



# Beacon of Hope . . . Light of Christ

Volume 2, Issue 1

For Catholics in the Fox Valley

February 2005

## DO NOT MISS THIS EVENT!

### Inside this issue:

What is Worship

P. 2

### Organizational Meeting Set for February 13<sup>th</sup>

Healing Workshop Helps

P. 3

A Prayer for God's People

P. 4

The Steering Committee of *Beacon of Hope – Light of Christ* will hold a total organization meeting on February 13<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm at Fox Valley Technical College. Participants can enter through Entrance 15 (north side of campus). We will meet in room C-190 (inside entrance 15 on the left).

many people.

Members of the steering Committee will share the work they have done

and committees, and suggested goals and

activities for 2005. Input and recommendations will be sought.

**NOTHING is  
Impossible with  
GOD**

### A Focus On..

- **Organization Meeting**
- **Worship**
- **Healing**



Many people have been asking “How can I help?” Opportunities to become actively involved in *Beacon of Hope* will also be available for those that wish to help, become involved, and grow.

- Greg Stock

The purpose of the meeting is to address the question “*Where do we go from here?*” which has been such a significant query for

over many months. Those attending and participating will see the recommended Vision and Mission statements, organizational structure

*We know that all things work together for good to them that love God.*

-Romans 8:28

## What is “Worship” for Catholics?

### Is there only one way to worship?

One of the most influential Christian books today is *The Purpose Driven Life* by Rick Warren. It is a book designed for Christians of all denominations, citing many Catholic, Protestant and Evangelical leaders of Christ’s church on earth.

In the book, Warren presents the many challenges being faced within every denomination and within many church communities...and one of those challenges is Worship.

Warren suggests that “bringing pleasure to God is worship” and for worship of the Father, Son and Spirit to be pleasing, it must have several criteria. Worship must be accurate, authentic, thoughtful, and practical.

Jesus suggested that external issues are irrelevant to worship in His discussion with the Samaritan woman, who tried to engage Him in debate on the best time, place and style of worship. *“True worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks.”*

Warren explains both individual worship and corporate worship. Individual worship is our daily commitment to God in prayer and in every waking action. We offer our bodies as “living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God” (Romans 12:1) as our spiritual act of worship.

Corporate worship is when we come together as the Body of Christ.

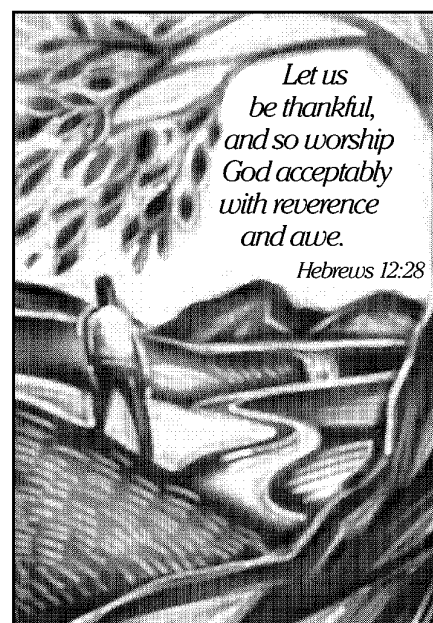
Warren cites St. Paul’s First letter to the Corinthians, Chapter 14 for corporate worship guidance to all Christians. Paul tells us that worship must be done in a “fitting and orderly way”. Worship can take on many forms of behavior in the corporate setting and every part of a church service becomes a form of worship...music, prayer, devotion, sermons, communion, confession, silence, and offerings and greetings.

No style, ritual or expression of worship is more or less right or better, as long as each is accurate to the word, authentic (genuine), thoughtful (from heart and head), and practical (serving God).

Ritual for ritual’s sake, and attendance for recognition’s sake lack the criteria Warren presents. Worship is for God’s sake. It is our role to be pleasing to God.

- Tom Wiltzius

“Worship must be accurate, authentic, thoughtful, and practical.”



---

## Healing Workshop Helps

On January 9, people seeking help processing the handling and dismissal of Fr. John Zickert from St. Mary's Greenville, came together for a three and a half hour workshop and prayer session.

It was the first of several gathering opportunities provided by the *Beacon of Hope* leaders, for those grieving the unexpected loss of such a dynamic leader from our midst.

Guided by an experienced professional loss therapist, participants were able to share feelings and losses. We were able to affirm each other's pain, learn the normal responses to grief, and feel a sense of hope. Our experience of unfair tactics, diminished respect, and ultimate loss, was heard and understood.

The more than 75 participants listed their feelings about their loss - *sadness, not valued, disappointed, violated, betrayed*. We then listed the items we felt had been lost - *joy in celebration of the Mass, body of the Church as more important than the hierarchy, self-worth in the eyes of the institution of the Church, loss of Vatican II ideals, spiritual home, hope and home for young people*.

So often, well meaning souls, have told us to move on. At this workshop, we were told that reactions to trauma such as this can last longer than one might suspect.

We were encouraged to accept each other's grief as different from our own, for no two people grieve in the same way or on the same timeline. We also heard that pushing us to "get over it" is not helpful for us right now.

Although the workshop time went quickly, we did start brainstorming ideas for what can be done to help each of us individually and collectively. We then listed what we can do - *pray, agree to disagree, cry, turn again to scripture, validate each other*.

For those who may have a similar sense of loss, know that you are not alone. Perhaps you will find insight from our sharing. God bless.

-Anne Thielen

*Editors Note:* For a more complete list of the comments of the participants, check out the BOH Website [www.bohlightofchrist.org](http://www.bohlightofchrist.org)

---

*Faith is the substance of things hoped for; the evidence of things not seen.*

*- Hebrews 11:1*

---

---

# A Prayer for God's People in Trying Times

I am a child of God...God loves me, I have been chosen as God's very own. Because of God's great love for me, I want to be:

Kinder,

Humbler,

Gentler,

And more patient.

I want to be tolerant of others. I want to forgive others. And I do this all freely because I understand it is the way that God also treats me. Above all things, I will love ...without conditions, without thought of reward, without selfishness, and without exception. For, it is love that brings all things, all people and all nations together as one. I love, because I am a child of God....

(Paraphrase of Colossians 3:12-14)

If you have any questions/concerns, no longer wish to receive this newsletter or wish to receive additional information not included in this newsletter, please contact us at: Beacon of Hope P.O. Box 2524 Appleton, WI 54912 or send an email to [newsletter@bohlightofchrist.org](mailto:newsletter@bohlightofchrist.org).

Disclaimer: The *Beacon of Hope...Light of Christ* is the official newsletter of the Steering Committee for Social Justice and Reform in the Catholic Church as part of the Beacon of Hope.. Light of Christ. Any opinions expressed in the newsletter are those of the authors. *Beacon of Hope... Light of Christ* operates independently and is not approved by the Catholic Diocese of Green Bay or its parishes.

Beacon of Hope... Light of Christ Staff: Tom Wiltzius, Joe Uchtyl

---

Beacon of Hope . . . Light of Christ  
P.O. Box 2524  
Appleton, WI 54912

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**FEBRUARY**

