



Newsletter

October 2012

Dignity & St. Ignatius Liturgy Schedules

Ravenna United Methodist Church	5751-33 rd Ave NE	Seattle
Every Sunday	→ 10:00 a.m.	St. Ignatius (UPSTAIRS)
Oct. 14, Nov. 11	→ 6:00 p.m.	Dignity/Seattle

A pancake breakfast following St. Ignatius Mass is held every 4th Sunday (Oct. 28th), a shared fellowship with our host congregation, Ravenna UMC.

President's Report for 2011-2012

September 30, 2012

Dignity/Seattle is 39! Our roster stands at 22 active members. This is up by four from last year. We hope that with our 40th anniversary and the convention coming to town in 2015, we will get people involved and wanting to join.

We continue to meet on the second Sunday of each month. Gary S. has joined Fr. Philip as our main presiders, rotating months. We have had many new visitors over the year. We are still warmly welcomed at Fr. Philip's parish of St. Ignatius and continue to be invited to join St. Ignatius and Ravenna United Methodist for combined ecumenical celebrations on major feasts. Thank you to Denise for the overall coordination of the liturgy and presiders and to Paula H. for continuing to provide great music to help us in our celebrations. We thank Jim R. for providing us with delicious snacks during our social hour over the first half of the year. Illness has kept Jim from continuing this hospitality service, so anyone interested in helping out, we would welcome your service to our community.

Our quarterly birthday/anniversary celebrations continued this year. Our fourth quarter 2011 celebration was a potluck and holiday party at Ray's house. The first and second quarters were celebrated at local restaurants, and in the third quarter we met at Woodland Park for our third annual picnic. It was a glorious Seattle summer day. Thanks to Alan for reserving a shelter and to Tom S. and Alan - our barbecuing chefs extraordinaire.

We celebrated our 24th Pride Week Breakfast in June netting proceeds of over \$2000 – up from last year. We donated \$700 each to Rosehedge/Multifaith Works and Bailey-Boushay House. The remainder we put into a convention scholarship fund to help get our members to the

DignityUSA National Convention in 2013. Thank you to all who worked so hard to make this breakfast another success.

We have continued to volunteer at the Food Lifeline warehouse in Shoreline helping to repackage bulk food items into smaller packages for distribution at various Western Washington food banks. Eight to twelve members, friends and family met once every other month. We are scheduled to continue this volunteer activity this year. Come join us – it is fun work for a good cause.

DignityUSA's 2015 National Convention will be in Seattle. We are starting to organize volunteers. Please let me know if you are interested in helping out on the planning. We especially are looking for ideas for a theme and logo that reflects Seattle and for ideas for promoting the convention at the 2013 convention in Minneapolis.

We are starting to plan our 40th Anniversary and our 25th Annual Pride Breakfast. Anyone with ideas or interest in helping to plan special activities for these occasions, please let me know.

I would like to thank our board of directors - Denise, Delia, Alan and Paula H for your leadership and commitment. And a very special thanks to Leo for continuing to be our newsletter editor and keeping us all aware of what is happening locally and nationally in our community.

I look forward to a new year and new opportunities for Dignity/Seattle to grow and thrive. I welcome any suggestions or input from members and friends. Thanks for a good year.

Paula Lavalley
President, Dignity/Seattle

Board Members & Contact Info

Dignity/Seattle Board Members

Paula Lavallee	President
Paula Hills	Vice-President
Delia Vita	Treasurer
Denise Arceneaux	Secretary
Alan Scott	Member, Social chair

DignityUSA Board Member from Seattle

Leo Egashira At large (Publications)

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We provide a safe environment for people to reconcile our God-given gifts of sexual orientation and our Catholic faith through gay-affirming liturgies. Being part of the Dignity/Seattle family means claiming ownership of our faith and living up to the responsibilities of that ownership.

Dignity/Vancouver BC/Dignité



Box 3016 604/432-1230
 Vancouver, B.C., V6B 3X5 dennisl-h@telus.net

Information on October 2012 events were not available at press time. If you are visiting our neighbors to the north, please contact D/V/D.

Upcoming Events of Interest

Sun, Oct 14, 1:00 p.m. Jamie Manson at St. Mark's

Sun, Oct. 14, 6:00 p.m. Monthly Dignity Mass

Tue, Nov. 6. Vote for R-74 Marriage Equality!

See page 4 for Catholics for Marriage Equality—Washington's flyer, "Love Overcomes Fear." Please make copies and distribute it!

Tue, Dec 4, 6:00 p.m. Volunteer at Food Lifeline

Jamie Manson: "The Church at a Crossroads"

Sunday, October 14, 2012

St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, Seattle

1:00 to 4:00 p.m. [doors open at 12:30 p.m.]

**Cost: \$20 early registration by Oct.6
 \$25 at the door**

With the Vatican's investigation of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, the Roman Catholic Bishops' political role in the culture wars over contraception and same-sex marriage, and the continued suppression of voices that support women's ordination, the promises of Vatican II seem like ancient history. As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the opening of Vatican II, Jamie Manson will lead us in a dialogue about the crises facing the Roman Catholic Church in the U.S. and in a search for signs of hope in this challenging climate.

Jamie L. Manson received her Master of Divinity degree from Yale Divinity School where she studied Catholic theology and sexual ethics with Sister Margaret Farley. Her weekly column, *Grace on the Margins*, appears weekly in the *National Catholic Reporter*. Her writing has won nu-

merous awards, most recently second place for Commentary of the Year (2012) from Religion Newswriters (RNA). She is the former editor in chief of the Yale magazine *Reflections* and has worked extensively with New York City's homeless and poor populations.



To register or for more information, please contact the sponsor: Call To Action—Western Washington: 360-357-6207

information@ctaolympia.org

<http://www.ctaww.org>

Annual Membership Meeting Minutes September 30, 2012

Meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. at Delia Vita's house. A quorum was present.

Paula Lavalley passed out the President's Report [see p1] and the Treasurer's Report [right column] for the members to read.

Dignity/Seattle's 40th anniversary will be next year. Most members were in favor of celebrating it in Sept. or Oct. Anyone interested in working on the planning committee should let Paula L. know. Also if we plan to have something extra special for the Breakfast (since it will be the 25th), we need to plan it in March.

The National Convention Committee will meet on October 17th. They are asking for input from us regarding a theme and logo though they are responsible for coming up with them. Several members proposed some ideas to Paula. The National Convention Committee is also looking for ideas for promoting the Convention and someone from our Chapter to promote it. Anyone interested in filling such a position should let Paula L. know.

Paula L. also asked the membership to consider whether we as a chapter want to provide marriage assistance, which has been asked of us. For example, do we want to help with marriage counseling, planning, etc. Paula L. has indicated in the past that we don't have the resources for this but has referred them to Philip.

Alan S/ will ask Ray C. about having the Christmas party at his place again this year.

The ending balance of the Treasurer's report looks good. We are stable and have been good about conserving money..

Election results: Of the 22 members, 12 voted. Paula Hills received 12 votes. Denise Arceneaux received 12 votes.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.
Respectfully submitted by:
Denise Arceneaux

DIGNITY SEATTLE-ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING Treasurer's Report 09/25/11-9/30/12

Checking Account		2011-2012
Beginning Balance	9/25/11	\$ 4,858.99
Deposits		
Monthly Collection during Mass		1210.00
Donation from members & friends		1270.00
Dignity USA Membership		180.00
Donation to convention fund		20.00
PW Breakfast & Raffle		2350.25
	Total Deposit	<u>5030.25</u>
	Sub-Total	<u>9889.24</u>
Expenses		
Operations:		
PO Box Rental		116.00
Liturgy Expenses		
Liturgy- Stipend		300.00
Newsletter Printing/Mailing		282.20
Rent-RUMC		1200.00
Membership Dues Renewal to DignityUSA		50.00
Summer Picnic/Christmas Dinner		155.82
Checking supplies		23.95
Phone Reimbursement		21.90
Advertisement with SGN during prideweek		50.00
PW Breakfast Expenses/Donation		
PW Breakfast-Food		86.64
PW Breakfast Supplies/mailling/solicitation letters		72.56
PW Breakfast Advertisement (SGN)		100.00
PW Breakfast-Hall Rent		100.00
PW Breakfast-Donation Rosehedge Multifaith Wor		700.00
PW Breakfast-Donation Bailey Boushay		700.00
	Total Expenses	<u>3959.07</u>
	Ending balance	<u>\$ 5,930.17</u>
Restricted funds		
John Petersen-Membership Scholarship Fund		50.00
2013 National Convention Scholarship Fund		1254.05
	Total Restricted funds	<u>1304.05</u>
	Total Available unrestricted funds	<u>\$ 4,626.12</u>
Savings Account		
Beginning Balance	9/25/11	\$ 1,602.08
Interest income		0.84
	Ending Balance	<u>\$ 1,602.92</u>
Submitted by Delia Vita-Treasurer 9.30.12		



APPROVE Referendum 74

Love Overcomes Fear

Jesus taught us to love God with all our hearts, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. All of His great messages are about love, mercy and compassion. We are to care for the poor, our neighbors and the least among us. Jesus Himself did not distinguish among people based on their class, sex or social status, but taught that we are all one in Him.

Catholic Social Teaching for the last one hundred years has promoted the dignity of each human being whatever their income or their position in life. Indeed, the heart of our Catholic faith is care and concern for all God's children.

Polls show that the majority of Catholics in Washington State will vote YES for Referendum 74 in November. Catholics support R. 74 because it upholds the Gospel message that Jesus gave us: to love each other and treat each other with respect and equal value. Because of this, Catholic support of marriage equality is stronger than any other Christian faith and is growing each year. More than three-quarters of young adult Catholics support marriage equality!

Now it has come to pass that our bishops are singling out some of our dear family, neighbors and friends. They are asking us to block the human rights of loving

same-sex couples to join together in civil marriage under the law of the State of Washington.

Sadly, our bishops are promoting fear and division within our own communities. The bulletin inserts that Washington bishops have asked parishes to pass out each Sunday in October contain made-up stories

to scare families. These inserts consist of extremist talking points based on polling results, not Gospel values.

These inserts are designed to stir up fear of the worst sort, while subjecting a class of people to unequal treatment. Our bishops can do so much better.

Referendum 74 allows freedom to marry AND religious freedom. Marriage has always been a civil contract in the eyes of the law. Catholic matrimony is different, a sacramental union that allows couples to join together with the blessing of the Church. Referendum 74 upholds both kinds of marriage. It allows loving, committed couples freedom to marry AND protects the Church's right to perform weddings according to its sacramental tradition.

The Krueger Family



Left to right: Walt and Kathy, their daughter Kate, her husband Andrew, and their son Michael.

The Krueger family is one of many Washington State Catholic families who are talking with friends and neighbors about why approving Referendum 74 and defending the freedom to marry is so important to their family. Walt and Kathy strongly believe that all of their children should be able to marry the person they love.

"Our twins are God's gift to us, unique in every way. As parents we are called to nurture our children; as Catholics we are called to live the Gospel values. Kate is married to Andrew and we want a similar love and commitment in marriage to be available to Michael who is gay. We love our children and work for equal marriage and justice for both."

Nothing in this law would restrict the Church's liberty. Rather, it extends human rights to all loving, responsible couples.

Catholics are people of the Resurrection. Jesus was crucified, died and was buried to rise on the third day. Our hope and every bit of our faith come from our belief that love conquers death, conquers fear. We cannot let Washington bishops stir up fear among our communities, such that we exclude some of our own friends, family, parish members and co-workers from the gifts of marriage. All people are beloved children of God and deserve equal treatment.