

Thank you, Camille for taking these awesome notes from the April gathering!

The following were able to join us for our monthly get together: Ron & Patty Pendleton, Mike & Linda Ventura, Matt & Brianne Graves, Alex & Gwen Willis, Julie Delgadillo (we missed you Jose), Todd & Noelle Pickin, Gordon & Bella Hale, Evan & Auria Greenfield, Bryan & Kathleen Cook, Jamie & Dawn Oehmann and Denver & Camille Anderson

After a welcoming prayer & a delicious dinner we thanked the Oehmann's & the Anderson's for their previous 2 years of community co-leadership. Our ministry truly flourished under their leadership.

We began our meeting with an enrichment presented by Chad & Raquel Tripp who are Marriage Enrichment Ministers with Adventures in Marriage. They are involved throughout the diocese with numerous "Invest in your Marriage" events. They encouraged us to remember to show daily appreciation for all that our spouse does for us and to encourage the positive that we see one another do instead of the negative. Kicking off our weekend with an "appreciation toss" was a step in the right direction! The "toss" involved tossing a beach ball to each other and expressing an appreciation before tossing it back.

Upon the completion of the enrichment we received a weekend report from the Oehmann's & Ventura's regarding the April weekend. 10 couples attended a wonderful weekend.

Construction at Marywood continues to take place and we can see the progression that takes place each month. The team received a tour of the new bldg. and we anticipate that we will be using it for our June CEE weekend. One couple donated a double scholarship.

Mobile Convention - July 19th - July 21st. Please let Ron & Patty know if you are interested in attending. Our community is encouraging as many to attend as possible. So far more than 40 couples district wide have registered. If you have registered & have not been reimbursed for your registration, please send the info to Mike Ventura for reimbursement.

Upcoming Events - Our Summer Pool Party will be either July 14th or July 28th - Kathleen Cook to confirm a date with Eagle Harbor Fleming Island We will advise as soon as the date is firm.

Our upcoming meetings have been scheduled for June 14; August 9 & October 11 - all will be at Holy Family. Huge thank you to Dawn for coordinating our meeting venue!

CEE hosted a table at the Eucharistic Congress. Thank you & shout out to Steve Perez for obtaining the space. Thanks to Denver Anderson for making a trip to the storage unit, picking up material for our table, and for setting our table up. Thanks to Todd & Noelle Pickin for staffing the table throughout the weekend for the community. We had several visitors and two couples express an interest in EE - one was formerly involved in Marriage Encounter.

Ron & Patty recently had a meeting with the Bishop & Family Life Office that went very well. The Bishop was most supportive of our ministry and recommended a priest that he believes would be interested in starting to work with CEE! During our discussion we shared our excitement of being at the "new" Marywood, but expressed our potential concern regarding new rates. The Bishop indicated that he had not thought about the effect of price increases on diocesan ministries.

Ron and Patty had a separate meeting with the FLO . We discussed the flow of funds from the registration to the check being issued to EE. This was shared with Mike and Linda. We then discussed the two programs and how we can complement, not compete, with each other. This was an area the Bishop emphasized. We learned that about 300 couples attended Pre Cana last year. We had slightly over 100. We were assured that if a couple asks which is the better program the FLO shares that EE is a retreat so naturally it will be more comprehensive. Our relationship with FLO is on firm footing - thanks to the leadership of Jamie and Dawn and Denver and Camille.

Ron and Patty will be meeting with Marywood regarding the proposed rate increases for 2020 and 2021. If we don't receive a reduction in the proposal it will mean we will be paying about \$60 more per couple. The meeting had been planned for April but Marywood was extremely busy making sure the new rooms would be completed for a scheduled event. We will meet in early May. Offer prayers for a successful meeting please.

Ron will soon begin contacting individual couples regarding JOY jobs. This is your opportunity together to say yes! If there is something you would like to do - let them know.

Some of our joy-jobs have already been spoken for. Bella and Gordon will coordinate birthday & ordination cards for our priests. Evan and Auria will coordinate our Facebook page activities. Denver and Camille will contact seminarians in our diocese to offer them the opportunity to participate in EE. And Camille is responsible for these minutes - her new job? Todd and Noelle volunteered to make sure each weekend had a BTS couple.

Anyone want to take on coordinating the sign up of presenters and Registration couples?

Mike and Linda are continuing as treasurers. Julie and Jose are coordinating our community enrichments. Ron and Patty will continue to coordinate Prayer letters.

Areas needing coordinators include: Supplies - weekend setup - social event planners - outreach - Child care. And - the area not mentioned above that is calling your name!

Things to think about. What can we do to improve our ministry and our service to the Diocese? All things are open. Priest awareness of EE; Priest recruitment; Couple recruitment; grant writing; use of social media - you get the idea. The initiative may even get a catchy name - like EE 2020! Be thinking!

The meeting ended with prayer of thanks for EE, Marriage and especially for our outgoing leaders (but if you were at the meeting you would have noticed that they were busier than usual making sure Patty and I had an easy reintroduction to leadership.) In fact this whole community is a wonderful example of putting others before ourselves. What a blessing!

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