

St. James' Episcopal Church

Vestry Minutes

March 15, 2010

WORSHIP

Reverend Paul Habersang led the Vestry in Evening Prayer.

DISCUSSION

The monthly meeting of the Vestry of St. James' Episcopal Church was called to order at 6:35 pm at St. James' Church. Present were Fred Larson, Gail Lebert, Nancy Goodwin, Rick Edwards, Jennifer Daukas, Jim Bennett, Gayle Kataja, Rev. Paul Habersang, and Rev. Nancy Gossling.

Commission Report

No Commission reports were given this month.

Fundraising Events Update

Time & Talent Auction and Dinner: Nancy Goodwin and Jennifer Daukas reported that things are all set for the Time & Talent Auction. They mentioned what a great job Amy Carvell has done and so many parishioners are involved in this event. There was discussion around tax donation practices. Jennifer will thank the parishioners and update on how the event went at Sunday services.

Spring Fling: Plans are well under way for the Spring Fling on May 1st. Art donations are needed. A concern was voiced regarding access to the Bell Tower entrance. Jim Bennett will look into this. A suggestion was made to extend the Fling to include Sunday afternoon as well. Gail Lebert will speak to Barbara Edwards and get her feedback regarding this.

Rentchler Field Clean Up: Rev. Paul will circle back with Scott Thompson to check on possible dates to gather 30 or so parishioners age 16 or older to go and clean up Rentchler Field.

DECISIONS

Treasurers Report

Fred Larson gave the Treasurers Report and highlighted the following:

- Trends are good. Pledged income is slightly ahead of what we projected per month.
- Finance Committee discussed reviewing pledges at the end of the first quarter and sending out a report.
- Other Offerings category includes 2009 income received in 2010 so it is a bit distorted. Bernie, our bookkeeper, can separate it out to give a clearer report. We need to keep close watch on the Other Offerings and make sure it stays at the number projected in the budget.

Rick Edwards approved and Nancy Goodwin seconded the motion to approve the Treasurers Report.

Approval Minutes

David Buddington made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 22, 2010 Vestry meeting and Gayle Kataja seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Parochial Report

Gail Finn and Ray Davis reviewed this report that is submitted to the diocese yearly.

INFORMATION

Rector's Report

Reverend Nancy reported on many things highlighting the following:

- Rev. Nancy explained that in the Senior Warden's absence, Reverend Nancy can extend leadership to another individual. In the case of Rich Mills' illness tonight, Nancy asked Reverend Paul to lead the Vestry meeting.
- A second meeting was held on February 24 of the East of the River group
- Bishop Ahrens visit to St. James went very well. The Bishop had a great time and thought we were exceptional in every way. She reminded us to perform audits every year.
- Rev. Nancy and Paul have completed 3 of the 5 Inquirers classes. Eschatology will be the next topic discussed.
- Rectors and Assistant Rectors will meet on March 4 with Bishop Scruton and Bishop Ahrens to discuss Vocational development and discernment.
- On March 6, youth, parents and youth leaders visited a Haiti congregation in Stamford. It was a wonderful day. Reverend Paul did a great job in organizing this trip. Anna Aramini was a great youth facilitator. Plans were discussed for the Stamford parish to come up and visit here.
- A Mini-mission Conference was held on March 13 in Branford. Bishop elect Douglas and Bishop Curry were there

March 21 Vestry Forum

All vestry members are encouraged to attend the Vestry Forum on Sunday March 21st following the 10:15 service. It will be held upstairs in the Parish Hall. Reverend Paul will ask Carl Benker to check with Rich Connell to see if we can get the Mission, Vision and Goals on a large Poster Board for all to see.

Stewardship at St. Stephens Church

Saturday, April 10 from 9:30 – 12:00 St. Stephens Episcopal Church in East Haddam is holding a discussion on Stewardship Challenges. They have asked Chip Flanagan to come and join others in a discussion of Stewardship. Please think about joining in on this discussion.

Consecration

Bishop Elect the Reverend Dr. Ian Douglas will be consecrated on Saturday, April 17th at Trinity College Hockey Rink. Bishop Tutu will be speaking. The East of the River group is arranging bus transportation to the event. Let Reverend Nancy know if you would like to come.

WORSHIP

Vestry members selected a prayer partner to pray for during the next month.

Rev. Nancy concluded the meeting with prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Jennifer Daukas