



HOLY FAMILY PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

November 19, 2014, 7:30 PM

Present: Fr. Andy Aaron, Dan Brown, Sean Burke, Jeanne Catrow, Ann Dowling, Rick Hess, Mary Ann Jensen, Loretta Haring, Emily Rowe, Mary Ann Sabo, Lynda Turner, Jack Weaver

Guests: Christy Cosgrove, Doni Dondero

Absent: Stephen Ayers, Dcn. Tom Beales, Franklin Daily, Dennis Duffy, Maureen Laski, Katherine Lemanski, John Mantini,

Opening Prayer: Christy Cosgrove

Welcome and Announcements

- Meeting Participation
- December Meeting – Pot luck reception starts at 7:00 PM

Approval of Minutes - October Meeting Minutes were approved as submitted.

Guest Speaker – Christy Cosgrove, Adult Education Director

Pastor's Remarks - Parish Updates: Chapel Ramp Construction and Welcome Table

Reports

- PC Executive Committee Meeting (10/31/14)
 - Minutes and Pillar/Committee Reports
 - Discussed means for obtaining timely and regular committee reports
 - Action Items/ Plan:
 - Ann Dowling to work with finance and pillar heads to identify and create list of committee leaders
 - Once Ann creates list, Jack Weaver to draft letter requesting quarterly reports
 - Guest Speakers
 - Action Item: Group to think about list of guest speakers to invite to each meeting
- Pillar Reports – Comments and Questions
 - Action Items
 - Suggestion to remove financial reporting requirements from pillar report forms to avoid confusion.
- Finance Committee - FY 15 Financial Statements (YTD)
- Religious Education Pillar Representative – Candidate Nomination and Vote
 - Rick Hess reported that the Nominating Committee recommended the nomination of Doni Dondero as Education Pillar Representative, replacing Lynda Turner.
 - Doni left the room while Rick provided overview of her background
 - Nomination seconded by Mary Ann Jensen; vote was unanimous in favor of Doni serving as the Education Pillar Representative. Doni will assume those duties immediately.



Holy Family Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes – Continued November 19, 2014

Old Business

- Presentation - Make Church Matter Conference For Parish Leaders, November 6-7, Church of the Nativity, Timonium, MD – Rick and Fr. Andy
 - Father Andy takeaways:
 - Simplify church website
 - Action item: build team to lead this initiative
 - Focus on smaller active groups
 - Action item: Initial focus on men’s group—encourage men to attend February retreat.
 - Welcoming New Members
 - Action item: create a welcome table in main entrance for information and registration—Jerry Coffman to lead effort
 - Enhance children’s program—increase focus on music and videos
 - Doni and Sharon to take trip in upcoming months to Church of Nativity to see how they incorporate music and video into children’s program.
 - Rich Hess takeaways:
 - Technology
 - Action item: Group to consider ways the parish could benefit from increased use of technology.
 - Organization and administration
 - Accountability of staff and volunteers
 - Delivery of kind truth and constructive feedback
 - Adult ministry
 - Action item: Consider benefit of asking people directly to serve/volunteer when needed. We need to do more than simply read announcements or place notices in bulletins.
 - Culture
 - Action item: Council to consider and begin to discuss at the December meeting the question: What is the culture of Holy Family and what we as a parish want that culture to be.

New Business

- Mid-Atlantic Congress (MAC) - Forming Catholic Leaders for Faith-Filled Service, February 12-14, 2015, Baltimore, MD (<http://www.midatlanticcongress.org/home.html>)
- Passion and Purpose Seminar with Matthew Kelly, April 18, 2015, Severna Park , MD (<http://dynamiccatholic.com/events/passion-and-purpose/>)
 - Action Item/Decision: Get block of ten tickets for the event.

Good of the Order Discussion

Final Blessing and Adjourn (8:45 p.m.): Father Andy

Minutes prepared by Sean Burke

**Holy Family Catholic Church
Parish Pastoral Council
Monthly Report**

To: Parish Pastoral Council Members **Month:** November 2014

From: Ann Dowling **Pillar:** Evangelization

Activities/Accomplishments: (Please include participation & financial data)

Faith and Abilities

- Had first youth/disabilities mass on Nov. 2
- Had a planning meeting on Nov. 9 for our day of pampering. We are asking all ministries at HF to help us identify caretakers of children, husbands and parents with disabilities. Our day of pampering will be May 30 here at HF. We are looking for volunteers to help make this day a successful event.

Cenacles

- Hosted a talk Nov. 5 on the Joy of Living the Gospel. Attendance maybe 60 people.

Welcome Committee

- We had more than 40 new parishioners and their family members attend the recent New Parishioners' Luncheon. It was a wonderful afternoon with a lot of good fellowship and many happy children running around! The Fellowship Committee planned the luncheon and did a great job, as always. Several members of the Welcome Committee attended and were able to connect with parishioners whom we were not able to reach by phone and also strengthen ties with those we had already met. Each ministry head present gave a brief summary of their ministry and opportunities to get involved at Holy Family Church.

Adoration

- We are very excited to share with you the changes that are now in effect concerning Adoration. The board consisting of the following members, Sue Kilby, Paul Dallavalle, Jim O'Neill, Chuck Miller, Mary Shroud, and Mary St. Denis, will work as one. We no longer will have day captains. A master email list has been created to share all information with all adorants via one email
- The Oratory will remain open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We will no longer close for holidays except those dictated by the Easter Triduum. The Oratory will be closed part of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. The Oratory will be closed on Holy

Thursday evening after the 6 pm hour. The Oratory will reopen Easter Sunday at 12 am (Midnight).

Activities Planned in Next 2 Months: (Please specify estimated cost & source)

Faith and Abilities

- We will be serving for the homeless in December.

Cenacles

- We will start promoting the 33 Day Consecration preparation in mid-December with the books being offered the last weekend in December and first weekend in January

Calendar Notes: (Please identify if activity is approved & on calendar)

Problems/Concerns: (Please be specific with possible recommendations)

**Holy Family Catholic Church
Parish Pastoral Council
Monthly Report**

To: Parish Pastoral Council Members **Month:** November 2014

From: Dan Brown **Pillar:** Liturgy

Activities/Accomplishments: (Please include participation & financial data)

- Advent/Christmas needs—programs, minister sign-ups, etc. in progress
- Wish list for liturgical items are being ordered and some have arrived
- Thanksgiving mass set ups are complete as is the food delivery
- We are all set for the menu and workers for the first evening that the homeless will be with us; assignments have been given out

Activities Planned in Next 2 Months: (Please specify estimated cost & source)

- We're planning on 40 wreath kits which have already gone and sale and will continue to be sold. All items have been secured by Ann Stagnaro.

Calendar Notes: (Please identify if activity is approved & on calendar)

Problems/Concerns: (Please be specific with possible recommendations)

**Holy Family Catholic Church
Parish Pastoral Council
Monthly Report**

To: Parish Pastoral Council Members

Month: November

From: _____Maureen Konschnik

Committee: _____Finance_____

Activities/Accomplishments: (Please include participation & financial data

- Annual Report completed, posted on the Parish web site and summarized in the weekly bulletin
- Stewardship Sunday appeal made
- Offertory for the first four months of the fiscal year is \$4,000 above budget with increases in Faith Direct offsetting lower envelope and loose collection totals. Building fund is \$2000 under budget for the four months. Both numbers are running above the same period in 2013.
- Collections for the first two weekends of November are running to budget for the month.
- Cash balances continue to be strong and the capital reserve is added to each month.
- Embracing our Mission rebates continue to fund separate account which will be used annually to make principal curtailment on the mortgage.
- Decision made to not incur the \$7,000 cost of a capital reserve study, but rather to put an internal schedule for anticipated repairs and replacements in place.
- Contracts reviewed, issues identified and plan recommended to Father Andy for tighter controls.

Activities Planned in Next 2 Months: (Please specify estimated cost & source)

- Quarterly financial reviews will be done with staff and ministry heads to better manage expense levels
- Replacement/repair schedule to be designed and implemented
- \$30356.44 Cathedraticum payment to be made this quarter, bringing the liability for the fye 6/30/2014 to \$100,000.

2517 - Holy Family Parish, Davidsonville
Budget vs. Actuals: Budget FY15 - FY15 P&L
 July - September, 2014

Qtr 1 FY15 Pastoral Council

	Total			% of Budget
	Actual	Budget	over Budget	
Income				
A-1 Offertory Collections				0.00
Total A-1 Offertory Collections	\$ 208,086.08	\$ 204,475.00	\$ 3,611.08	101.77%
A-2 Other Operating Income				0.00
Total A-2 Other Operating Income	\$ 2,745.36	\$ 7,500.00	\$ (4,754.64)	36.60%
A-3 Operating Income from Investments				0.00
Total A-3 Operating Income from Investments	\$ 14.09	\$ -	\$ 14.09	
A-4 Specific Operating Areas Income				0.00
Total A-4 Specific Operating Areas Income	\$ 42,001.08	\$ 60,970.00	\$ (18,968.92)	68.89%
A-5 Evangelization, Catechesis, and Other Program Income				0.00
Total A-5 Evangelization, Catechesis, and Other Program Income	\$ 50,935.02	\$ 58,324.00	\$ (7,388.98)	87.33%
Total Income	\$ 303,781.63	\$ 331,269.00	\$ (27,487.37)	91.70%
Expenses				
B Cost of Facilities				0.00
Total B Cost of Facilities	\$ 46,706.53	\$ 44,185.00	\$ 2,521.53	105.71%
C Administration Expenses				0.00
Total C Administration Expenses	\$ 18,309.56	\$ 18,489.00	\$ (179.44)	99.03%
D Worship Expense				0.00
Total D Worship Expense	\$ 11,562.27	\$ 17,872.00	\$ (6,309.73)	64.69%
E Specific Operating Area Expenses				0.00
Total E Specific Operating Area Expenses	\$ 45,678.59	\$ 45,992.00	\$ (313.41)	99.32%
F Labor Costs				0.00
Total F Labor Costs	\$ 110,245.12	\$ 104,367.00	\$ 5,878.12	105.63%
G Employee Benefit Costs				0.00
Total G Employee Benefit Costs	\$ 33,565.80	\$ 34,398.00	\$ (832.20)	97.58%
H Evangelization, Catechesis, and Other Programs Expenses				0.00
Total H Evangelization, Catechesis, and Other Programs Expenses	\$ 38,018.83	\$ 38,287.00	\$ (268.17)	99.30%
I School and Archdiocesan Support				0.00
Total I School and Archdiocesan Support	\$ 53,753.00	\$ 51,753.00	\$ 2,000.00	103.86%
Total Expenses	\$ 357,839.70	\$ 355,343.00	\$ 2,496.70	100.70%
Net Operating Income	\$ (54,058.07)	\$ (24,074.00)	\$ (29,984.07)	224.55%
Other Income				
K-1 Fundraising Income				0.00
Total K-1 Fundraising Income	\$ 88,613.88	\$ 98,750.00	\$ (10,136.12)	89.74%
K-3 Other Non- Operating Income				0.00
Total K-3 Other Non- Operating Income	\$ 106,271.00	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 105,021.00	8501.68%
Total Other Income	\$ 194,884.88	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 94,884.88	194.88%
Other Expenses				
L Other Non-Operating Expenses				0.00
Total L Other Non-Operating Expenses	\$ 42,329.60	\$ 13,396.00	\$ 28,933.60	315.99%
Total Other Expenses	\$ 42,329.60	\$ 13,396.00	\$ 28,933.60	315.99%
Net Other Income	\$ 152,555.28	\$ 86,604.00	\$ 65,951.28	176.15%
Net Income	\$ 98,497.21	\$ 62,530.00	\$ 35,967.21	157.52%

Donaileen Dondero

Candidate for Pastoral Council, Religious Education Pillar Representative

Donaileen Dondero has been married to John for 44 years. They have two children and two grandchildren. Doni volunteers with Special Olympics and helps coach the county bocce team. Over the years, she has volunteered with The Arc of Prince George's County, where she chaired the education committee, eventually convincing the superintendent of schools to revamp education for children with special needs. She served on The Arc board of directors as an officer and member of the executive committee. She is currently a volunteer in Holy Family's office, helped recruit new catechists and worked with a small group of teachers to develop a presentation for catechists on classroom management.

Doni's professional life includes both business and education. As the marketing communications director for a national company, she was responsible for internal and external corporate communications. As director of communications and member development for the dairy lobby, she acted as an industry spokesperson on legislative issues, wrote speeches for member executives, trained those executives to deliver Congressional testimony and to respond to media inquiries, managed the young adult leadership training program, planned conventions that drew over 2,000 attendees, and spoke to various dairy industry groups around the country as part of the organization's coalition building.

Doni sought a career change that would allow her to use her strengths and experience, and chose teaching. She taught English language and literature in a public school program for high school students who were diagnosed as being emotionally disturbed. During her teaching tenure, she was tapped by Prince George's County to present her organization and classroom management techniques to other teachers at an annual teacher training session. She also served on the curriculum writing team charged with adding a course for these challenged students that would address time management, responsibility, organization, and decision-making.

Matter.14

Make Church Matter Conference Church of the Nativity (CoN), Timonium, MD November 6-7, 2014

VIP Pass – Available November 30, 2014

Select Keynotes – Breakout Handouts – Videos

URL: <http://www.dropcards.com/matter14>

Access Code:

Day 1

Opening General Session – Fr. Michael White, Pastor (CoN)

Evangelization and Discipleship – The Misconception – You CAN do both!

Notes:

- Misconception about Church of the Nativity = “All you care about is the numbers.”
- Evangelization improves discipleship, which in turn, improves evangelization.
- Challenge – The parishioners in the pews want you to take care of them, and will criticize your evangelical efforts. (RH Comment: I don’t agree.)

Day 2

General Session – Peter Lencioni, Founder and CEO of The Table Group

Organization Health

4 Disciplines of a Healthy Organization

1. Build a cohesive leadership team
2. Create clarity
3. Over communicate clarity
4. Reinforce clarity

Mastering the 5 Behaviors (Overcoming the dysfunctions of a team)

1. Build Trust
2. Engage in Conflict
3. Conflict allows us to arrive at true commitment
4. Lack of accountability
5. Results

Notes:

- Mediocrity – Turns off people from volunteering.
- Don’t tolerate behaviors in your church organization that you wouldn’t tolerate in your business.
- Don’t misplace the love of Christ for holding people accountable.
- Don’t fear the hard direction.
- Shed the silos, take off your hat, have a consistent rallying cry. (RH Comment: Within reason.)

Breakout Session One - Peter Lencioni, Author of 10 NY Times Best Sellers

Organizational Health – Getting Clarity in your Parish (Staff Culture)

Reference Book: The Advantage – Why organizational health trumps everything else in your business

Focus Topic – Healthy Organizational Discipline #2 - Create Clarity

1. Why do we exist?
2. How do we behave?
3. What do we do?
4. How will we survive?
5. What is most important, right now?
6. Who must do what?

Notes:

- Priests want candid feedback; learn how to deliver the “kind” truth
- Who has the say on the parish culture? – the pastor and church leaders
- Do you have a parish mission statement? – Ex. “To save people’s souls and bring them the gift of Christ.”
- What are your parish core values? – Are they true?
- No one should work at a church because they “need a job.” – Pay their salary and let them stay home because they often do more harm than good.
- Beware of “infectious” poor performing volunteers and staff members
- Treat your volunteers like staff; hold them accountable
- Learn that it is OK to move on
- Focus on the “Now” – What are the 3-5 key goals right now?
- Develop a plan and spend some time at every meeting talking about the plan and what is being done to execute/further it.

Breakout Session Two – Stephanie Downes, Director of Adult Ministry (CoN)

Adult Ministry – Get out of the Pews!

10 Keys:

1. Make ministry accessible
2. Encourage personal invitations
3. Communicate vision, not need
4. Clarify the “win”
5. Keep Christ at the center
6. Share the load
7. Keep it simple
8. Lead like a servant
9. Police the culture
10. Express your gratitude

Notes:

- The Ask – I saw how much you enjoyed this experience, we would like you to be part of our ministry – or would you like to come out and give it a try?
- Manage the “First Serve” shepherding process; offer the 90 min. “no obligation” test drive
- Make the ministry “bite-size”
- Pulpit announcements and bulletin inserts don’t work; get out of the pews and ask personally

Breakout Session Three – Meghan Gilkin, Time Travelers Coordinator (CoN)

Children’s Liturgy of the Word Demonstration – Time Travelers

Problem – Couldn’t get kids interested in CoN Liturgy of the Word

Approach – Cast a vision for what it would be like if EVERY child wanted to go to Mass

Goal – Worship authentically; bring the weekly “message” home; practice what we learn (be a disciple)

1. Provide an irresistible environment
2. Help kids live out our mission
3. Serve as an extension to the “Big Church”
4. Engage kids in a high-energy worship event (Bible stories and lessons) with music, movement, and engaging/interactive multi-media and live presentations

Notes:

- Demonstration of Time Travelers weekly program (30 min. for 1st-5th graders) - Parade (processional) – Quiet & Center – Pray – Physical Activity (song & dance) – Songs – Big Idea (video – Train the Brain) – Travel Back in Time (play/skit) – Parade (recessional)
 - Weekly messages are planned out 1 year in advance by Tom Corcoran and Fr. Michael; presenters prepare weekly children’s message 1-2 months in advance.
 - Presenters are all volunteers (1 adult leader and 3-10 student aides (6th-12th graders)
- ***See handout/attachment with overview, resources, sample program outline and script.**

Breakout Session Four – Tom Corcoran, Associate to the Pastor; Sue Mihok, Director of Operations (CoN)

Nativity Operations

Goal – Have everything run seamlessly to ensure the weekly “message” is delivered.

Notes:

- Key areas of focus: IT; Finances; Facility; HR; Growth
- 13-14 full time and 10 part-time staff
- 3,000 registered parishioners with 1,500 annually contributing
- Attendance: 4,000 average weekend parishioner attendance; 8,000 for holidays (Easter/Christmas)
- Church is a weekend operation – Staff work on Sunday
- Recently raised \$9.7M in pledges for a new sanctuary (capital improvements)

- CoN pushes many of the “office” administrative tasks to the Welcome/Information Desk; they have minimal admin/support staff.
- 41% of giving is received online (electronic giving) and they are working to increase that %; they do not have a second collection.
- STAND Training – Parishioners can volunteer (serve) twice in a chosen “ministry” (group activity) then they MUST be STAND certified regardless of what activity they participate in.
- 120 “Ministers” (volunteers) assisted with the Matter.14 conference.
- Parish Council is an advisory/sounding board for the pastor and staff; they do not need to drive programs of operations, they try hard to “stay out of the way” of the staff.
- No small group fund raising allowed; all activities are funded through formal giving activities.

Matter.14 Prayer

Lord God,
help us release the tight grip of our comfort in familiar habits.
Give us courage to move forward with positive change
that will make our parish matter in our community.
Banish our fear of conflict
and make us worthy to serve you and your Church with grace and boldness.
We pray through Christ, our Lord. Amen

Be strong and courageous, and do the work.
Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the LORD God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake
you until all the work for the service of the temple of the Lord is finished.

- 1 Chronicles 28:20

Time Travelers Breakout

I. Introduction

A. Why Time Travelers?

1. Provides an irresistible environment
 - i. Entry point for families is Mass
 - ii. It is imperative to focus on creating inviting, memorable worship opportunities
2. Helps kids live out our Mission: to live, pray, and grow in their relationship with Christ.
3. Serves as an extension of Big Church
4. Engages kids in high-energy worship music, an interactive Bible Story, and a message designed just for them.

B. History – evolved over 9 years

1. Started as typical Children's Liturgy of the Word program
2. Used pre-packaged "corporate worship" materials for kids
3. Created unique Kids' Series' to align with Big Church

II. Components –

A. Environment

1. Have a *Plan*: What does an irresistible kids' environment look like?
2. Have a *Purpose*: It's important to be intentional with your space.
3. Have a *Target*: Plan your worship experience with a 4th Grade boy in mind.

B. Welcome/Opening Song

1. Engages kids right away, using high-energy music that sticks!
2. Sets the mood, matches the theme, & connects with kids
 - i. Utilizes hand motions to help kids remember the words/themes.
 - ii. Repeats all series.

C. Opening Prayer

1. Models spontaneous prayer through Praising, Thanking, and Asking)
2. Utilizes a "Repeat After Me" format

D. Big Idea

1. Illustrates the main point of the series, helping kids focus their hearts and minds, in order to grow in Jesus' love.
2. Repeats every week
3. Rhymes or is catchy (to help kids remember the theme)
 - i. Example: "When life gets tough – just trust and pray. Have faith in God to make a way!"

E. Bible Story

1. Makes the Bible (Lectionary readings) come to life through being presented in an interactive format
2. Process (How we develop our interactive Bible Stories)

- a. Read the Bible Story out of Children's Bible
- b. Ask: How can I get kids involved in the Bible story?
- c. Ask: How can I make it memorable (i.e. costumes, props, etc.)?
- d. Ask: Is there something already created that would work well?

F. Message

1. Applies Scripture to real-life illustrations so that kids can learn how to **LIVE** out their faith
2. Ensures that we are One Church One Message
3. Process to Write Messages
 - a. Big Church Message Team gives Kids' Ministry the "adult" message summaries for each series
 - b. Kids' Ministry adapts the weekly "adult" topics for kids
 - c. Kids' Ministry researches creative illustrations
 - d. Create messages: explanation & application (2-3 min. long)

G. Talk Time

1. Utilizes questioning to clarify the message
2. Allows kids to share their personal experiences so they can help each other **GROW** in their faith.

H. Challenge

1. Applies the message to the upcoming week – What do we want kids/students to do with what they learned?
 - i. Example: *"Show God you trust him by thanking God for all the blessings in your life."*
2. *Your Challenge:* choose one "Time Travelers" component above, and try it out in your church!

Kids Ministry Resources



Music

1. Worship House Kids <http://www.worshiphousekids.com/>
2. AmberSky Records: www.amberskyrecords.com
3. Hillsong Kids: <http://www.hillsongkids.com/>
4. Yancy (kids worship leader Preschool-Middle School): <http://yancynotnancy.com/>
5. Vacation Bible School (We like "Group" music/curriculum the best)

Bible Story Resources

1. Crossroads Kids Club: <https://vimeo.com/kidsclub> (can easily view stories on vimeo, but can download the videos easiest -for free - on iTunes)
2. WorshipHouse Kids: <http://www.worshiphousekids.com>
3. Group: Play-n-Worship for Toddlers and Twos (Nursery/Preschool) <http://www.group.com/sunday-school/play-n-worship>
4. *Jesus Storybook Bible* (Book & DVD's) – By Sally Lloyd Jones
5. *The Humongous Book of Bible Skits for Children's Ministry* (Group Publishers, 2006)
6. *Sharable Parables: Creative Storytelling Ideas for Ages 3-12*, by Steven James (Standard Publishing, 2005)
7. *30 Interactive New Testament Stories for Young Children*, by Steven James (Standard Publishing, 2006)
8. *30 Interactive Old Testament Stories for Young Children*, by Steven James (Standard Publishing, 2006)

Small Group Activity Ideas; Message Illustrations

1. Preschool/Elementary Small Groups: & Elevate Jr. Curriculum: <http://www.elevatechurch.com/>
2. General Children's Ministry Ideas: <http://group.com/>
3. Topical Activity Ideas: <http://ministry-to-children.com/>
4. KidzMatter/K! Magazine: <http://www.kidzmatter.com/>
5. General Children's Ministry Ideas: <http://childrensministry.com/>
6. Sermons4Kids: <http://www.sermons4kids.com/>
7. North Point Kids: <https://vimeo.com/npkids>
8. Seeds – Resources (Church on the Move): <https://seeds.churchonthemove.com/resources/kids>
9. Konnect - <http://open.lifechurch.tv>
10. Like Youtube, but Christian: www.godtube.com
11. *Big Book of Discipleship Basics (Gr. 3-6)* - Gospel Light Publishers, 2007
12. *The Humongous Book of Children's Messages* (Group Publishers, 2004)

Specifically Catholic (Sacramental Prep, Small Groups, Children's Liturgy of the Word)

1. Brother Francis Videos (Sacraments, prayers, Mass): <http://brotherfrancisonline.com/>
2. Catholic Activity ideas: <http://catholicicing.com/>
3. USCCB (for weekly readings): <http://www.usccb.org/>

INSPIRATIONAL BLOGS

1. Lead Small (Preschool, Elementary, & Youth small groups): <http://leadsmall.org/>
2. 252 Basics (Elementary Ministry): <http://252blog.com/>
3. Inside Northpoint Kids (Nursery-Elementary Ministry): <http://insidenorthpoint.org/kids/>
4. Marathon Youth Ministry (Student Ministry, but applicable to all leaders):
<http://www.christopherwesley.org/>
5. Inclusive Church (Serving kids with special needs): <http://theinclusivechurch.wordpress.com/>

INSPIRATIONAL BOOKS

1. *Think Orange* (Reggie Joiner, David C. Cook Publishing, 2009)
2. *Lead Small: 5 Big Ideas Every Small Group Leader Needs to Know* (Reggie Joiner, Tom Shefchunas, The reThink Group, Inc., 2012)
3. *Purpose Driven Youth Ministry* (Doug Fields, Zondervan Publishing, 1998)
4. *Help! I'm a Small Group Leader: 50 Ways to Lead Teenagers into Lively and Purposeful Discussions* (Laurie Polich, Youth Specialties, 1998)
5. *Sticky Faith* (Kara E. Powell & Chap Clark, Zondervan Publishing, 2011)
6. *Communicating for a Change* (Andy Stanley, Multnomah Books, 2006)

Nativity Kids' Ministry at a Glance

Worship for Kids

Kidzone (6 months-3 years) – all Masses

All Stars: Preschool (3-4) – 9:00, 10:30

All Stars: Kindergarten (5-6) – 9:00, 10:30

All Stars: Preschool & Kindergarten Combined – Saturday 5 PM, Sunday 12PM

Time Travelers (Kids Liturgy of the Word, Gr. 1-5) – Saturday 5 PM, Sunday 9, 10:30, 12PM

Faith Formation

Kids' Small Groups (Gr. 1-5) – Sunday 9, 10:30, 12PM

sacramental Prep: First Reconciliation & First Communion (Gr. 2-5) – October-May

Assisting kids with Special Needs

Buddy Ministry (Preschool-Grade 4)

Guest Services (accommodate & support new families)

Kids' Host Team

Office Support Team (help with clerical tasks during the week)

For more information or sample lessons, please contact:

Maggie German, Director of Children's Ministry (mgerman@churchnativity.tv)

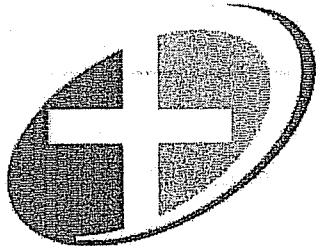
Lisa Scata, Coordinator of Kids Small Groups (lscata@churchnativity.tv)

Meghan Glikin, Coordinator of Time Travelers (mglikin@Churchnativity.tv)

For Current Information/Children's Ministry podcasts

<http://www.churchnativity.tv/kids-students>

Time Travelers



Week# 2 - We
can be content,
no matter what
(Matter Breakout)

November 7, 2014

Brain Games

	Length	
11/07	in	
12:10P	mins	Vocals

Welcome

12:10p 3:00 Entrance Song - Endless Praise
KIDS STAND

Song/Video is played while kids are entering. Song Leaders are dancing to the song on stage. Worship Leader is welcoming kids, clapping and getting kids pumped up.

(Tech Booth: Fade out song after Bridge.)

12:13p 3:00 Welcome
KIDS SIT

Hi and welcome back to our new series "Brain Games". In this series, we will be learning all about how you can train your brain to think like Christ. But first let's meet some of our ministers today. We need to get started with Brain Games. But first.

Does anyone have an offering today? Come and put it in the box. CMs will be choosing kids to help with our offertory today too. Remember if you need anything raise your hand and a CM will help you.

Do we have anyone new today? Well if you are new or you come each week we are so glad you are here. In Time Travelers we sing and dance to worship songs, act out the Bible story and hear a message made just for you. Also, we have a special oath in Time Travelers that reminds us to be respectful while we are in the theater. Let's raise our right hand and repeat after me.

I special oath
"I promise
Safety is Number #1
I'll Listen till we're done
And with my friends, have fun!
So help me, God :)"
Let's pray.

	Length in mins		Vocals
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12:16p 1:00 Prayer

(Tech Booth: Click slide to play soft music while Worship Leader prays.)

KIDS SIT

PRAISE Him!

THANK Him!

ASK for His Guidance! (on our series or week's topic)

Example:

In the name of the Father, the Son & the Holy Spirit

Dear God,

PRAISE: WE love you SO much!

THANK: THANK YOU SO MUCH for bringing us all together today

ASK: Please HELP US and BE WITH US today as we learn how to live like Jesus.

We pray this in your Son Jesus' name AMEN!

12:17p 1:00 Hand Motions - Who I Wanna Be?

KIDS STAND

Now it's time to bring our song leaders up for another song. We want everyone to be up and participating! This song is called Who I Wanna Be? We have been talking about thinking Godly thoughts. It can be hard sometimes to think like Jesus, but when we try to live like Jesus our thoughts become more like his thoughts. Who do you wanna be?

Song Leader:

(Song Leader introduces & teaches song to kids.)

12:18p 3:33 Opening Song - Who I Wanna Be?

KIDS STAND

Kids sing/dance to Opening Song.

(Tech Booth: Play Opening Song video.)

11/07
12:10P

Length
in
mins

Vocals

12-21-33p 6:00 **Big Idea**
(Tech: Play "What's the big idea?" video.)

KIDS SIT

We are talking all about how we think. Our brains are constantly at work. We take "In" information, process it or "think about that information" and then use that information. We might use that information right away or save it for a future situation. Your brain can use this information when times are tough, too. If you are sad, stressed or worried, you can use what you know to help you handle tough situations.

Let's find out how as we play "4 Circles." For those of you who are new, we will display a question on the screen and give you 4 possible answers. All of the answers are correct, but we want you to try and guess the answer that most kids from Nativity gave to our question. When we say go, you will move to the colored circle rug that is the same as your choice. Let's try it.

For our first question, we asked kids here at Nativity, what is something they wish they could have or do? Here are some of their answers:

When I say go, you will move to the colored rug that is the same as the answer you think was most popular. If you think "Pet" was most popular, you will move to the purple rug. If you think "Phone" was most popular, you will move to the green rug. Red rug if you think "Gymnastics/flip" was the most popular answer and yellow rug if you think "Money/Be rich" was the most popular answer.

1, 2, 3, GO! (Comment on the choices before you reveal.)

Let's see what the most popular answer was... Pet!!!

A lot of you were correct, but even the other choices show us that kids here at Nativity wish they had a lot more. Have a seat where you are.

But God wants you to be content with what you have. What does it mean to be content? Being content is not wanting more and having peace about it. Sometimes when you don't feel content, it can cause a lot of fear, worry, and sadness. God wants you to be content, no matter what is happening in your life and that includes when you feel sad because others have things you don't have or can do things you can't do. God wants you to know you don't have to feel that way. He wants you to know His peace and joy. But how can we do that? Let's find out how by asking our next question.

We are talking about how to find peace and contentment in a tough situation, so stand up for the next question... what do kids at Nativity do to find peace in a tough situation?

Let's check out some of their answers. When I say go, you will move to the colored rug that is the same as the answer you think was most popular. If you think "Read"

11/07
12:10P

Length
in
mins

Vocals

was most popular, you will move to the purple rug. If you think "Pray" was most popular answer, you will move to the green rug. Red rug if you think "Go to my Room" was the most popular answer and yellow rug if you think "Talk to someone" was most popular.

1, 2, 3 GO! (Comment on the choices before you reveal.)

Let's see what the most popular answer was. Pray!

Great Job, everyone! Have a seat! Even if you didn't pick the most popular answer, that's okay because all of these answers can help us. All of these suggestions in today's game can help us think Godly Thoughts. We are all winners today because when we have peace and contentment, we all win. The secret is to remember the things that God has done for us in our past, so that even if we are going through a tough time, we know that God is there for us. These are Godly Thoughts. The simple act of taking a few minutes each day to think about God can change the way we think about our troubles. That reminds me of this month's Big Idea. On the count of three, let me hear you say, "What's the Big Idea?"

Feeling worried, alone, or ashamed?
Think Godly thoughts, play the Brain Game!

Repeat after me.

Boys Vs. Girls?

12:27:33p 0:42 **Time Traveling**
KIDS SIT

Awesome Job! I need 5 volunteers for today's bible story. (Choose 5 volunteers.)
Great! Now it's time for us to travel back in time to hear God's word.

(Tech Booth: Play Time Traveling video.)

12:28:15p 3:00 **Bible Story**
KIDS SIT

Lead Bible Story as directed in the attachment.

The Great Banquet

(For this story, we will need a rich man, a worker, and 3 people)

Jesus and the Pharisees didn't see eye to eye. The Pharisees were often on the prowl to try trick Jesus into saying or doing something that they could use against Him. They didn't like the fact that people followed Him, respected Him, honored Him and enjoyed listening to Him. Jesus was a threat to their power.

So one night a prominent Pharisee invited Jesus over for dinner so they could keep an eye on Jesus. The Pharisees were always so focused on the law and on tricking Jesus, that they failed to realize that their savior was right in front of them inviting them to follow Him. Jesus told this parable to help them understand that they were being distracted from what God wanted them to do. Let's check it out!

**Before we begin, let's start by saying...*

***WORSHIP LEADER:** *The Lord be with you.*

KIDS: *And with your Spirit.*

***WORSHIP LEADER:** *This is a reading from the Gospel of Matthew.*

KIDS: *Glory to You, Oh Lord (show kids how to make the cross on their forehead, lips, & heart)*

(Use a cape and crown to show that the man is rich.)

A rich man wanted to throw a great big party! What did he do to get ready for the party? Right! He blew up balloons! (Rich man should blow up a balloon. Use sound effect.) Let's all blow up some balloons... (Sound effect again.) What else did he do? Rich man, can you act what I said. First, he set the table... and mixed up a cake.. and baked it.. and ate it up. (Burp! sound effect) Oops! We can't do that until we invite everyone over!

The rich man told one of his workers, "Go tell my friends the party is ready to start!" Rich man repeats, "Go tell my friends the party is ready to start!"

So the man hurried... He walked over to the first friend's house. Walk faster... and faster... run! And STOP. Freeze!

Good!

Now repeat after me, "The party is ready, so come with me!"

But the first person shook his head no... (First person should shake his head "no.") S/he made up an excuse... What excuses to you think s/he used? (Allow a few children to respond). Those are all good ideas! In Jesus' story, the man said he had to go look at a field. Bad excuse! BORING! TT, show me two thumbs down.

So the worker hurried to the next person. Walk faster...faster...faster! and STOP! Freeze!

Again he said, "The party is ready, so come with me!" (Repeat after me.) **"THE PARTY IS READY, SO COME WITH ME!"**

But this guy shook his/her head "no" too! S/he made up an excuse... what do you think S/he might have said? (Allow for a few children to respond). In Jesus' story, he said he had to go try out some oxen s/he just bought! Bad excuse! BORING! Show me thumbs down...

He went up to the third person! Ready? Fast... Faster... Faster! STOP! Freeze! He said the same thing. Ready? Repeat after me. **"THE PARTY IS READY, SO COME WITH ME!"** This guy said, "I gotta go see my girlfriend (boyfriend)!" Bad excuse! Yuck! Show me two thumbs down...

So he invited other people. Who wants to go to the party? Raise your hands! And the rich man invited some people to come who were poor or sick or couldn't walk! God wants everyone in His kingdom, so don't say no to God! Say yes to God instead!

WORSHIP LEADER: This is the Gospel of the Lord

KIDS: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

11/07 Length
12:10P in
 mins

Vocals

12:31:15p 3:00 **Message**
 KIDS SIT

(Tech Booth: Play Video Message.)

(This is a Video.)

How many of you like to get invited places? Whether it's a birthday party, a play date, or an awards ceremony, it feels good to be included, doesn't it? In today's story, a King invites all the wealthiest people in town to his celebration, but they all ignore him. The King is furious, so instead, he has his servants invite everyone else on the street – the poorer people, good and bad. In the end, all people who ignored the King were punished, but those who were content with their lives, and who honored the King, were welcome to stay and celebrate. This story is meant to represent God...and us! When we are content in our circumstances, and honor God by remembering the good things God has done for us, we find true peace, even in hard times. Let's take a minute to play the Brain Game, and see what this looks like in real life. How would you handle this sticky situation?

Hello and welcome to Sticky situations! Playing our game will be one of these kids and YOU! During our series, we are going to put each of our contestants in a sticky situation and you are going to guess what each contestant will choose to do. Sound complicated? You'll catch on. Today's contestant is...

Here is your sticky situation. Your friend is having his birthday party at Redzone! (Applause!) You love Redzone – the laser tag, the laser maze and of course the tickets! Tickets! And yes, more tickets for prizes!!! But your friend's mom said he could only invite 3 friends. And he couldn't invite you too! (WA WA) It seems totally unfair. You invited him to your party with 15 of your closest friends and now he didn't give you an invitation. Now let's look at your choices. You could throw a raging fit and tell that him that he is not your friend anymore or you could be understanding because his mom said he had to have a small party. Think about it, your friend probably wanted to invited everyone in the class, but sometimes it's not your friend's choice. Time for you to play. What will our contestant choose? If you think he will throw a major fit and end the friendship, stand up. But if you think he will choose to be understanding, have a seat. (Clock ticking - Kid looks right and left). So what's it going to be? Nice Choice! (Applause! Kid with thumb up!) Glad you realized that your friend might not have had a choice in how many kids could be invited to his party. Maybe you should try and call him later to play basketball.

Length
11/07 in
12:10P mins

Vocals

12:34:15p 1:00 **Challenge**
KIDS SIT

Your challenge this week is to spend 5 minutes each day talking to God about something that happened during your day. Ask for His thoughts.

Here's how:

- a. Think about or share your highs and lows for the day.
- b. Thank God for the highs.
- c. Ask God to help you with the lows.
- d. Consider what you'll do/think/say different tomorrow.
- e. Close with a Hail Mary or an Our Father.

12:35:15p 3:00 **Talk Time**
KIDS SIT

Discussion Questions:

1. What are some things that make you sad, depressed, or scared?
2. What are the things that make you happy and joyful? Do you consider those things gifts God has given you? (encourage kids to think about their loving families, a great trip they took, good friends, their dog or cat, a sport they love to play – all gifts from God)
3. Talk about a time that you remember something God did for you when you were sad or scared? Do you think it's important to always remember when God helped you? Do you think he will help you again?
4. Do you have to have a bad attitude if things aren't going your way or do you think it's possible to have a good attitude even when bad stuff is happening? Tell me why.

(Tech Booth: Make sure the handheld Mic is being used if the audience is answering from their seats.)

12:38:15p 0:00 **Apostles' Creed**
KIDS STAND

(Tech booth: Play Apostles' Creed Video.)

12:38:15p 1:00 **Closing Prayer**
KIDS SIT

Pray for the kids to carry out the Mission this week. (Feel free to call a child on stage to pray out loud for the group, too. This will be a practice we will develop this year.)

11/07
12:10P

Length
in
mins

Vocals

12:39:15p 0:00 Closing Song - "Wake"
KIDS STAND
(Tech Booth: Play song)

12:39:15p 29:15

The Wise Men

Matthew 2:1-12

Sometime after Jesus was born, some special visitors came to see Him. These visitors were called magi. They were also known by other names, such as wise men, or kings.

The wise men lived in a faraway land in the East. They knew a great deal about the holy books. The holy books told them that it was time for a king to be born to the Jews.

One night they saw a beautiful star in the sky. It was not like other stars. It was very bright and beautiful. The star seemed to speak to them. So they set out on their camels, and traveled a long way. Setting out on a journey like that must have been scary for the wise men, because they didn't know where they were going, but God knew.

In today's bible story we will not only hear about the three wise men, but we will meet another king who's fears led to a bad decision. Let's begin their story by saying....

(*TT only does the next part in italics.)

**Before we begin, let's start by saying...*

***WORSHIP LEADER:** *The Lord be with you.*

KIDS: *And with your Spirit.*

WORSHIP LEADER: *This is a reading from the Gospel of Matthew.*

KIDS: *Glory to You, Oh Lord (show kids how to make the cross on their forehead, lips, & heart)*

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea. This happened while Herod was king of Judea.

Herod was the ruler of that region. He is not a very nice guy!

After Jesus' birth, Wise Men from the east came to Jerusalem. They asked, "Where is the child who has been born to be king of the Jews? When we were in the east, we saw his star. Now we have come to worship him." (Take out the Star or flashlight from the bag and hold it up.)

So these Wise Men, who lived in the east somewhere, saw a star in the sky. It must have been a pretty special star in order for them to be able to follow it.

When King Herod heard about it, he was very upset. (Take the crown out of the bag.) Everyone in Jerusalem was troubled too. So Herod called together all the chief priests of the people. He also called the teachers of the law. He asked them where the Christ was going to be born.

Why would a king, a grown man, be upset by a baby being born? Because, it was the prophecy that He would be the king of the Jews. The Jews lived in the region of Judea and Herod was the king. He didn't want anyone coming in and taking over his kingdom.

"In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied. "This is what the prophet has written. He said,

"But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are certainly not the least important among the towns of Judah.

A ruler will come out of you.

He will be the shepherd of my people Israel.' " —(Micah 5:2)

Then Herod called for the Wise Men secretly. He found out from them exactly when the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem. He said, "Go! Make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, bring me a report. Then I can go and worship him too."

Herod doesn't really want to worship Jesus. We find out later that Herod actually wants to kill Jesus because he is jealous of Him.

After the Wise Men had listened to the king, they went on their way. The star they had seen when they were in the east went ahead of them.

The star was moving with the Wise Men to show them the way. (Move the star or flashlight around.)

It finally stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy.

(Take out the Mary, Joseph, and Jesus figures. And shine the star down on it.)

They must have thought this was a really funny place for a king to be born – in a stable.

Just imagine if you were one of the Wise Men...they actually got to see Jesus as a baby!

The Wise Men went to the house. There they saw the child with his mother Mary. They bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures. They gave him gold, incense and myrrh.

(Take out the 3 presents.)

Those are funny gifts to give to a baby

The gold was because He was a king. (Open box 1 and hold up the piece of gold jewelry.)

The incense was because they were worshipping Him (Open box 2 and hold up the kitchen spice.)

The myrrh was because He was human and would die for us. Back then when someone died, their body was covered in oils like myrrh and wrapped in cloths. (Open box 3 and hold up the cologne.)

But God warned them in a dream not to go back to Herod. So they returned to their country on a different road.

God made sure that Herod wouldn't find out exactly where Jesus was born, because Herod wanted to kill Him.

WORSHIP LEADER: This is the Gospel of the Lord

KIDS: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.