

Couple to Couple League of Northwest Indiana
Chapter Meet & Greet
April 13, 2013 at Our Lady of Consolation, Merrillville

Meeting opened with welcome and prayer from Josephine of the St. Gianna Molla Respect Life Group (SGMRLG) of Our Lady of Consolation (OLC). Members in attendance: Dawn Czarnik (TC), Rick & Kearney Szevery (TC), Sharon Peters (TC), Colleen & Gregg Degen (CTC), George & Rosanne Kouris (TC), and Todd & Julie Zasada (TC). Josephine & Jean from the SGMRLG were also present.

Chapter Activities

Teaching – There was a conversation on how classes are scheduled and the common locations. The marriage prep classes are always open to couples who want to learn the method...they are not limited to the engaged couples from that church. There are two Spanish speaking teaching couples from Hammond & LaPorte but no one has contact with them.

Publicity – Activities include the NWIC marriage supplement in February, the St. John Evangelist (SJE) Open House in March, a donated ad in the Lake County Right to Life dinner program, co-sponsorship of the Kimberly Hahn presentation at SJE on May 18th and our website (www.nfpnwi.org).

- Run ads in all 3 right-to-life dinners every year (Lake, Porter & LaPorte counties).
- Provide brochures to pregnancy agencies such as The Answer, St. Anthony's prenatal assistance program, etc. and local pro-life groups such as St. Stephens and SGMRLG at OLC
- Submit names of any students or others interested in NFP updates to Julie for addition to our email database.
- Purchase a marketing kit with a table runner, tabletop banner and 2x6 retractable floor banner (George Kouris). Julie to provide graphics.
- Many liked the "Go Organic" brochure from Madison diocese. Perhaps those will be distributed instead of CCL Central's general NFP brochure.

Chapter Roles – A definition of a CCL chapter can be found on CCL volunteer connections but is also posted on our chapter website for convenience. Todd & Julie have agreed to function as Chapter Coordinators for the next two years. Sharon will continue as Treasurer until another couple is comfortable filling the role.

Chapter Meetings – Two are recommended each year per CCL Central. Our next meeting will be approximately October 2013.

Our Path Forward

Franciscan Alliance Hospital Network – Julie explained the conversation that has been ongoing with Dr. Claude Foreit. He will be in touch again in late May or early June regarding which doctor's offices would be receptive to receiving brochures. Julie will also ask him about CCL offering introductory classes in the hospitals and identifying NFP-friendly physicians.

Diocesan Relationship – Extensive discussion centered on the history of CCL's diocesan relationship. Rosanne has made brochures in the past that advertise NFP, CCL and the Creighton teachers. She will update the brochure for the diocese.

Area Chapters – Local chapters are in Chicago, Fox Valley (Rockford, IL), Kankakee County (IL), Ft. Wayne (IN), and Indianapolis. Perhaps we can hold an enrichment day with them in the future.

North Central Region – We are part of CCL’s North Central Region which includes WI, IL, IN, MI, and OH. National meetings are no longer scheduled by CCL Central.

Misc.

SGMRLG Monthly Meetings – CCL NWI is invited to attend the Tuesday, April 23rd meeting at 7 pm at OLC.

SGMRLG Annual Pro-Life Workshop – CCL NWI is invited to set-up a resource table on Tuesday, June 11th from 6 to 9 pm at OLC in Vamos Hall.

USCCB NFP Awareness Week – July 21-27, 2013. Bulletin inserts will be sent to the diocesan parishes.

Pray for the efforts of CCL

- Say the Rosary for CCL
- Offer Masses on the patron saint feast days: St. Gianna Beretta Molla (Apr 28), Sts. Joachim & Anne (Jul 26), Our Lady of Guadalupe (Dec 12) and St. Joseph (Mar 19)
- Schedule a Holy Hour
- Ask local prayer groups and religious communities to include the work of CCL in prayers

Websites and Articles Discussed during Meeting

- Diocese of Madison NFP office
<http://www.madisondiocese.org/Ministry/MarriageandFamily/NaturalFamilyPlanning.aspx>
- The Pill Kills pamphlet on dangers of birth control and breast cancer
http://www.bcpinstitute.org/pill_kills_brochure_html.htm#pill3
- St. Gianna Molla Respect Life Group at OLC <https://www.facebook.com/StGiannaMollaRLG>
- Our Lady of Hope Clinic in Madison, WI www.ourladyofhopeclinic.com