

To: Father Stephan
Stefan Chevalier
Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Council

January 19, 2015

From: Gary Texter

Subject: Pastoral Assistant's Report

Adult Faith Formation

Sharing Christ, will begin on Divine Mercy Sunday (the Sunday after Easter). There will also be a monthly gathering time called *Catholic Women of the Chapel* facilitated by Kerry Roberson for women of our parish and surrounding parishes to discuss faith matters and also to have an opportunity for Scripture reflection and prayer, crafts and other activities as well as . The group would meet at OLA as well as rotate to some other area churches. The monthly gathering will kick off at OLA April 29.

'Making All Things New'

We have received notification that there will be a training time designated for a date in February (yet to be disclosed) for each church's core team regarding the next phase of the process – the implementation phase. Thankfully our cluster will not be discussing closing or combining churches within the cluster but, more likely, cooperative efforts—won't know the details until the Reid group announces (probably at the session in February).

Ecumenical Outreach

At the Martin Luther King Service yesterday at St John AME Zion Church in Middletown, The Greater Middletown Interfaith Council raised another \$475.00 for the Warming Station for the homeless. The Warming Station has been averaging 15 – 25 overnight guests each evening and this season we have been able to lift up 19 guests so far from the Warming Station into more permanent housing. There will be one more Orientation/Training Session on Jan 27 at 7pm at St Paul's United Methodist Church for those interested in being an overnight volunteer. Special thanks to those who volunteer from OLA and to those who support our fundraising efforts.

Liturgical Ministries

The two parishioners who completed part one of the training for Extra ordinary ministers of Holy Communion will receive part 2 on Sat Jan 31.

Ash Wed at ORMC Pavillion.

As in the past OLA Eucharistic Ministers will provide ashes to patients, nurses and other hospital personnel requesting as part of the Inter-Parish Team.

God bless you all,
Gary