networking site), 3 hospitality ministers served the event*

Next Up: March 17, On the Waterfront

One-time Events:

Winter Forum - Thursday, February 2, 9, 16 - *2 hospitality ministers served the events*

COR Concerts (save the dates):
Mike Mangione & the Kin - April 22, 8 pm
Paul Siebert - August 6, 11 am

Community Events:

Celebration of Diversity Youth Day - Saturday, January 28
 Hosted by Cedar Valley Volunteer Center - 25 people attended, 2 hospitality ministers served the event

Be a Good Neighbor - Thursday, February 23
 Hosted by Sierra Club - 20 people attended, 1 hospitality minister served the event

Young Adult Ministry:

Get to Know Your Neighbors - February 12 - First Congregational United Church of Christ, Waterloo,
 - 5 people attended

Next up - March 5 - Interfaith Discussion on Economic Inequality

Young Adult Small Group on Discernment - Mondays starting January 23 and concluding on March 6 - 7 young adults have been participating

Super Bowl Party - Sunday, February 5 - approximately 16 young adults attended along with children.

Adult & Young Adult Faith Formation:

Lenten Small Groups - Facilitators were asked to recruit group members and those that signed up in parishes were integrated into groups. Groups have begun meeting the week of Feb 27. The following are the groups we have that are meeting.

Parish	Day	Start Time	Location	Target:
St. Edward	Sunday	4:30 pm	in home	Women
Bl. Sacrament	Sunday	6:30 pm	in home	Men & Women
Multi	Monday	5:30 pm	COR at 220 East	Young Adults
St. Edward	Tuesday	9:00 am	in home	Women
Q. of Peace	Tuesday	10:00 am	COR at 220 East	Men & Women
Bl. Sacrament	Wednesday	6:00 am	Putz Hall	Men & Women
Sacred Heart	Wednesday	2:00 pm	SH Rectory	Men & Women
Bl. Sacrament	Wednesday	6:15 pm	TBD	Men & Women
Sacred Heart	Wednesday	6:15 pm	SH School	Parents
Bl. Sacrament	Wednesday	6:30 pm	Village Cooperative	Men & Women
Bl. Sacrament	Thursday	10:00 am	COR at 220 East	Men & Women

Bl. Sacrament	Thursday	4:30 pm	Putz Hall	Men & Women
St. Edward	Thursday	5:30 pm	COR at 220 East	Men & Women
St. Edward	Thursday	7:30 pm	in home	Women

RCIA -

Individual Discernment Interviews - Feb 1 & 4

Rite of Sending/Rite of Election - March 5

Scrutinies - March 19, 26, & April 2

Retreat - April 9 @ St. Stephen the Witness

Young Adult Ministry Communications -

- Flocknote - (flocknote.com/wcff) 326 subscribers
- Facebook - Young Adults ([facebook.com/cvyoungadults](https://www.facebook.com/cvyoungadults)) 194 likes
- Facebook - COR - 114 likes

Networking/Promoted Events:

- Community Meals - February 3, 10, 17, 24 (Hospitality House & COR)
- No Ban-No Wall Rally - February 5 (YAM & local community)
- First Tuesday - February 7 (AFF & COR)
- Listening Session for Inactive Catholics - February 15 (AFF & COR)
- Busy Catholics Guide to Lent - February 17 (AFF & SH)
- Family Night - February 19 (Children & Family Catechesis & Blessed Sacrament)
- Taize Prayer - February 19 (AFF & COR)
- Discussion for Gay & Lesbian Catholics - February 22 (AFF & COR)

Networking/Promoting:

- Community Meals - March 3, 10, 17, 24 (Hospitality House & COR)
- First Tuesday - March 7 (AFF & COR)
- Listening Session for Inactive Catholics - March 15 (AFF & COR)
- Taize Prayer - March 19 (AFF & First Baptist)
- Discussion for Gay & Lesbian Catholics - March 22 (AFF & COR)
- Listening Session for Friends & Family of Gay & Lesbian Catholics - March 29 (AFF & COR)

In process:

- COR Spring/Summer Calendaring
- COR Administration
 - COR Networking Friends
 - COR Internships
 - Updating COR Promotional Materials
 - Publicity - create a meet up group for discussion nights

Spiritual Growth & Professional Development:

-Spiritual Direction

Children and Family Catechesis

Kelleryn Rauzi

K-8 Religious Education:

- RE classes are now doing end of class presentations on different types of prayer. See Waterloo Children and Family facebook page for pictures of these wonderful presentations.
- I will be leading a catechist inservice on March 15th. This will be a time for prayer, self-evaluation on how the year has gone, and group discussion.
- Wed. RE will be attending Reconciliation on March 29th. Sunday RE has the opportunity to go to Reconciliation throughout the 2nd semester (different classes go on different Sundays).
- Safe environment classes were taught for all grades at the end of February for Wed. RE, and beginning of March for Sunday RE.
- We are still compiling results from the mid-year parent survey and will make those available when possible.
- Summer RE will be taking place during the last two weeks in June at St. Edward Catholic School.

CORE:

- CORE will be finished on March 8th
- We are looking into switching CORE into small faith sharing groups using the resource YDISCIPLINE. More information to come once we have more details in place.
- Summer CORE will be held the last two weeks of June at St. Edward Catholic school instead of Columbus High School. This is to make it easier on parents who have children in both K-8 Summer RE and High School CORE.

Intergenerational Opportunities:

- The family night held Feb. 19th at Blessed Sacrament Parish Center was very successful. Dave Cushing and Julie Niemeyer coordinated this particular one. It was based on the pillars of Lent, and we heard a lot of positive feedback from the families. 137 people attended.
- Next family night will be on April 19th at Sacred Heart school gym from 6:15-7:45pm featuring the "Spoon Man" a Catholic entertainer and comedian. We will serve ice cream treats after the program. All are welcome to attend. To see more info on the "Spoon Man" check out his website at <http://www.getspooned.com/>
- After Wed. and Sunday RE classes parents are invited in to pray with us each week.
- During Wed. RE there will be a Lenten discussion group for any parents interested at Sacred Heart. We have 5 signed up so far!

Totus Tuus:

- Totus Tuus will be held at St. Edward Catholic School again from July 23-28th.
- We are getting a "Super Team" from the Archdiocese which means we will have 6 missionaries instead of just 4. This is to accommodate the large number of people who signed up last year.
- More promotional and registration material will be made public once I receive it from the Archdiocese.

Other:

- I am in the process of preparing many things ahead of time for when I go on maternity leave and writing instructions for those who are covering the different areas I direct.
- Registration for summer programs and 17-18 faith formation programs are in "the works" more info to come.
- The following people will be taking over different areas of my job once I go on maternity leave:
 - Wed. RE: Jessica Hert
 - Sunday RE: Becky McElroy
 - Summer RE: Dave Cushing/Stacie Mills
 - Totus Tuus: Julie Novotney/Annie Zeets
 - Registration nights for faith formation programs: Dave Cushing in conjunction with Faith Formation Team.
 - Summer CORE: William Brandle

Professional/Spiritual Development:

- Monthly spiritual direction
 - Part of a Archdiocesan sponsored Ministry Accountability Cohort (MAC).
 - Attended a Digital Open House sponsored by the Archdiocesan Faith Formation staff.
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High School/Middle School Youth Ministry

Annie Zeets

High School

- Jan. 29: Paint your own canvas art class at COR at 220 East. Nine students and one parent attended the class taught by Linda Stamp. Cost was \$10/person and we painted really nice crosses. (*Community*)
- Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22: CORE class at CHS
- Feb. 5: Movie Night: Miracles from Heaven: Had a nice discussion about miracles and faith after the movie. 17 students attended (*Community*)
- Feb. 7, 21: Faith Sharing at Columbus
- Feb. 19: Faith Formation Family Night (*Community, Catechesis*)
- Feb. 26: Topic Night: Preparing for Lent: 8 students attended. We talked about some real ways to improve ourselves this Lenten season. (*Catechesis, Pastoral Care*)

Coming Up

- Mar 5: Lent prayer and check-in
- Mar. 7, 21: Faith sharing at CHS
- Mar. 12: Lent prayer and check-in
- Mar. 19: Lent prayer and check-in

NCYC 2017

- NCYC 2017 is Nov. 16-20, 2017 in Indianapolis.
- 141 students and 24 adults are registered. We will have 3 buses and will be the largest group in the archdiocese - our group is 10% of the diocesan group!
- \$100 deposits were due Nov. 15. Payment #2 of \$100 was due Jan. 15. Payment #3 is due March 15th
- Total cost of the trip is \$600.
- Parent fundraising committee will meet Jan. 31st. About 20 parents attended. We set up team leads at each parish to help our fundraising efforts
- St. Eds had a parish spaghetti dinner on Jan. 21 raised \$569.00

- Feb. 25-26: Worked concessions for basketball tournament at BMAP and CHS. The CHS concessions earned \$350. Still waiting on total from BMAP
- Feb. 25-26: Sacred Heart NCYC students had a bake sale at all masses. They raised \$1004.00
- Mandatory meetings will be held March 6th & 7th (choose one date). We will be filling out all the paperwork required for the trip. One parent will be asked to attend to sign papers.
- Plans are being made for Mother's Day breakfast at Blessed Sacrament
- Fundraising Nights will be held at the following restaurants:
 April 17: Chick-Fil-A: 5pm-8pm
 May 1: Panera Bread (Waterloo): 4pm-8pm
 May 11: Panda Express (Waterloo): 2pm-9pm

Middle School

Coming Up

- Feb. 10: Movie Night at Blessed Maria: "The Secret Life of Pets": We watched the movie and ended with a nice prayer service. 36 students attended (*Community*)
- Feb. 26: Retreat at St. Eds: "Preparing for Lent": We attended 11am mass at St. Eds. We had pizza for lunch. The students then decorated glass mason jars. They became their "Lent" jars. We spent a lot of time talking about the purpose of Lent. Students then wrote down 40 small things they could do and placed them in their jar. Each day during Lent, they are supposed to draw one thing from the jar and do what is written. Things ranged from saying something nice to a sibling, to spending 10 minutes in prayer. It was a really great retreat! 7 students attended (*Catechesis, Pastoral Care*)

Coming Up

- Mar. 17: Karaoke Night at Blessed Sacrament
- Mar. 26: Lenten prayer and check-in

Professional Development

- Monthly NCYC webinars

Children and Family Catechesis

Julie Niemeyer

First Sacraments -

- 2-hour Eucharist Retreats for the second graders and parent(s) were offered Feb. 25, 26, and 27. Fr. Luigi will assist with a Retreat for Burmese children & parents on March 12.
- First Communion weekends: April 22/23 @ Blessed Sacrament; April 29/30 at St. Edward; May 6/7 @ Sacred Heart; May 7 @ Queen of Peace.

Children's Initiation

- Wednesday night C.I. classes for grades 3-8 will be March 22 & 29; April 5 & 12. These will provide immediate preparation for First Communion.
- Will schedule immediate preparation sessions with 3 high school students for First Eucharist.
- Continue to work with elementary students from a Blessed Sacrament family who are preparing for initiation at the Easter Vigil there. Also working with a family at Sacred Heart (two children attend Sacred Heart School, one is at BMAP and one is at CHS) who will be initiated at the Easter Vigil there.

Confirmation

- Class session #3 was held on Feb. 8 and 12 at Sacred Heart. All but 4 candidates attended; make-up sessions were held.
- Class #4 will be at Blessed Sacrament on Sun., March 5 from Noon - 2pm OR Wed., March 8 from 6:30-8:30 pm. The Sponsor (or a parent) will attend with their Candidate. Topics will include: the Confirmation Rite, details and logistics about the April 2 celebration, and opportunities for parish involvement/ministry. Sponsors/parents and candidates will have time to discuss the Candidate's Faith Story and Service Hour reflection.
- Met with James Larsen at Columbus to plan set-up for the April 2 Confirmation Mass. Will soon send the Liturgy Plans to the Archbishop for approval. Musicians from St. Stephen's Student Center will lead us in music for the Mass. We have 85 Candidates being Confirmed.
- Candidate group photos were delivered to parishes in January. Prayer cards were provided for those wishing to pray for a particular candidate. I'm hoping that all parishes have been able to display these.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

- Continuing 2x per month at QP and SH; weekly at St. Ed's.

Professional Development

- Attended Feb. 7 regional MAC (Ministry-Affiliated-Cohort) meeting with area Faith Formation Leaders. Next meeting is March 14
- Participated in Feb. 13 "Digital Open House" with Archdiocesan Faith Formation Staff.

Other

- Worked with Dave Cushing to coordinate the Feb. 19 Family Night that was held at Blessed Sacrament. The night helped families prepare for meaningful observance of Lent. 35 families (126 people) attended.

Will lead a small faith sharing group from Sacred Heart during Len

Office Manager

Becky McElroy

Meetings

- Preparing agenda's, updating information, and sending out meeting agenda's and minutes from the FFAT meetings.

Staff/Office

- Support staff with ongoing needs.
- Daily office duties.
- Put in survey monkey surveys for Dave..
- Invoiced for CORE, Sunday and Wednesday RE.
- Preparing month end financial reports for Commission and Team. Send out individual monthly income statements to team members.

- Prepared a preliminary budget for 2017-2018. Working on a proposed budget of what will be spent the rest of this physical year.
- Worked on Baptism packet copying and folding project for Dave.
- Attended staff retreat at American Martyrs. Prepared the prayer and facilitated the team retreat on February 27th.