

**St. Stephen the Martyr Pastoral Council**  
**April 25, 2006**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees:** Fr. Jim; Nina Homan; Jason Castor; Mary Elwer; Laura Bogue; Doree Kathol; Tom Jorgensen; Glen Stenger, Tom Peal, Sarah Franco, Dennis Placke, Patricia Miller

**Call to order, prayer, welcome and introduction of new members:**

Meeting was called to order by Jason Castor; Father Jim led the group in an opening prayer. New Council members were welcomed and the group shared introductions

**Election of VP** – Mary Elwer was unanimously elected to the position of Pastoral Council Vice President.

**Assignment of Council Reporter** – Nina Homan accepted assignment of this role.

**Budget Status Update:**

Glen Stenger provided budget update for year to date as of March 31. Glen provided an overview of Revenue categories and Expense categories. Additional detail is available upon request.

**Report on the Air Conditioning status:** Four air conditioning condensers went out and required replacement. Costs remain outstanding at this point.

**Journey to the Center Report:** Father Jim provided a brief intro regarding the Journey to the Center campaign. Tom Jorgensen provided a review of current progress on the Journey to the Center campaign. As of 4/25 we had pledges amounting to \$478,127 of that we have \$238,132 in cash. Father Jim indicated we have raised adequate funds for the renovation and building security requirements. Any additional funds will be directed to disability access efforts for the parish if there is any additional funding left over. Tom still has a number of major gift contacts to call. 20 Parishioners participated in the Phone-a-thon efforts and completed 2,296 calls. Through these efforts the parish has identified a number of hardship cases and outreach efforts are being made to provide additional assistance through various existing parish ministries. Parish response to the phone-a-thon overall has been favorable.

**Development Director Report:**

Tom Jorgensen provided a review of stewardship development activities. We are seeing a 7% increase over last year in overall stewardship campaign. 1,401 parishioners have responded which represents 46% of all households participating. We have 727 households using EFT which is an increase of 132% over last year. Tom will follow up on the expired EFT pledges. Archdiocesan feed my sheep appeal for St Stephens was increased to \$104,787 this year. The Parish is currently at 94% of our goal for this campaign. Father Jim is pleased with the response from parishioners in this effort given the increased goal for our parish, and the other activities going on currently in the parish. Copies of last years Development Study report will be provided to new members. This will help new pastoral council members understand what we are trying to do through the Appreciative Inquiry process and also help everyone understand Father Jim's goals and planning efforts.

**Pastor's Report: Planning and Issues for 2006-2007:**

Father Jim provided members of the council a Draft of Goals and Tasks for St. Stephen the Martyr Councils, Boards and Staff. The document was briefly reviewed at the meeting and members were asked to review this at home and provide input at the next meeting.

**Presidents Report:**

Pastoral Council mail group will be created on St Stephen Server.

Council minutes are currently published on St. Stephen web-site.  
By laws will be reviewed regarding attendance policy. This will help ensure maximum participation in council meetings.  
Jason is planning a council get together and the date and location will be determined.

**New Business:**

Finance council is considering redirecting all project hope revenues to the general operating revenue.

Parish needs to review changing policies for endowments to maximize efforts.

Council attendee requested information on the frequency of refinishing for Gym floor. Floor is refinished annually during the summer.

Additional sidewalk maintenance is planned for this summer

**Board of Education Update:**

Mary Jo Rump was not in attendance for the Board of Education update.

**APC Representative Replacement:**

Doree Kathol is the retiring representative. Meetings are quarterly in the evening. Two meetings are in the Metro area and two are somewhere else in the diocese. Laura Bogue volunteered and her appointment was approved by Father Jim.

**Closing meditation and prayer**

**Next Meeting** –May 23, 2006 7PM