

**ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR
OMAHA, NEBRASKA
Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes from March 24, 2009**

Attendees: Fr. Chi, Sherry Solsky, Sarah Franco, Dean Strehle, Clarissa Suarez-Russell, Matt Dickey, Joan Mc Donough, Pat Miller.

Absentees: Fr. Jim, Tom Jorgensen, Andrew White, Marvin Winkeler.

Item 1: Minutes of February 24, 2009 were approved as corrected.

Item 2: Pastor's Report

1. Chili Challenge: Generated \$18,000! Other donations have come in for this need too. Thanks to Judi Kirst and Cindie Maddock, for all volunteers, all chili cooks and all who attended. Special thanks to RE for having a booth.
2. Developed protocol for RE tuition waiver requests.
3. Budgets for 2009-2010 continue to be reviewed. A close review of personnel is part of this. Three staff members will not be replaced; hours will be cut for at least one other.
4. First Holy Communion on March 29. Confirmation will be on May 12, 13, 14
5. Lillian Blanton will become the new chair of our Funeral Luncheon Ministry. We express our thanks to Doree Kathol for 17 years of service in this ministry.
6. Long term: We need to start thinking about capital improvements as we anticipate the 25th anniversary of our parish in 2014. Our insurance company advises that we can only get five more years out of our portables, which are already past the suggested date of the original sellers. Do we want to begin thinking in terms of Kid Zone, an additional gym, offices or a combination of them?
7. Fr. Gerry's surgery is scheduled for May 13.
8. A reception for Fr. Jim's 35th anniversary as a priest will be held on Sunday, June 1 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the GPC

Item 3: Pastoral Council Member Nominations

Nominations were taken for the office of Pastoral Council President. Sherry Solsky and Marvin Winkeler are nominated. Election will be held at the April meeting by agreement of the council.

Item 4: Pastoral Council Elections

Members are encouraged to actively seek candidates for election. Refer candidates to SSM office for candidate procedures. Keep Pres. Sherry Solsky advised of progress. Elections to held Weekend of April 24-25. Sign-up held for ballot counting that weekend.

Item 5: Dept. Head visit for next meeting.

Suggestions include a Deacon or Head of Home and School organization.

Item 6: Meeting adjourned and closing prayer led by Sherry Solsky

