

Grace Episcopal Church
Minutes of the Vestry Meeting
Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Vestry Present: Dick Entenmann, Rebecca Harrison, Janet Heyer, Michelle Huber, David Jayne, Denise Miller, Jim Moore, Weezer Weir, and David Willard

Vestry Absent: Katie Compton, John Cullinane, James Krakowski, and Carlos Nunez

Clergy Present: Rev. Irene Jones and Rev. Emily Davis

Guests: Tim Engelbrecht, Treasurer
Mike Heyer, Chair, Finance Committee

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. Rev. Davis offered the opening prayer.

Rev. Jones, reminded the Vestry of their review of the Baptismal promises at the last meeting. She then read the Gospel story of Jesus meeting the disciples on the road following his resurrection when they did not recognize him. She asked the question: Where do you encounter Jesus? Various points of view were offered indicating that we meet Jesus in everyday people and situations but often do not recognize Him there.

It was announced that Junior Warden James Krakowski has resigned from the Vestry. Dick Entenmann suggested a meeting of former junior wardens, property committee members and personnel committee members to discuss needs for maintaining the building. Senior Warden David Willard will call such a meeting.

Dick Entenmann moved and David Jayne seconded approval of the minutes of the November 11, 2008 meeting. The motion passed.

Denise Miller, reporting for the 150th Anniversary committee, asked that names of prospective members be sent to her as well as ideas for the celebration.

Senior Warden David Willard emphasized the urgent need for a Communications Committee and especially someone to chair the effort.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Tim Engelbrecht reported that November was a good month with revenue on target. He looks forward to a good December when many members traditionally pay up their pledges and offer additional gifts based on their year-end financial positions. Expenses remain under budget but revenue for the year is down \$29,000 and the cash reserve is narrowing.

Rebecca Harrison moved and Denise Miller seconded approval of the Treasurer's Report. The motion passed.

Mike Heyer presented the proposed budget for 2009. When the Year-Round Stewardship campaign is more fully completed, the proposed budget will be finalized for the vestry's consideration and presentation to the congregation at the annual meeting in January.

Search Committee

Dick Entenmann gave the Search Committee report. The search committee is focusing on four candidates at this time. The committee members will begin telephone interviews with prospective candidates immediately.

Year-Round Stewardship Committee

Dick Entenmann asked Vestry members to sign a statement of commitment to proportional giving. He said 110 stewardship commitments have been received as of 12/8 totaling \$285,242. Fifty-two of those commitments show an increase over last year's pledge. The Vestry agreed that letters be sent to those who have not responded and followed up with a phone call if no response is forthcoming. He is seeking a co-chair for the Stewardship Ministry.

Stewardship Ministry Report

Dick Entenmann presented the Stewardship Ministry Report highlighting each of the Stewardship ministry areas and a summary of the activities of each of the ministries. The Stewardship ministries include the Endowment Trust, Property Committee, Finance Committee, Personnel Committee, Archives Committee, Grocery Coupons, and Year-Round Stewardship.

Nominating Committee

Jim Moore reported that the following parishioners have agreed to run for the four open Vestry positions: Jim Davis, Julie Grossman, Elizabeth Kaul and Chris Kurth. Janet Mika has agreed to run for a 3-year term as convention delegate and Diane Willis for a 2-year term. Jane Cenova and Eric Woodruff will run for the two alternate delegate positions. Tim Engelbrecht and Ken Hand were recommended for 3-year terms as Trustees of the Endowment Fund.

Janet Heyer moved and David Jayne seconded approval of the slate. The motion passed.

Committee of Chairs

Dick Entenmann provided a summary of the committee report. Susan Lauber will retire as Chair at Easter. The committee suggested that Vestry members offer names in January of possible replacements for Susan as well as replacements for others co-chairs who have left the committee.

Curate's Report

Rev. Emily reported that a Women's Spirituality Group will begin in January.

Priest-in Charge Report

Rev. Irene reported that a Blue Christmas, a Service of Solace will take place at St. Matthew's Church on Saturday, December 13 at 4:00 P.M. for those grieving the loss of loved ones. Also a Grief Group will begin meeting at Grace twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at noon. She also reported that the third Sunday service has been postponed to the first Sunday in Lent. A music director is needed for this effort.

In the absence of the Junior Warden, Senior Warden David Willard thanked the group who recently completed the chipping of the tree limbs. Follow-up to the temporary repair to the roof in the kitchen was discussed.

Annual Meeting Plans

Senior Warden Willard asked that Committee Chairs send their reports to the office in order to be included in the Annual Report. In order to provide refreshments for the meeting, a sign-up sheet will be available at the January Vestry meeting. Vestry members are encouraged to volunteer. There will be a single service at 9:00 A.M. on Sunday, January 25, 2009.

Dick Entenmann moved and Rebecca Harrison seconded approval of certain changes to correct the salary and housing allowance agreement for the Rev. Jones. The motion passed.

Donations of furniture and books are needed for Rev. Jones' office.

Janet Heyer moved and Jim Moore seconded additional changes in the proposed church bylaws. The motion passed.

Dick Entenmann asked for clarification of Convention delegates' roles and how convention issues are brought to the Vestry.

Rev. Jones gave the closing prayer and the meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley Browne, Secretary