

**Stewardship Meeting**  
**April 20, 2009**  
**7:00 Fleur de Lis Room**  
**Minutes**

**Attendees:** Marty Hoskins, Gil Leyba, Debra Yarbrough, Pat McEahern, Louise Lederhos, Greg Mally and Gini Brower.

The meeting held in the Fleur de Lis Room, began at 7 PM with the Stewardship Prayer by Pat.

**Minutes for the March Meeting were approved by acclamation**

**Old Business:**

**Pat-Follow-up and Community:** Follow-up letters (1000) went out April 1<sup>st</sup> to non-responders to initial Stewardship efforts. To date, we have received about 15 back. Some were positive and reacting to our requests, and others were returned as undeliverable or indicated that they are no longer SJA Parishioners. The responses did have some positive effects, even if to only help clean the database.

There will be a large vase placed at the ambo housing all of our TTT cards by the first Stewardship Weekend scheduled for April 25-26. Father Joseph's homily will be Stewardship oriented and we will have our first thank-you speech from a representative of Mary's Maternity of Motherhood. Debb Mally will be securing speakers from effected ministries for all of the upcoming monthly Stewardship weekends.

It was suggested that we need a blurb in the weekly bulletin to follow-up to our second chance letter campaign. The rhetoric could include a thank you to responders and an invitation and encouragement to non-responders about the urgency of knowing our financial expectations and its importance to future budgeting and programs. It was also noted that the later responders could be an excellent source of new ministry participants and should be cross referenced to our list of new parishioners to include in our greeting or welcoming processes.

There was discussion about our development of community; we need to really emphasis our welcoming efforts. We will consider events such as breakfasts, dinners, wine and crackers or maybe pizza with the Padre. It was brought up that we should emphasize the importance of participation and attendance at the Easter Vigil to welcome and encourage our new Catholics. Next year we need to put more effort into "advertising" the Vigil and encouraging attendance.

It was suggested that we need to consider having a "presence" at the Summerfest. We might sponsor a "Dunk the Deacon" booth. Our meeting in July will address this issue and outline our involvement. We may also want to consider producing a small handout of some sort to introduce our efforts. We might consider putting together a bookmark of some sort. In the past there have been meetings of regional "immigrants" within our Parish. Something like all the "New Englanders" would meet for a simple meal with Father Joseph and just talk about "back home" and enjoy the fellowship. This could be a way of strengthening "community."

The confirmation retreat has been very inspirational for the youth involved and we need to have an article on the website to share the stories of growth and conversion. It was suggested that we put together slide shows at various times throughout the year to just run on a loop at KOC breakfasts and Coffee and Donuts that illuminates happenings in the Church and her ministries. This will be a simple non-invasive way of putting the success and effect of our efforts out there. We need to always look at ways to show the impact of what we are doing as a Parish to encourage involvement. The chair will be getting letters out to the ministry heads to encourage follow-up to newly signed-up volunteers. The Stewardship Committee will also be available to contact and encourage our new volunteers.

**New Business:**

**Meeting Schedule:** There will be no meeting of the Stewardship Committee in May or June. We will meet in July to determine what we will be doing for the Summerfest.

**Bishop Conley:** Bishop Conley of the Denver Archdiocese is originally from the Diocese of Wichita, which is our Stewardship model. The chair will try to have Bishop Conley on hand for our fall Stewardship kickoff meeting in August and to speak at Masses as we begin our fall Stewardship drive.

**Closing Prayer by Pat**

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM**

**Next meeting of the Stewardship Committee is to be determined on a date in July.**

**Minutes submitted by Debra Yarbrough**