

Trinity Episcopal Church
Minutes of the Vestry Meeting
Monday, October 19, 2009

Present: Ron Pogue (Interim Pastor), Paul McLain (Curate), Ellen Tracy (Senior Warden), Tom McCoy (Junior Warden), Donna Griffin, Mark Holmberg, Nancy Kelley, Garth Myers, Debbie Pitts, Joan Ring, Micah Seybold, Marty Smith, Kent Tomlinson, Maria Thompson (Clerk)

Absent: Margaret Bearse, Dave Edington, Susan Tate

Call to Order and Opening Prayer

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Fr. Ron led a prayer to open the meeting.

Declaration of Quorum

A count was taken and a quorum declared.

Approval of the Minutes of the September 2009 Meeting

Mark made a motion to approve the Minutes of the September meeting. Donna seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Financial Report

Fr. Ron presented the financial report for the period ending September 30, 2009.

- The CDs that had been invested for the Education, Music and Pendleton funds have all matured and need to be re-invested.
- Total year-to-date income is \$50,000 under what was budgeted, while expenses are \$3,000 over.
- We've spent more than had been planned for music. Fr. Ron will discuss this with Henry Smith and Liz Hare to see if this is a record-keeping error or true over-expenditure, or if there is some other explanation.
- Jim Long will be starting the 2008 audit at the end of October.

Interim Pastor's Report

Stewardship

The vestry resolved to thank Bob Sanner and the Stewardship Committee for their hard work.

Fr. Ron presented a report of the progress of the pledge campaign as of October 18:

- Number of pledges received: 106
- Total amount pledged: \$249,861
 - New pledges: 17
 - Total amount of new pledges: \$23,198
 - Number that increased from last year: 56
 - Total amount of increases: \$35,767
 - Number that decreased from last year: 15
 - Total amount of decreases: \$9,774
 - Number remaining the same: 17
 - Total amount remaining the same: \$34,406
 - Current members who pledged last year, but not yet for this year: 87
 - Total amount by members who pledged last year, but not yet this year: approx. \$100,000

Letters will be sent to parishioners who have not pledged yet, then vestry members may have to start making phone calls.

Rector Search

The Profile/Search Committees received 225 responses to their surveys and have developed a report which they will be able to use in creating our parish profile.

Fr. Ron handed out several reports that provide financial and demographic information about Trinity, and which can be found through the national Episcopal Church web site. He explained that priest candidates will review these reports when considering whether or not to apply for our position. He encouraged vestry members to go on-line and look these up, and be ready to discuss this information when interviewing candidates.

He noted that the Episcopal Church USA did not take as big a financial hit as had been predicted following the events of 2003 which created a schism in the Church. Trinity has weathered that storm well, without leaning too far to either side of the argument, and that will need to be expressed during our search.

Strategic Planning

Our planning day will be November 8 in the basement meeting room. We will be looking at the next few years, and considering things that need to be done, regardless of who is called to be the new rector.

Curate's Report

- The Diocesan Convention, celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Diocese of Kansas, will be held October 23 and 24. Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori will be there. The Jubilee Center Programs will be named, including Trinity Interfaith Food Pantry.
- Craig Loya has been chosen to be the new Canon to the Ordinary for the diocese.
- Shirley Reese hosted members of the greeters ministry at her home. The group has begun to work more toward integrating newcomers into the church.

Senior Warden's Report

- There were fifteen people from Trinity at Jonathon Jensen's installation in Little Rock.

Junior Warden's Report

- The Trinity Environmental Stewardship Team (TEST) will spend \$2,000 to replace the ballasts in our fluorescent lights with ones that are more efficient.
- There are new controls in the restrooms to control the lights and fans.
- Tom will be meeting with Mass Street Music regarding the problems of outside interference with the sound system in the nave.

Fund Raising Policy

Margaret, Donna and Kent developed a fund raising policy that would be all-encompassing. Individual members who wish to solicit donations one-on-one from their church friends for outside activities are not covered by this policy.

Vestry Policy on Fund Raising Groups

All groups that plan to raise funds using the name and/or physical plant of Trinity Episcopal Church must submit a proposal letter for approval by the Vestry no later than the Vestry meeting prior to the proposed activity. Earlier submission would be preferred. This letter should identify the group conducting the fund raising, the type of activity proposed, and the recipients of the money to be raised. If there are several intended recipients, they should all be named, but if the funds raised are not sufficient to support all intended recipients, some may be omitted without further notification.

Exceptions: Groups within the church (e.g. Youth Group or TEST) may have small projects, such as bake sales or light bulb sales, at regular church meetings without prior approval, but the Vestry would like notification so that we may support the effort.

Debbie made a motion to accept the fund raising policy above. Donna seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Treasurer Search

A committee has been formed to find a new treasurer. Committee members are Ellen, Fr. Ron, Marty, Tom, and Mark. Contact any of these committee members if you wish to submit a name for consideration.

Thanksgiving and Christmas Offerings

It is too late for any kind of Thanksgiving offering event this year, but there is still time to prepare for a Christmas offering. The purpose would be to raise money for a cause, which will have to be chosen by the vestry and articulated to the parish.

Debbie made a motion to choose a cause for which a special Christmas offering will be made. Donna seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Ellen will look into Family Promise for this year's offering. This will be further discussed at the November vestry meeting.

Spiritual Reflection

Garth talked about two instances, one filled with fear and one filled with love, when he experienced the power of God.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. Fr. Paul led the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Thompson, Clerk