

VESTRY MINUTES

Present: Bob Askins, Joey Broussard, Fr. Furman Buchannon, Gwen Geidel, Ed Kellett, Jack Myers, Chad Poteat, Esther Richey, Robin Smith, Gus Strasburger, El Thompson, Andrew Todd

Absent: Jim Maass

Opening Reflection

March 12 - Feast day for Gregory the Great. Elected 590. Organized the defense of Rome against the Lombards. The chant has molded the liturgy. *Pastoral Care* a classic. Evangelized the Anglo-Saxons. The Venerable Beade called Gregory, "The apostle of the English"

Note writing

Joining with Stewardship in writing notes to members – 7 addresses per vestry member

Minutes accepted as amended -- removal of slate.

Call to Order – 6: 20

Worship

Furman reminded us of Holy Week plans

Sending 750 cards so that our neighbor are aware of our Easter services

Wedding in early April – Robert Ellis and Angie Goff

End-of-Life planning – draft brochure, hymn selections, family dynamics

Christian Formation – Furman spoke with temporary director of nursery who agreed to work with us until we can find a solution. Pat Townsend will serve as consultant

Pastoral Care

Mary Clark has been coordinating casseroles.

A parishioner has stepped forward to sponsor a part-time secretarial position. Linda to help find a replacement.

Budget

Ed briefly reviewed the budget developed by the finance committee

Gwen received a motion to accept the budget as presented, motion seconded

Motion approved by acclamation.

Vestry commended the Finance committee for their hard work.

Budget (cont.)

Pledge income for the first two months is down. It may be too early to draw conclusions, but we must keep a close eye on income.

Group that went to St. Louis came back with good info and ideas. Met at Judy Tighe's house to review and share what they had learned.

Chad: The Episcopal Church is alive and well. Many dynamic people. Struck by the fact that many churches – much larger parishes -- depend heavily on their foundations to operate their churches. No perfect parish. We are reminded to be grateful for what we have and strive to do better.

Capital campaign – Furman and wardens meeting with Tony Watkins and Pat D'ana Thursday

Paul Palmer will present on Millennium Diocesan Goals next month. Paul is a diocesan delegate – it has been a common refrain at Diocesan meetings that .07 % be designated to international mission.

Gatekeeper for fund-raising needed to coordinate efforts

Search committee met last night – good team. Working on survey. Split work up to get work done and done quickly. Want vestry to develop transition team to assist new rector, when called, through his first year.

We will need to update website. Kim doing a great job. We will need to feed material to her, maybe create a section to show our progress.

Written reports submitted by vestry liasons:

Membership

The membership development committee met March 10 to fill the new mugs with candy and assorted other goodies for newcomers. We also discussed having an added presence on Easter Sunday and move the mugging stations to the front yard with the lemonade stand, which we are prepared to do. We also need any vestry member present that day to help seek out the guests. We also discussed and plan next meeting to go through an old parish directory to begin to make a list of members who are not active so that we can re-invite them back to St Martin's. Finally, as directed by the vestry, the group will consider a new leader for that group -not the vestry person- so that the group will grow under that leadership and free the vestry rep. to help, not run, the committee.

Christian Formation

Adult Sunday School has been working with the PBS presentation, "The Power of Forgiveness" and meeting in small groups to discuss their own feelings and responses. It's been an excellent time, and even though this past week was a time change, more than 20 people attended at that early hour.

During our session with Nancy Boyle, we discussed working through a series of issues as "Resurrected people": We would like to work through the Spiritual Disciplines (perhaps Richard Foster's books on practical ways to Celebrate the Disciplines (including a prayer life, scripture, exercise, food, and various others). I've also been really interested in Discerning Gifts within the Christian Community so that we can return them to the Community and move beyond it to the world. During this time, we may also return to McLaren's Everything Must Change since McLaren is deeply interested in developing a Global commitment to our world.

Pat Townsend met with the Children's Ministry Board and will help with thinking and planning but the Board still needs someone committed to this ministry to be in charge of it. Also Taylor has promised to stay with nursery through May—so we need to be thinking about finding a replacement for her.

Sister Catherine's group met with the Boyle-Isgett-Richey Formation group during Lent but will probably return to their smaller group to continue working through Sr. Catherine's manuscript on Benedictine Spirituality.

In terms of the Fall, Nancy Boyle would like to meet with those interested to consider an extension of DOCC into Literature. Those who'd like to participate can go to training and it can be initiated again, perhaps this coming School Year. She says we can meet at her house to discuss this possibility. She's going to talk to Louise Runion about helping people become committed to this process.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care Update #1

March 10, 2008

I [Andrew Todd] met with Judy Tighe to introduce myself and explain the process of using liaisons such as myself and Chad to further communication between the various boards and the Vestry. Also, I used our meeting as an opportunity for Judy to further explain what the Pastoral Care network was, what was in place and what was in "development". As many of you may recall Judy is very organized and has put the Pastoral Care Network together on a diagram, which is very helpful. Much of the Pastoral Care programs she has are envisioned or developing.

Judy specifically wanted my input on what could be done with regard to Young Family Focus. I explained that I thought we could implement something but it needed to be minimally taxing on the existing active families. I know that many of the active families are already involved in many aspects of parish life and with the vacancy left by Sandy, many are pulling double duty. I mentioned that another local church had a Parents Night out where parents could drop kids off at the church on a Friday around from 6-9 and have some time to themselves. It was a huge hit with that church and provided the parents with a break. In addition, it would be something that

could be staffed by possibly some of the youth and older members of the church. I told her I would run it by the Children's Family Ministry Board and see what their thoughts were.

The next Pastoral Care meeting is Thursday the 13th. A full report on this meeting will be made by me and/or Chad on it at the next Vestry meeting.

Outreach

El Thompson, Jim Maass, Gus Strasburger liaisons

We have met with the various outreach members on two Sundays. As all of you know, Hams for Haiti is in full swing. We would ask that all try to sell hams before Easter. If we could sell 200 our outreach obligation for Haiti for 2007 could be met. One of the great aspects of this is that they can be sold to the general public. Talk it up.

On Rogation Sunday, Garfield will host a meal to help raise more funds for outreach.

Through two meetings the conversation has primarily focused on Haiti. Our hope is to broaden the discussion in the future.

Also attached is a proposal to the various members of outreach trying to target a new and more encompassing annual fundraiser. Vestry members, please read and bring any suggestions that may come to mind.

The group will meet again sometime after Easter

Upcoming Events

Palm Cross dinner

Caribbean Dinner – April 27

Plant Sale – May 3rd

Next Vestry meeting – April 15, 2008, St Alban's Room

8:20 adjourned