

Retrouvaille of Northwest Indiana Community Discernment (10/19/18)

The Northwest Indiana community gathered at St John the Evangelist Parish in St. John, Indiana on Friday, October 19, 2018, to discern its direction and additional leadership for the next two years. Tom and Bonnie Edwalds facilitated the discernment.

The community first identified and agreed to the following goals for the next year:

- ❖ Publicity / Spread the word
 - Better communication
 - Spread the word to priests, pastors, and assistants
 - Spread the word to counselors
 - Spread the word outside the Catholic Church
- ❖ Hold at least 1 weekend a year, maybe 2
- ❖ Increase CORE attendance
 - Childcare at CORE
 - Community members should attend mass at the end of the weekend
 - Family Retrouvaille events

Other goals that were suggested were:

- ❖ Encourage writing
- ❖ Maintain monthly CORE
- ❖ Healing

Next, the community identified the following leadership positions as necessary to achieve these goals:

- ❖ Weekend / Post Coordinator
- ❖ Finance Couple
- ❖ Supply Couple
- ❖ Publicity Couple

Next, the community identified the qualities its leaders need to possess, and determined that it needed leaders who:

- ❖ Are committed and available
- ❖ Have a strong faith
- ❖ Are good communicators

Other qualities that were mentioned as beneficial include leaders who:

- ❖ Continue to work on their own marriage
- ❖ Are detail oriented
- ❖ Play well with others
- ❖ Are patient
- ❖ Have computer skills
- ❖ Are empathetic
- ❖ Are good with numbers (for Finance)

After prayer and dialogue, four couples responded to the call to assume leadership roles in this ministry. The Northwest Indiana Retrouvaille community discerned the following couples as leaders with roles as indicated for the next two years, beginning in January, 2019:

- ❖ Weekend / Post Coordinator – Ken and Sheri Czulno
- ❖ Finance Couple – Todd and Julie Zasada
- ❖ Supply Couple – Tony and Lisette Villarreal
- ❖ Publicity Couples – Mike and Tisha Kotso, Ted and Erin McBrideSchmars

The community thanked God for calling these leaders and opening their hearts to His call, and asked Him to bless them and guide them in their roles in this ministry.