

PPC Meeting Notes
Monday, May 2, 2016
Library
5:30 – 9:00

Present: D. Coughlin, G. Kashmar, M. Knight, K. O'Connor, G. Salzman & Fr. Trout

Meeting began with a prayer followed by dinner.

Pastor's Comments

Anna Roeser, Director of Administration, has been a wonderful addition to the staff.

The catechists' barbeque was well attended.

Fr. Matt's new assignment has not been announced. A committee is planning Fr. Matt's Farewell/Gratitude Reception. It is scheduled for Saturday, June 11. It will begin with 5:00 Mass followed by a reception in the Koenig Center.

Community Building Training

Fr. Trout provided a presentation on community building and small faith communities.

Key points in the presentation

Community is both relational and geographic. All have a need to be part of a community.

Individuals who are engaged in community experience a sense of belonging, fulfillment of needs, a shared emotional connection and the ability to influence.

Faith & community development occurs when people develop relationships with their neighbors, work together to solve problems, share experiences, feel empowered to belong and participate in community and display a desire to reach to the most vulnerable members of society.

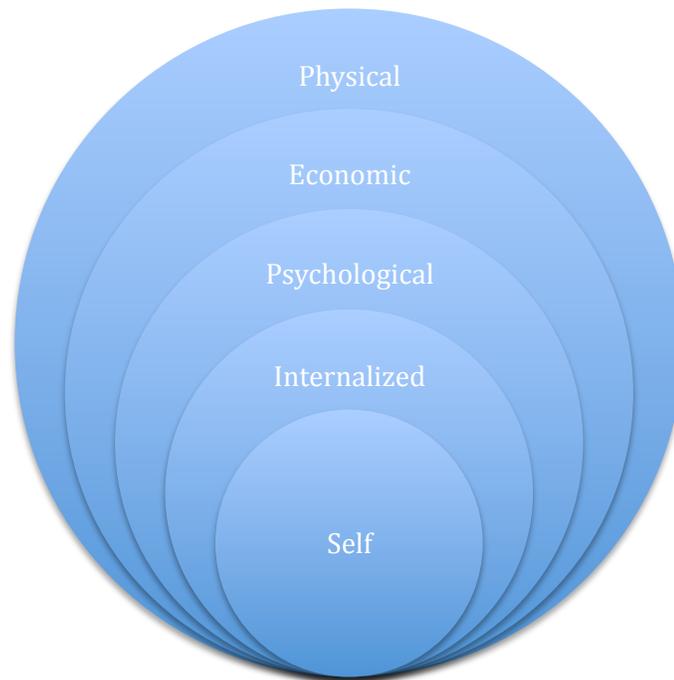
Participation in a community frequently creates a sense of identity and provides emotional safety for trust to develop. It was noted while membership in a community has privileges; it also calls for responsibility.

Community Conversation – the ability to share experiences can bind people together.

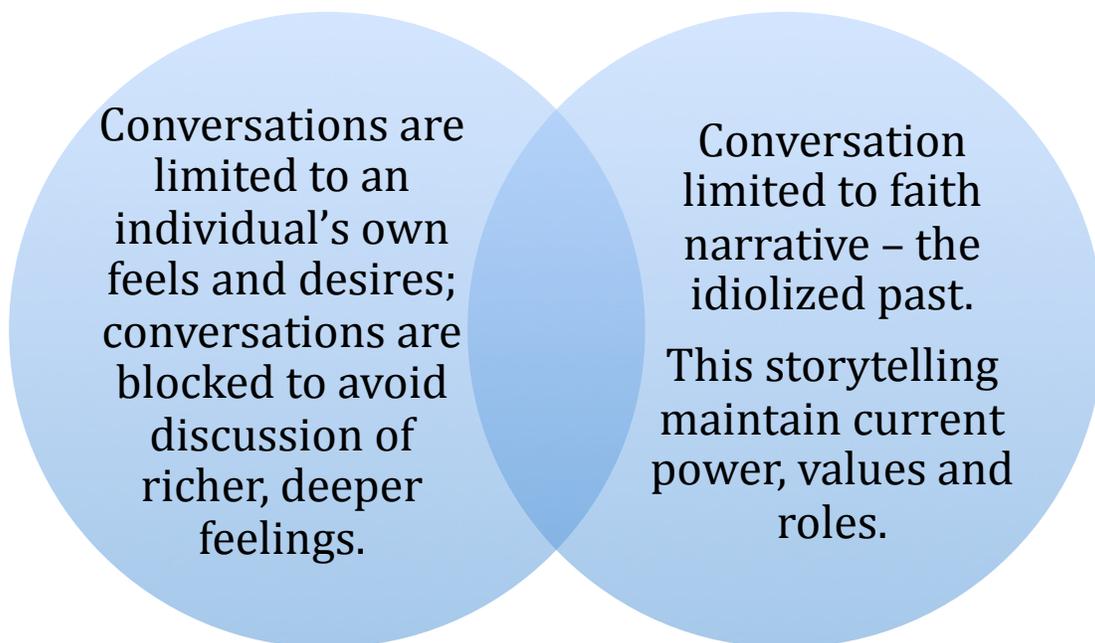
Movement of conversation:

- Clichés and facts
- Opinions, hopes and dreams
- Feelings, faults, fears and failures
- Meaningful conversation that is intimately linked to their “story”

Circles of Control



Storytelling



The overlapping is the point individuals are able to share their faith experience with each other. Through the telling of their story, they are able to see how Christ is present in their own life, which leads to a new way of being in the world – a call to action. The question becomes how do we create opportunities to deepen the theological reflection/spirituality into the core meaning of their story?

Models of Community Building:

- The traditional path of community building is needs based development. This model tends to focus on what is wrong or lacking in the community.
- Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) focuses on the community's strengths. Identifies strengths and how they can be used as a call to action.
- I.A.F. Model – building community from the inside out.

Following the presentation, there was much discussion on faith communities within our own parish. Michael shared he spoke on the phone to Michael Cowen, one of the author's of "Gathered and Sent." If there is an interest, Mr. Cowen would be available by phone for a future PPC meeting.

It was collectively decided more information was needed if the parish was going to move forward on this type of initiative. Fr. Trout will explore possible training opportunities at Notre Dame. Kathleen and Michael will also assist in pulling more information together.

Quarterly Reports

Faith Formation - Eileen was unable to attend the meeting but provided a detailed update electronically.

Youth:

- Ice Cream Social was held on April 24 – Twelve 8th graders attended
- Totus Tuus is scheduled for June 27 – July 1
- Appalachian Mission Trip is scheduled for July 23 – July 30. There are 63 teens and 17 adults attending
- Monthly formation meetings are held and fundraising efforts continue.
- The Commission does not meet regularly and does not have a Vice Lead. The recruitment of adults and teens remains a priority.

Updates

Fr. Matt Foley will be celebrating 5:00 Mass on Sunday, June 12 followed by a presentation – "El Nino Rey – A Ministry of Mercy."

Roland Catherall is leading the Refugee Ministry. Michael will be providing an update at a future PPC meeting.

The meeting was closed with a Glory Be led by Fr. Trout.