

Calvary Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting Minutes
March 24, 2009
Emison Room

Vestry Present: James Aldinger, Allison Cates, John Frazer, Mary Ann Ford, Michelle Fulmer, Bill Henry, Mark Johnson, Jeff Kitterman, Andy Mathes, Beau Snowden, Gayle Spence, Ginny Strubing, Lee Wakeman, Beebe Woodside

Vestry Absent: David Balling, Sharon Bailey, Len Grice

Others Present: Andy MacBeth, Cap Pinkham, George Yandell, Peg Wahl

Opening Prayer: Jeff Kitterman

Bible Study: Andy led a brief bible study of the last part of Mark's gospel.

Church Growth Presentation: George Yandell presented statistics from a survey on growth in Episcopal churches. This survey included 4,100 Episcopal congregations from 2000-2005 and analyzed characteristics of those congregations that are growing.

Minutes: The minutes of the February vestry meeting were approved with one change.

Financial Report: Peg Wahl reviewed the February actual to budget comparison showing a net YTD loss of \$7K. February revenues are \$24,712 below budget in part due to post paid pledges below budget. This is in line with historical figures for February. Expenses for February were \$18K below budget for a YTD total of \$78,941 below budget.

Annual Giving: Andy Mathes reports that we currently have 302 pledging units with actual pledges of \$1,850,000. The 2009 goal is 400 pledging units and \$1.9M. A group met last Sunday night to make calls to those families that have not yet pledged. The entire campaign has taken much longer than anticipated. In 2008 we had 371 pledging units for a total pledged income of \$1.9M. Eighty of those units have not yet pledged for 2009 representing a total of \$187K. The committee still hopes to get pledges from many of these units.

Repair and Maintenance Committee Report: John Frazer reported as the vestry liaison. The committee was created after the capital campaign was postponed, to do some analysis of Calvary's existing facilities and make recommendations for any repairs that would be necessary to bridge the gap before the capital campaign can be resumed. The committee is made up of John Frazer, Charles Shipp, Bill Webster, Jeff Kitterman, David Lusk, and Melinda Kolb. On March 5th the committee met to review a list provided by Charles Shipp of items that need attention. As a result of this meeting, estimates are being obtained on painting the interior of the nave and chancel, refurbishing both restrooms on the second floor, tiling the small area at the base of the main stairs, and re-carpeting the Montgomery Foyer. Charles is reviewing concerns about the electrical system in the church. Michelle Fulmer volunteered and was approved as chair of this committee.

Rector's Report:

- Downtown Street Ministry is closing. The building has been sold to the Union Mission.
- HUB – The Hub is closed this week and will re-open next week with a refocused mission. They will limit their focus to serve those that are newly homeless and those making an effort to make changes. The application as a 501C3 organization has been filed. Funding for the HUB will run out soon with \$70K needed for the rest of the year. It was suggested that Andy request a list of potential donors from Malcolm McRae.
- Lenten Preaching Series – The preaching series has received great reviews this year and Waffle Shop attendance numbers have been good. Bookings are being made for next year's series. The plan is to move toward a more professionally run kitchen next year. A committee will be formed to evaluate the needs and processes necessary.
- Green Lent – Thanks to Elizabeth Madden and Martin Jellinek.
- Kell Christie-Gary and Martin Jellinek are in the process of discernment for holy orders.
- Conversation with the 11:15 congregation – The 1st 3 Sundays in May will trial a very different make-up focused on building community, a kid friendly format, and music to support congregational singing. A blog will be created to encourage conversation about the up-coming lessons. From this 3 week experience, plans will be made for the make-up of the 11:15 service when we resume the 3 service schedule in the fall. This may be a difficult transition and Andy has asked for vestry support.
- The Church Health Center has again honored Calvary for our contribution with the opportunity to name a day as an honorarium. Lee Wakeman has been selected as the recipient of this honor.
- George Yandell's sabbatical leave will begin the week after Easter and extend through August.
- Parish Retreat – Plans are underway for the parish retreat the week-end of Oct. 2nd-4th. The retreat will be held at camp McDowell in Alabama, about 3 hours from Memphis.
- Bishop Johnson will be at Calvary for confirmation on April 26th. A dinner for vestry and their spouses is being planned for April 25th.
- A discussion about the church's position on the blessing of same sex unions will likely be brought up within the Episcopal Church in the near future.

New/Old Business:

Carrington Wise will lead the children's choir beginning on April 15th.

Vestry mailbox: Empty

No Executive Session

Respectfully submitted,

Gayle Spence
Clerk