

Calvary Episcopal Church  
Vestry Meeting Minutes  
April 21, 2009  
Emison Room

**Vestry Present:** James Aldinger, Sharon Bailey, Allison Cates, John Frazer, Mary Ann Ford, Michelle Fulmer, Len Grice, Bill Henry, Jeff Kitterman, Andy Mathes, Gayle Spence, Ginny Strubing, , Beebe Woodside

**Vestry Absent:** David Balling, Mark Johnson, Beau Snowden, Lee Wakeman

**Others Present:** Andy MacBeth, Cap Pinkham, Peg Wahl

**Opening Prayer:** Allison Cates

**Bible Study:** Andy MacBeth led a brief discussion of the road to Emmaus story.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the March 24, 2009 vestry meeting were approved with 3 corrections.

**Financial Report:** Peg Wahl reviewed the actual to budget comparison for March 2009 showing a net income of \$7,400 for the month of March. Revenues are \$5,440 over budget with expenses \$1,970 under budget. Concerns for next year's income from the endowment fund were expressed with assurance from both Cap and Peg that the finance committee is planning ahead for the impact that endowment fund losses will have on Calvary's budget. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the financial report.

**Annual Giving Update:** Andy Mathes reported that the annual giving campaign has signed pledge card from 337 pledge units totaling \$1,900,122. Cap clarified that though this number funds the 2009 budget, giving is in reality down. In the past some pledged funds have gone into the endowment fund, but this year all pledged dollars will go to the operating budget. It was agreed that it is time to call an end to the annual giving campaign for 2009.

**Episcopal Church Growth Summary:** Bill Henry summarized the report given in March by George Yandell regarding Episcopal Church growth. The strongest correlate of church growth was the absence of conflict. The second most powerful correlate was a scale that combined four highly related characteristics of the parish's rector: "generates enthusiasm, charismatic leader, has a clear vision for the congregation, and knows how to get people to work together." Other predictors of growth include: congregations with a clear mission and purpose, the church's involvement in recruiting new members, worship characterized as joyful and exciting, congregations with a larger proportion of households with children, even proportions of males and females, and a location that is experiencing growth. Andy Mathes and Len Grice have committed to work with the staff on Calvary's goal for future growth.

**Building Needs Survey:** John Frazer reported that estimates are being obtained for the maintenance work identified by the committee: painting the interior of the nave and chancel, renovation of the restrooms on the main floor, tiling the area at the base of the stairs, and re-carpeting the Montgomery Foyer. All of this work should be able to be done within the budget. Work is currently underway to seal the courtyard and thereby repair the leaks in the Matthew, Mark, and Luke rooms.

**Rector's Report:**

- Andy has asked the last eight or nine Sr. Wardens to be part of a "Cabinet" that will meet with him on a regular basis.
- It is time for the annual mutual ministry review for the vestry and rector. Each vestry member was asked to prioritize a list of functions important for the rector of Calvary.
- A list of Parish functions was discussed: Adult education, children's education, direct outreach, worship opportunities, spiritual growth programs, music arts and preaching for the community, pastoral support for the parish, Sacramental rites, and fellowship. The vestry will be asked to prioritize these functions of the parish.
- Bishop Johnson is coming Sunday for his annual visit. There will be 1 Baptism and 12 Confirmations at both the 9 and 11:15 services. The vestry has been invited to a dinner at Mary Ann Ford's house on Saturday night.
- Ebet Peoples prepared a membership update report for the vestry. She has moved 224 members to a non-participating roll and asks that the vestry review this list.
- YAMs ministry group, with the help of Ryan Rosebush and Sarah Squire are working to develop monthly service activities.
- The Lenten preaching series attendance was up by 1,600 from 2008. Holy week service attendance was down by 40, with Easter Service numbers about the same as 2008.
- Worship and Music – The 1<sup>st</sup> three Sundays of May we will experiment with alternative worship experiences at the 11:15 service. The choir will provide their usual excellent music though they may sit in the congregation during the service. The service will be easy for children and visitor participation. The sermon and Prayers of the People will include dialog with the congregation. At the Offertory the congregation will be invited to come forward into the chancel for Communion. The responses of the 11:15 congregation to this experiment have been varied from enthusiasm to distress. This style of worship should be more appropriate for the size of the congregation and is modeled after churches in Seattle and San Francisco that have been very successful with this model.

**Vestry mailbox:** Thanks for fixing the leaks in Matthew, Mark, and Luke.

**Parish Retreat Report:** Ginny Strubing reports that the schedule for the retreat week-end has been planned and that Ginny, Sharon Bailey, Christine Pinkham, and Ellen Coleman, are going to visit Camp McDowell in May.

**Old and New Business:**

Michelle Fulmer – Youth Sunday – Very impressed with the youth sermons and participation.  
James Aldinger – The Easter worship experience was outstanding.

**Good of the Order:**

**An Executive Session was held.**

**Closing Prayer:** Andy MacBeth

Respectfully submitted,

Gayle Spence

Clerk