

December 16, 2013

**To: Father Stephan
 Lisa Dyer
 Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Council**

Subject: Pastoral Assistant's Report

Adult Faith Formation

One of the books we were discussing with Fr. Stephan, *Rich in Years (Finding Peace and Purpose in a Long Life)* by Johann Christoph Arnold, was distributed free of charge by our friends from the Bruderhof Community. We hope to have a discussion on it in the future by all who wish to participate. The other book, *Rediscovering Catholicism* by Matthew Kelly, will be discussed with Fr. Stephan to be brought out in the future - perhaps on the other side of *Following Christ* that begins March 2nd.

“Making ALL Things New”

We have completed all 4 task force meetings. Attached is the report from task force meeting 3 that Joe Herschel put together for us. We gathered in cluster with the other 5 churches on December 4th. I believe many of us felt it was a very disjointed meeting. I was asked to chair the cluster going forward. I asked for a co-chair. Jim Brech from Mt. Carmel agreed to co-chair.

Ecumenical Outreach

The Warming Station for the homeless opened for its 6th season Sunday evening, November 24th with a prayer service at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, the site of the Warming Station, at 8:30 p.m. We opened our doors to overnight guests at 9 p.m. Many thanks to our OLA parishioners who are staying as overnight volunteers, supplying dinner on assigned nights, and making donations. Thanks to our friends at Mt. Carmel for getting us off to a great start with the many socks that will be needed - with 1,235 pair donated. We had 6 overnight guests the first night and are now averaging mid-20s per night.

God bless you all,
Gary