

Minutes of Regular Vestry Meeting
Tuesday, July 21, 2009
Christ Episcopal Church
Woodbury, Minnesota

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Ernie Ashcroft. He had us examine John 6:1-21 (in which Jesus feeds the 5000) using Gospel-based discipleship and three different translations of the text. After the first reading we asked ourselves, "What word or phrase struck me?" After the second reading we asked, "What is Jesus saying to me?" After the third reading we asked, "What is God calling me to do?"

Present: Rector Ernie Ashcroft; Senior Warden Deb Shoemaker; Junior Warden George Pratt; Treasurer Aaron Twait; Clerk Catherine Jacobson; elected vestry members Tory Hassenauer, Alida Knoll, Jim Lee, Janeen Leick, Ann Marie Metzger, John Potter, and Doug Sprinthall; guests Rodger Pereyra and Dana Fath Strande

Absent: Elected vestry members Denny Davis and Austin Ihiekwe

Bathroom remodeling update: Rodger reported that the progress included replacing toilets upstairs and in the nursery, replacing a sink upstairs, and finishing the electrical work downstairs. The downstairs bathroom partitions are in and will be installed soon. The men plan to gut the downstairs bathrooms on Monday, and for the next Sunday or two, the only available downstairs bathroom will be in the nursery. The project is expected to be finished by the next vestry meeting. Thus far, \$3100 has been spent, and Rodger expects the total to be \$4500-5000. Although all potentially dangerous items are out of the bathrooms and locked in a Godly Play room, Ernie has put an announcement in the Good News sheet reminding parents to keep an eye on their children at church. Ernie expressed gratefulness to Rodger and all of the men who have devoted so many hours to this project.

Approval of the agenda: Janeen moved that the agenda be approved. Motion carried.

Approval of vestry minutes: Tory moved that the minutes of the June 16th regular vestry meeting be approved. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report: Aaron presented the June 2009 balance sheet and the treasurer's report for January through June 2009. There were several items of note. Halfway through the year, we have collected slightly less than half of the year's pledges. We have had ~\$5000 in pledge loss, but we have also unexpectedly received ~\$5000 in prior year pledges. Aaron is reasonably certain we will come close to our budgeted pledge income of \$267,263. Barring any major expenses, we should end the year with a balanced budget. In June we made two payments for photocopying; we also made two payments for Ernie's and Dana's insurance, because the diocese has moved from billing us for the prior month to billing us for the current month. The vestry received the treasurer's report.

Medical insurance costs: Deb noted that the executive committee recently realized that we are not in accordance with the canons regarding insurance offerings to full-time staff. Janeen moved that we provide Dana with a one-time supplemental bonus of \$1100, to be paid in two installments in the remainder of 2009, to help cover insurance costs. Motion carried. A committee composed of Deb, Jamie Mair, and Ginger Rook will evaluate health care offerings for Dana in 2010 and report back to the vestry.

Small group ministries: Ernie reported that the final training session for small group leaders is next week, and he's pleased with the level of enthusiasm. In September, a presentation will be made to the church at large regarding small group offerings for the year. He expects that there will be a variety of groups offered.

Ministry team reports:

Building & Grounds: Deb noted that the tree by the upper level parking lot has been taken down and the debris removed. Tory complimented Alex Leick on the landscaping he did for his Eagle Award project. Ernie would like to say thank you to Alex in church on Sunday.

Communication & Marketing: Doug reported that the Fall Festival committee is meeting tomorrow night. Doug will meet with the bands next week to work on logistics. The committee will develop a marketing plan for the Festival, which will be held on September 19. We will advertise the Fall Festival during the Woodbury Days parade.

Faith Formation: John reported that the team did not meet this month.

Finance & Legal: Aaron reported that the team met last night. He noted that the office expense is running fairly high with respect to our budget, perhaps because of unrealistic expectations of what it costs to run the office; in addition, our cleaning service requires us to purchase supplies to be used in cleaning, and those have historically come out of the office budget. Aaron will be reflecting those charges elsewhere on the budget so that we can better understand the cost of our cleaning service. Christ Church will be doing a reciprocal audit of the books with St. Mary's in September or October; the committee will include Aaron, Phil Vander Haar, Jim Forman, and Pierre LePere. Lastly Dave Coslett will call our property insurance account manager regarding liability associated with our parking lot; he will report back to Aaron.

Inreach: Ann Marie reported that the team did not meet this month.

Outreach: Alida reported that the team will soon start its annual school supplies drive, which will be held July 26 through August 16.

Stewardship: None

Welcoming & Evangelism: Tory reported that the team did not meet this month.

Worship & Music: Jim reported that the team met last week. An African service is tentatively scheduled for August 16 at 10:30. It was noted that Ginger Rook had donated an African drum to the church. The team's next meeting is in September, and they will begin planning for Advent and Christmas. In November they will begin preparing for Lent.

Junior Warden's report: None

Senior Warden's report: None

Rector's report: Ernie noted that Samuel Olson's funeral is scheduled for Friday, with interment following the service, and then a luncheon reception at the church, hosted by the St. Mary's Guild. He noted that people need help during the days and weeks after a funeral, and he is hoping that, as a vestry and as a congregation, we provide Mark and Jenny support in the weeks and months to come. Jamie Mair and Patsy Keech are coordinating meals.

Vacation Bible School: Dana showed us a slideshow from this year's VBS. She reported that we had 34 children at VBS this summer, up from 22 last year. These children come from 21 families, ten of which are not from Christ Church. Of those ten families, two go to other churches, and the remaining eight do not currently have a church; four of those families are looking at becoming members at Christ Church. Dana noted that good signage is important; there were several families from the neighborhood. Fourteen teens and 14 adults helped before, during, and after VBS. Registration income covers scholarships and expenses. Thirty-six boxes of cereal were collected for donation to the Christian Cupboard. VBS is truly a highlight of the summer for the children that come. Dana noted that the 8- to 10-year-olds have the opportunity to attend a sports camp with Woodbury Lutheran Church. The J2A youth will be on pilgrimage in Atlanta August 1-7, working with programs for the inner city homeless.

Final review: Catherine reviewed our action items:

- Dana will be provided with a one-time supplemental bonus of \$1100, to be paid in two installments in the remainder of 2009, to help cover insurance costs.
- A committee composed of Deb, Jamie Mair, and Ginger Rook will evaluate health care offerings for Dana in 2010 and report back to the vestry.
- We need, as a vestry and as a congregation, to provide Mark and Jenny Olson support in the next weeks and months.

Adjournment: Ernie Ashcroft closed the meeting with prayer at 8:25 pm.

Catherine F. Jacobson, Clerk