

Scribe Duties

For Listening Sessions October/November 2018

The Scribe is the person assigned by the host site for its Listening Session. The Session will last no more than 1 ½ hours. The Scribe's duties are:

- Prior to the Listening Session, review the Facilitator's Outline (see attached)
- Arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the start of the Listening Session
- Introduce yourself to the facilitator and review the process of the Session and your role
- The facilitator may break the attendees into smaller groups.
 - If using small groups, a Volunteer will record the large group comments on a chart or white board as the small groups report to the large group. Your job is to type up the material (without using names) that gets reported out of the small groups (what is placed on the charts) and get those notes to the Diocese.
 - If the group does not divide into small groups, your job is to type up a summary of the discussion in the large group (without using names).
- During or following the Listening Session, type the large group's responses into the *Listening Session Summary Template*, which is page two of this document.
- After the Listening Session, collect all the Participant Surveys that are completed as the last step of the session. Include these responses or a summary in the *Listening Summary Session Template*. Return the hard copies of the Participant Surveys to the pastor after you have submitted your report.
- Within one week of the Listening Session, please email the *Listening Session Summary* to Emily Pries, pries@davenportdiocese.org, 563-888-4360. (Please do not type the notes in the body of the email.)



Thank you for your assistance. We appreciate your help.

Vision 20/20 Steering Committee

For more information, or if you have questions, contact Dan Ebener at:

Ebener@davenportdiocese.org



Listening Session Summary Report

Location: St. Joseph, Hills -- Sts. Mary and Joseph Cluster-St. Mary, Lone Tree,

Church of St. Mary, Nichols

Date of Session: 10/25/2018

Facilitator: Kay Temple

Your Name: Judy Stebral

Email: jbstebra1@hotmail.com

Approximate number of participants: 11 + two priests

Were small groups utilized? _____yes __X__no

If so, how many small groups did you have?

Briefly describe the composition of the group (age/race/gender/ethnicity).

9 female, 2 male, age range 45-85, all caucasian

Were there any impeding factors that could have limited attendance?

None

Chapter Large Group Responses. List with bullet points.

Note: Not all attendees at this Listening Session had attended the two previous "Joy of the Gospel" study meetings.

Chapter 1:

In what ways does (parish) reflect this vision of constantly going out beyond the four walls of the church to reach those who are not with us on a regular basis?

- Not sure we are going beyond our walls
- We need to go out not stay in
- Youth think of church as just a building - it is the people
- We are not reaching our young children. We force Religious Ed and Confirmation.
- Religious Ed is isolated on Wednesday
- We need more youth mission trips

Cluster

- Kids are now beginning to bring parents to Mass
- Funerals for non-Catholics by the Cluster Coordinator
- Cluster Religious Ed and Confirmation
- Cluster floats in community parades – Lone Tree and Hills
- RCIA

Hills

- Regency Christmas party
- Hills School Backpack program

- Helping Hand fund to help those who ask for financial assistance
- Three Haiti trips by a St. Joseph parishioner
- Prepare and serve Free Meal in Iowa City 4/per year
- Volunteers for Habitat for Humanity
- Annual Soup Supper for the community
- 4th of July picnic/meal for Hills Community
- Food Pantry every Wednesday
- Support Catholic Worker House
- Financial support for Informed Choices of Iowa

Lone Tree

- Annual Community of Lone Tree Blue Christmas Memorial Service for families of deceased –Joint with the cluster
- Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service of Prayer at Lone Tree
- Helping Hand fund to help those who ask for financial assistance
- Support Birthright of Johnson County with baby items collected during Thanksgiving
- Food Pantry four days a week 9 to noon

Nichols

- Youth choir at Nichols with a youth leader
- Ecumenical Thanksgiving dinner at Nichols and Service of Prayer
- Serve funeral dinners for families outside our parish community-Nichols
- Memorial Day Mass at Nichols Cemetery
- Summer Lunch program at Nichols Parish Hall sponsored by Nichols Church and West Liberty Schools
- Helping Hand fund to help those who ask for financial assistance
- Food Pantry in cooperation with Lone Tree

Chapter 2:

What are the greatest challenges to evangelization in (name of) parish?

- We need training on how to be evangelizers and training on how to evangelize
- Other Sunday morning activities - sports, etc.
- Families have other priorities
- Why some leave the church/parish – because they have been offended or are angry due to the way they have been treated by a priest or another parishioner
- We are not welcoming and are not “listening”
- We need to create the spirituality of evangelization
- How do we understand the concept of joy if some do not understand it?
- Breakdown of the family
- People being satisfied with status quo – don’t want to be involved or say “way too busy”
- Finding people at home for a social home visit by the Pastor

Chapter 3:

To what extent does (name of) parish form evangelizing disciples of Christ – including youth, young adults, and the on-going formation of people of all ages?

- **“We don’t”**

Cluster

- **RCIA – we tell our story of faith**
- **Member of West Liberty Ministerial Association**
- **Cluster Religious Ed classes**
- **Religious Ed / youth Mass at each parish**
- **Post-Confirmation Teen Bible Study**
- **Weekly visits to homebound with the Eucharist**
- **Advent and Lenten adult formation programs**
- **Gift of a book to all parishioners at Christmas**
- **RCIA – we tell our faith story**

Hills

- **Backpack program at Hills School**
- **Two parish volunteers are trained to provide a service of prayer/Communion Service at Senior Living in absence of priest**
- **Nursing home Mass/visits**
- **Nursing home communion calls on Sunday**

Lone Tree

- **Member of Lone Tree Chamber of Commerce**
- **Nursing home Mass/visits**

Nichols

- **Youth choir**
- **Weekly home visits or as needed**

Chapter 4:

To what extent does (name of) parish and you, as a parishioner, reach out to those on the “margins,” e.g. to those who are poor, sick, elderly, those of cultural diversity, or those who might feel disenfranchised?

Cluster

- **Helping Hand fund to help those who ask for financial assistance**
- **Food Pantry available**
- **Christmas programs, collect hats, scarves, mittens**
- **Purchase toys and clothing for Lone Tree & Nichols Secret Santa community Christmas project that reaches a 25-mile radius**
- **Student service work in the Lone Tree community**
- **Outreach to Regency Mobile Home park**
- **Adopt families at Christmas on parish giving tree**
- **Help those outside parish community with whatever is their need**

Chapter 5:

What resonates with you in the Pope’s words? What challenges you?

We ran out of time and didn't discuss this with the group. The following notes were provided by an attendee:

What resonates:

- Love your neighbor
- Be welcoming
- Do what you do with "joy"
- Continue to create a deep spirituality
- Keep inviting and encouraging and inviting
- Joyfully continue our own personal journey of faith

Challenges:

- Talking about issues instead of doing something about these issues
- People who come back and ask for "help" again and again – we feel we are enabling instead of helping
- Being "joyful" when the situation is very distressing and disturbing – clergy abuse
- Listening with the heart when we feel we have heard the same thing over and over
- Taking time to "be present" to people with many needs beyond our ability to help them

Participant Surveys

Question 1:

I would like to be more involved in parish evangelization. Yes: Ann Draker, Melody Hobert-Mellecker, Carol Kaalberg, Helen Marner, Deanna Ollendick, Connie Shaw, Judy Stebral, Trudi Westfall

Question 2:

I would like to be considered to be part of the parish team that attends the regional conversation. (January-February 019) Yes: Melody Hobert-Mellecker, Carol Kaalberg, Deanna Ollendick, Judy Stebral, Trudi Westfall

Question 3:

I would like to be considered to be part of the parish team that attends the diocesan convocation. (June 6-8, 2019) Yes: Ann Draker, Melody Hobert-Mellecker, Carol Kaalberg, Deanna Ollendick, Judy Stebral, Trudi Westfall

Question 4:

What concerns do you have that have not been addressed? List responses below.

- Davenport Diocese should provide resources for evangelization at the collegiate level
- Limited resources (people) in a small, aging parish to recruit, new parishioners, re-invite lost parishioners, and/or retain current parishioners. The same people do everything
- The wasted resource of people who go through the MFP and then are not utilized in any capacity.
- Transparency at Chancery
- More clerical leadership
- Empower the laity to leadership to help with the shortage of priests

- More elderly visits by youth, volunteering at Bingo, etc.
- A resource to find volunteers (or paid help) to help with repair work or outside work
- Need a concentrated effort to reach out to our own members who are missing
- Monthly youth gatherings: food/popcorn and a movie; roller skating; hayrack ride; bowling; caroling; mixer with other youth groups
- Families worshipping together
- Loss of a Saturday night Mass
- shortage of priests
- PLC discernment
- Baby steps, need to start slow and not have too large of ideas or we will all be discouraged, plus they never get done
- Give someone a book or CD (e.g., Matthew Kelly, Rediscover Catholicism) to someone who has not been to church in a long time
- Invite a relative, friend, or neighbor to celebrate Mass with you and then go to Coffee Hour
- Say to someone you will pray for them or invite them to pray with you
- Say a prayer for a family member to come back to the church
- Meet as a Vision 20/20 group ins 6-12 months to see how we are doing and what is working and what is not. Discuss what to do in the next 6-12 months. Keep the momentum going
- Go through the old picture directory to see who were members and who has not been at Mass. Discuss who is the best person within the parish to contact them or start with a letter from Father Mike.
- Openly say grace before lunch at work or in a restaurant. If asked why, give a simple answer which possibly opens a door to a conversation about faith. Would be an easy conversation at work.