**Diocesan Family Retreat**

From September 29 to October 1, 2017, we had our second Diocesan Family Retreat. This Friday through Sunday event is funded from the Cursillo Secretariat Budget. The Retreat takes place at Camp Manitou near New Auburn and provides for sleeping facilities or tent camping. The site is located along a majestic lake. The dining and central meeting facilities are excellent. The meals are great! The Saturday evening meal was especially elegant courtesy of Jany Chumas and her family.

With the Family Retreat you can participate in all or some of the activities. All we ask that you do is let the coordinators know which meals you want. The cost of the Family Retreat is free! Children are welcome. This year we had over 50 people attend. The theme was “Where Does Jesus Lead.” This is the title of a book written by Jim Gettel, Canon for Congregational Life for the Diocese of Michigan. We had four presentations. Each was led by one lay and one ordained person. The talks were excellent. The subject matter centered around congregational development. After each talk there was time for small table conversation and then discussion within the group as a whole. There were opportunities for worship and singing. We closed with a Eucharist of Sunday morning at 9:30 am and then a time of summary and reflection regarding ideas for a 2018 Retreat. One special aspect of this year’s was retreat was a great sense of community and delight in working on a very practical subject for improving Church life. I especially thank Deacon Jo Glasser, Ellen Allison, Deb Lorenze, and Jany Chumas for coordinating this special event!

 —Bishop Jay Lambert