

MOST HOLY REDEEMER CHURCH
EVANGELIZATION TEAM MINUTES
DECEMBER 5, 2016

Present: Fr. Shaun O'Connor, Bernice Baranowski, John Gibbons, Mariana Hynninen, Donna Paddock, Linda Wiesner, Joe Pelis

Absent: Alvira Balut, Joan Smola

I. REPORT: November 5, 2016, meeting minutes accepted and to be posted to our Web site: www.mhrhadley.org

II. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Pens for Welcome Cards – Pens have been received and will be put in pews.
- B. January Appreciation Dinner – The team refined its plans for the dinner to be held Friday, January 27, at 6:00 p.m. (snow date: January 28) to honor Food Pantry volunteers, Weekend Meals volunteers, and others as appropriate. Food Pantry and Weekend Meals volunteers from the First Congregational Church of Hadley will be invited as well. Donna Paddock reported that she had begun putting together the guest list of Weekend Meals volunteers and had emailed Lisa West of the First Congregational Church for a list of their Weekend Meals volunteers. Father Shaun noted that he could provide names of original group of cooks and shoppers. Donna Paddock will also contact Sylvia Procopio, original program coordinator, for information about volunteers involved early on. Evangelization Team members also volunteered for the following tasks: Mariana Hynninen to get invitations out at end of December; Bernice Baranowski to order cake and be the contact person for people responding to our invitation; Linda Wiesner to contact and work with Stan Adams on decorating tables; Joe Pelis to contact electrician to ensure that electric panel can handle load of multiple crockpots; Joe Pelis to contact John Kieras to discuss setting up gas lines for stove and ovens in a way that is easier for users to access. (Also, at the Nov. 3, 2016 meeting, Joan Smola volunteered to contact Kathryn Buckley-Brawner, director of Catholic Charities, to see if she would be willing to be our guest speaker and Ann Koski at the First Congregational Church for a list of their Food Pantry volunteers.)
- C. Lessons and Carols – The team decided not to hold a Lessons and Carols event at MHR this year. John Gibbons reported that those he had contacted were unable to participate this year, including MHR choir director Doug Almanzar, Rock Voices, and the Pope Francis High School choir. Bernice Baranowski reported that a group at UMass was also unavailable.
- D. *The Great Bible Experiment: Exploring the Bible in America* – Joan Smola had emailed the following link to team members <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zn1QNYtlCuU>. Team members who watched the video found it interesting, and agreed it would be worth seeing if there are related programs/materials available that could be used at the parish level.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Lenten Events – As an alternative to Lessons and Carols during Advent, Father Shaun proposed we might do a program of Psalms and Songs during Lent. John Gibbons volunteered to contact the Pope Francis High School choir to see about

their availability during Lent, which begins March 1. In addition, Linda Wiesner volunteered to contact a group in upstate New York that does “living” Stations of the Cross.

- B. Ecumenical Prayer Service – Father Shaun proposed that we hold an ecumenical prayer service at MHR (possibly on June 4, Pentecost Sunday, in place of our usual 10:30 Mass). The prayer service would commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. A suggestion was made to invite local church leaders (including Pastor Christina Williams of the First Congregational Church of Hadley, as well as the former pastor of that church) to a meeting to discuss the possibility of an ecumenical prayer service.
- C. Wine, Cheese & Jazz Fundraiser – Father Shaun noted that Alex from our 4:00 choir had offered to put together a musical group to play at an MHR fundraiser. The Evangelization Team discussed the possibility of a wine, cheese & jazz event, along with a silent auction, to be held sometime in February 2017. Father Shaun provided Alex with Bernice Baranowski’s contact information. Father Shaun also mentioned that we may want to consider forming an MHR Events Committee to plan events that do not have a clear evangelization connection.

Mariana Hynninen agreed to set the date of the next Evangelization Team meeting and email team members.