

St. Therese Parish

Social Outreach Fellowship Committee

Meeting on Thursday, April 15, 2010, 6:30

Members present: Father Hal Barber, Bev Christopherson, Rick Collins,
Shirley Donnelly, Haley Hunhoff, Louise Johnson,
Jean Rasmussen and Sue Williams

Members absent: Chuck Edwards, Jean Zutz

Opening prayer: Father Hal Barber

Mission and Vision statement: Jean Rasmussen

1. Rick Collins reported that **Sara Lipetzky** will hold an organizational meeting at Cherry Creek on April 29 at 7:00 PM to begin work with the **young adult group**. Sara will also speak at the weekend Masses on April 24 and 25th to invite and inform the parish of her efforts to organize a group of young adults in the 21 to 35 year age group.
2. Deacon Mike Conrads plans to attend a SOFC meeting in the near future to plan **Pro Life Activities** for the fall.
3. Sue Williams updated the group on the **Habitat for Humanity** project. Ground breaking is set for May 15th. Nine to 10 people are requested for each work shift. Volunteers to prepare food are also needed.
4. Louise Johnson attended the **Parish Activity Leaders** meeting. She brought to the SOFC the PALS schedule of events for the year. Louise invited two women of the parish to act as callers/"dialers" for PALS. Lynette Thorstenson and Jackie Loger will make the necessary phone calls for PALS when PALS has a need for volunteers. The next PALS event is Baccalaureate lunch, followed by Father's Farewell on June 25th. Louise noted that the PALS committee has need of more people to work on the committee.

5. Father mentioned that the number of priests in Sioux Falls parishes will drop from 19 to 11 in 2011. He is to prepare a proposal suggesting ways to cover the priestly duties with **fewer priests**. It was suggested that lay volunteers be trained and brought in to service as **lay chaplains in the hospitals**.
6. Bev Christopherson, St. Therese parish nurse, gave a report on her ministry. There will be a summer break of the blood pressure screenings. The screenings will resume in September. Also there is a need for more nurse volunteers for the 4:00 Mass. Concerning the **Parish Nurse** visits to homes/nursing homes, she is narrowing her outreach to end of life patients.
Bev had recently attended a workshop in Sioux Falls given by Dr. Alan Wolfelt. He is an author who deals with death, dying and grief issues. She is eager to purchase reading materials for those who are dealing with aging, death, dying, grief, etc. She also cited a need for age appropriate materials for the very young who also experience grief. She plans to request resources from the parish next budget. The committee suggested fund raising, like a book shower. St. Therese Parish typically has about 40 deaths each year.
7. The **Welcome Committee** has called a meeting for those who have agreed to be mentors to the newly registered members to St. Therese. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 28 at 6:30- 7:30.
8. Jean Rasmussen presented information about a program called **Temple Builders**. It is a six week program recently given at St. Mary's Church in Sioux Falls during Lent. It is taught by Nina Kappes, a registered dietician, who combines physical wellness with spiritual strengthening. Jean will take the idea to Faith Formation with the hope of implementing it in Lent 2011 at St. Therese.

The SOFC committee presented Haley Hunhoff with a shower/ wedding gift to honor her and Phil Samuelson who will be married at St. Therese in May.

Father Barber closed the meeting with a prayer.

In His service,

Jean Rasmussen, scribe