

**St. Stephen's Pastoral Council**  
**Tues., Feb. 2nd, 2010**  
**7:00 PM**  
**Rectory Conference Rm.**

**PRESENT: Dorrie Boliver, Rosalie Ritz, Tom Kalamas, Kevin Virkler, Liz Peters, Pete Wooschlager, Tracy Duffer, Justin Andre(phone conference) ABSENT: Bernice Virkler, Fr. Dan, Doug Robbins GUESTS: Vicki Meyer**

**ITEMS COVERED:**

- Meeting was opened with prayer led by Liz Peters.
- Minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and approved.
- Bernice Virkler has stepped down from the Pastoral Council for personal reasons. We regret her loss. It was agreed to ask Bobbi Sue Murphy(previously nominated by the parish) to fill her position.
- **Social Events to strengthen Parish Community:** The next parish potluck dinner will be hosted by the Pastoral Council on Sat., April 24<sup>th</sup> after the 5 PM Mass. It will be a welcoming reception for new members of the parish. Plans will be made at a later meeting.  
Kevin Virkler will be guiding a snowshoe/cross-country skiing trek to Sunday Lake on Sunday, Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>. It was decided who would announce it at masses the week-end before.
- **Liturgy of the Word with Children:** Peter Wooschlager reported a large number of children took advantage of this program during the 10:30 AM Mass on Sunday, Jan. 24<sup>th</sup>.
- **Adult Faith Formation for St. Stephen's Parish:** Fr. Dan sent information on upcoming events. Other handouts are to be reviewed for discussion next meeting.

Feedback on our recent speakers, Titus Mast and Fr. Vincent Freeh, M.S.C., was very positive as reported by various members of the Pastoral Council. It was suggested, however, to consider compiling a list of pertinent information needed by visiting clergy to be posted in the sacristy. The possibility of further organizing our ushers to help with some of these tasks was also suggested.

Thursday, Feb. 11: Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes & "World Day of the Sick" There will be a 7:00 PM Mass & Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be offered. Rosalie Ritz offered to arrange help for the liturgical ministries (greeters, lector, Eucharistic minister, music) and a prayer team to aid Fr. Dan.

Bobbi Sue Murphy brought the first completed panel for the “Why Catholic?” Lenten project. It needed some modification but work is progressing quickly. We were shown a picture of the banner. “Why Catholic?” has nine groups participating in the fourth and final year, some meeting in the Rectory and some meeting in homes. The theme for this six week Lenten period is “Prayer”.

It was decided that the Eucharistic Cup will again be offered starting with Ash Wednesday services. Daily Mass during Lent will alternate between 8:15 AM and a Midday Mass. Stations of the Cross, led by various groups, will still be held on Fri. evening at 6 PM: Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>, Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>, March 5<sup>th</sup>, March 12<sup>th</sup>, March 19<sup>th</sup>, and March 26<sup>th</sup>. The March 12<sup>th</sup> service will be led by Pastoral Council.

Information on the Ecumenical Lenten Services was sent by Fr. Dan. Peter Wooschlager also gave info as he has been contacted about providing music ministry on Good Friday. Further discussion on this service will be held next meeting.

- **Service** (extends the parish’s resources to better respond to the needs of others and demonstrates a commitment to works of compassion and justice): Vicki Meyer reported on the meeting held on Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> at 3 PM concerning the local food pantries. Representatives from the Croghan Food Pantry and St. Stephen’s Food Pantry, Pastoral Council, and Lewis County Opportunities were present. Much information was given, many questions answered, and procedures agreed upon. See the attached report for full understanding of the meeting.
- **Young Adult Ministry:** Justin Andre reported that 19 young adults participated in “The Amazing Race-St. Stephen’s Style” held on Sat., Jan.9<sup>th</sup>. Much positive feedback was received about the event with suggestions for a summer race. This event might be on a larger scale, involving local businesses, other churches, family teams. For full information about the event, see attached report.

**Next Pastoral Council meeting is Wednesday, March 10th, 2010 @ 7 PM. Prayer will be led by Justin Andre.**