

**ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR**

**OMAHA, NEBRASKA**

**PASTORAL COUNCIL**

**Meeting minutes from August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

**Attendees:** Tom Jorgensen, Sherry Solsky, Dean Strehle, Marvin Winkeler, Stacy Watson, Pete Froelicher, Joan McDonough, Annette Wallace, Matt Dickey, Marty Warwick

**Excused:** Gina Langel, Andrew White, Fr. Chi, and Fr. Jim

**Opening prayer:** Matt Dickey

**Meeting minutes approved for the July meeting**

**Item 1:** Marty Warwick report on Adult Faith Formation

Purpose is to provide an environment for adult formation for a diverse population at St. Stephen's. Programs provide Baptism classes for parents, Confirmation classes for adults, RCIA classes and Catholics Coming Home program from the Diocese.

Scripture based programs are: Catholicism 101, EPIC-A Journey Through Church History, Breaking Open the Word, Family Life Groups, Understanding the Scriptures, "Matthew: The King and His Kingdom", Men's Scripture Study, Women's Scripture Study, and Lectio Divina.

**Item 2:** Pastor's Report Presented By Tom Jorgensen

1. Review of 2009-2010 Fr. Jim's Priorities
2. Building and Grounds Committee will be formed to determine financial needs of our aging parish structures.
3. Increase financial assistance program for school so that no child would be turned away due to financial reasons.

**Item 3:** Tom Jorgensen's Report

1. Stewardship was \$5861.00 over July's budget.
2. Archdiocesan Appeal will be on Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.
3. Lay Stewardship appeal will be on Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.
4. Fr. Jim's Stewardship appeal will be on Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.

5. VERITAS will have 6 weekly sessions on Sat. starting Oct.3<sup>rd</sup> thru Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>.
6. Discussion of having a phone-a-thon two times a year to gather feedback from parishioners.
7. The annual stewardship report will be complete by Sept.

**Item 4: Marvin Winkeler's Report**

1. October 25<sup>th</sup> meeting will be rescheduled (possibly to October 20<sup>th</sup>) so as not to conflict with the parish mission week.
2. Discussion of the role of Council Members for the next year.
  - a. Providing consultation to the pastor on matters of pastoral planning and policy.
  - b. Engaging in pastoral planning through developing parish goals and furthering their implementation.
  - c. Sponsor mini-Ministerial meeting/prayer service for all Parish Group leaders.
  - d. Taking responsibility for ongoing renewal of parish life and calling forth the gifts of individuals and groups in the faith community.
3. Al Zach, Board of Education president, will present at the next meeting.
4. Members should go through 5-year goal list and edit for the Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.
5. Year schedule was provided for opening and closing prayers. If there is a conflict please contact Marvin.

**Closing prayer:** Matt Dickey