



# ACT Newsletter

February 2019

“Be doers of the word and not hearers only.” James 1:22

## CFM FAMILIES SHARE THEIR STORIES

**OMAHA, NEBRASKA:**  
St. Bernard CFM group celebrated Epiphany by donating canned goods to St Vincent de Paul pantry. **Marcy Stefan** reports, "We played games, shared snacks, read the gospel story of Epiphany and collected the food for the pantry. Happy New Year!"



**Sheila and Ed Osterhaus**, past National Board members, have an active CFM group at the parish, doing some long-time actions. Pictured: The Osterhauses met current Board members, **Steve and Donna McCullough** (far left), at a recent parish potluck.



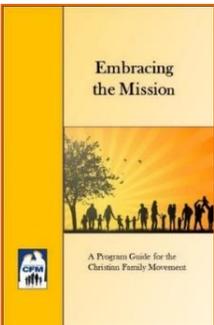
**WEA, KANSAS. Reuss and Marybeth Anderson** are leaders of one of three groups of young families at Queen of the Holy Rosary parish. **Tom and Kathy Rothermich** ran a sample CFM meeting with young families that had already been meeting, but were planning their own program. They had considered Teams of Our Lady, but felt it focused mostly on the couple relationship and they were looking for something for families. After the sample meeting, there was a lot of interest in CFM -- it seemed to fit the bill. Reuss spoke at the Masses and had a kick off. Three groups of young families (12 total) were formed! Reuss said they had only met twice -- once for a service project (packing toiletries and supplies for homeless) and one group meeting. He said two groups meet with children and a babysitter and one meets without children. Their pastor is very involved, too.



### Be My Valentine

All work and no play can kill romance. Share this [Couple Fun Inventory](#) with your couples, from *Marriage Moments* author, Susan Vogt.

## LEADER GUIDE NOW



### ONLINE! [Click here](#)

Now group leaders have access to background resources for excellent CFM meetings and guides for planning relevant action. Download or read on your tablet the Leader Guide for EACH MEETING of the 2018 Program Book, [Embracing the Mission](#).

The program has eight topics and full directions for three "Family and Community" Meetings to introduce more families at your parish to CFM, to enliven our personal encounter with Jesus Christ, support our families' faith journey, strengthen our commitment to the Gospel, and deepen the spiritual life of our groups.

**WINTERSET, IOWA. Sandy and Rick Hoenig**, leaders at St. Joseph CFM, report that a lady in one of our groups who is blind, suggested that they send a copy of the program book, *For Happier Families*, to the Iowa Department of the Blind to see if they **translate the book into braille**. "It took a few weeks but along came the braille book at no charge. She reads along with the rest of us and can prep for meetings. Being blind her perspective on things are interesting to hear and she loves to participate. It makes her feel part of our parish community."



## Visit to Hope Clinic, A Fruit of CFM

Before they began their winter meeting in Ann Arbor, the **CFM National Board of Directors** (above) toured the Hope Clinic in Ypsilanti, Michigan, and spent an afternoon helping out with cleaning and moving furniture in the clinic. Hope Clinic director, **Billy Kangas** (lower center with jacket), inspired the Board members with his passion for helping everyone who comes in the door.

**Hope Clinic, founded in 1982, has its roots in CFM.** Founder **Dr. Dan Heffernan**, a CFMer from Midland, Michigan, felt called to do more for the poor. Now, Hope Clinic provides no-cost healthcare for those without insurance or who can only afford catastrophic care coverage. There is a food bank, dental clinic, laundry, and meals. Over 100 churches in the area provide volunteers and financial support. **Visit <https://thehopeclinic.org/>** to learn more. You can see Billy's faith testimony on the *Coming Home Network* <https://chnetwork.org/journey-home/billy-kangas-former-lutheran/>



## POLO SHIRTS FOR YOUR GROUP:

[Click here to Order online.](#) Wear and share the news of CFM. All colors and sizes. Kids', too.

LIKE [CFM's Facebook page](#) to receive weekly Gospel reflections and inspiration for spreading the Good News.

READ [CFM's Blog for Family Spirituality insights](#), and find many more resources for successful groups at <http://www.cfm.org/>

## XIV World Assembly of Christian Family Movements

Morelia, Michoacán, Mexico

July 12-14, 2019

"IN EVERY HOME,  
SHINE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST"



Over 140,000 families worldwide belong to a CFM. ***You are invited to meet some of them next summer!*** The World Assembly is held every 3 years, gathering members of CFM organizations from around the world. The last assembly, 2016, was in San Antonio, Texas, hosted by the North American CFM organizations, including CFM-USA. [Download the Registration Form.](#) Visit <http://www.iccfm.org> to catch up on the missionary efforts of your CFM International Team in Ethiopia, Kuala Lumpur, Honduras, Vietnam, India, Ireland, and Philippines.

"The road to holiness for most of us lies in our secular vocations. **We need a spirituality that calls forth and supports lay initiative** and witness not just in our churches, but also in business, in the labor movement, in the professions, in education and in public life. Our faith is not just a weekend obligation, a mystery to be celebrated around the altar on Sunday. It is a pervasive reality to be practiced every day in homes, offices, factories, schools and businesses across our land. **We cannot separate what we believe from how we act** in the marketplace and the broader community, for this is where we make our primary contribution to the pursuit of economic justice." - U.S. Catholic Bishops