

Minutes of All-Parish Meeting
Sunday, November 1, 2009
Christ Episcopal Church
Woodbury, Minnesota

The meeting was opened by Ernie Ashcroft at 9:44 am with a prayer.

Present: Rector Ernie Ashcroft, Senior Warden Deb Shoemaker, Junior Warden George Pratt, Treasurer Aaron Twait, Clerk Catherine Jacobson, Stewardship Ministry Team member Blane Huppert, members of the vestry, and approximately 80 parishioners

Introduction: Ernie reminded those attending of our goals for 2009. We wanted to redo the downstairs bathrooms, and we did. We wanted to increase our number of pledges to 100, and we did (though three families have moved over the year, so we are now at 97). We wanted to welcome 15 new families as members; we have added nine families thus far, and several families are invited to next week's orientation class. We wanted to have a balanced budget in 2009, and we did.

Presentation: Aaron presented information on the church's income and expenses January through September 2009. We are running a small deficit now (\$193,812 in income vs. \$199,311 in expenses), which is not unusual at this time of year, because some people pay a substantial portion of their pledge at the end of the year. The proposed budget for 2010 is similar to that for 2009 (\$294,690 in 2010 vs. \$293,212 in 2009). Given declines in investment revenue, the loss of some pledges due to families moving, the decision not to add \$5000 in special gifts to the budgeted income, and an increase in budgeted expenses of \$1500, we need to find an additional \$12,000 for 2010.

Blane suggested that, to cover this difference, we realize that we're all in the same boat and each grab an oar. He asked if we can each give \$10 more to the church per month. If we can, we can meet our goals with a balanced budget. If we can do more than an additional \$10 per month, he asked us to consider helping with someone else's "paddle."

Pledge cards were distributed and should be returned at the 8:30 and 10:30 services on November 15.

Discussion: Questions and discussion centered on

- The reasonableness of this additional \$10 per month approach;
- The amount and purpose of our Apportionment for the Common Good, which we pay to the diocese;
- How to welcome new members; and
- Where and how to have coffee hour, which is an important way to welcome people to our church on Sunday mornings.

Adjournment: Ernie closed the meeting at 10:20 am.

Catherine F. Jacobson, Clerk