

# SAID ED September 28, 2014

## News from our Pastoral Associate

How do you feel when you've been with good news people? Energized, comforted, hopeful?

This fall, we will start Good News People small groups. Through inspiring stories and film clips, we'll get to know ordinary folks who bring hope in hard times. Groups will meet various mornings, afternoons and evenings, so there really IS a spot for you. The purpose is to help us become better disciples of Christ! Not surprisingly, Jesus' words and ways will be featured.

Values we hold dear, such as faith, love, gratitude, solidarity and mercy, will be examined and practiced in our lives. We're not just flying by the seat of our pants—references are in the Bible and Church catechism. Small groups are a safe place to explore faith, friendship, questions, puzzles, convictions and more. Small groups support and enrich our faith. Our prayer will spring from scripture and life: listening to God, listening for God, listening with one another. See the Good News articles in the bulletin and sign up at the table in the foyer. Please contact me with questions (388-0040 x314 or dmack@dor.org.)

Adult Faith Enrichment takes many forms in our parish:

- Phyllis Zagano, foremost expert on women in early Church history will speak Tuesday, October 14 at 7:00 pm in our parish living room on Women Deacons are a Thing of the Past.
- Nancy DeRycke, pastoral associate at St Anne's and Our Lady of Lourdes parishes, and consultant for Ascension Gardens Cemetery will speak words of consolation at the beginning of our annual Mass of Remembrance Saturday, November 8 at 9:00 am and stay with us for refreshments after Mass.
- Sr. Barbara Moore, RSM will lead our parish Advent evening of prayer at 7:00 pm Monday, December 1.
- Rev. William Wilkinson will address ways people of faith deal with key issues of our day at 7:00 pm Tuesday, January 20.
- Franciscan Fr. Dan Riley will come to us from the retreat center at St. Bonaventure University at 10:00 am and 7:00 pm Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, February 16, 17 and 18 to lead our parish Lenten Retreat.
- We have small groups studying Scripture, Engaging Spirituality, Exploring Non-Violence, Peace Initiatives, Living Solidarity, the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises, God's Creation Cries for Justice and more.
- Spiritual direction/soul friendship is available.
- Periodically we show timely and challenging films and hold book discussions.

COTA's Adult Faith Enrichment team needs your help! Can you record AFE events in our parish living room for those unable to attend? Are you a graphic artist? Do you have ideas for publicity, computer skills, a love of learning and living the faith? Our next planning meeting is Monday, October 20 at 9:45 am. Please join Marita VanDerveer, Louise Irmer, John Kenealy, Bill Ward, Pat Martin, Aliece Franklin, Jean Murphy, Judith DiPasquale, Michael Burke and Deni Mack.

AFE's mission is to provide programs that enrich and expand our wide community's faith, spirituality and dedication to living God's words.

Blessings,  
Deni

