

VESTRY MINUTES
ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
December 11, 2008
5:30 P.M.

PRESENT:

Fletcher Montgomery, Rector

Bonnie Montgomery, Administration, Senior Warden

Lee Rambo, Stewardship, Junior Warden

Beth Blakeslee, Worship

Hoyt Burnett, Properties

Michael Burkett, Christian Formation-Adults

Les Cotter, Finance

Nancy Duvall, Newcomers

Katie Gibson, Christian Formation-Children

Steve McMillan, Christian Formation-Youth

Anne Miller, Long Range Plan Nancy Duvall,

Ann Ruderman, Parish Events

Eileen Schell, Pastoral Care

Faxie Watt, Communications

Tuck Williams, Servant Ministry

Russ McCoy, Treasurer

Rodger Stroup, Clerk

Recently elected Vestry members:

Ann Gregg

Jamie Laborde

Jason Lockhart

Absent:

Mary Moore Roberson, Rector's Associate

John Boylston, Church Renovation

Visitors: Jimmy Hartley

The Rector opened the meeting with a reading from Isaiah and a prayer.

The Rector introduced Jimmy Hartley, who recently transferred to St. John's from Grace Church in Charleston. Mr. Hartley grew up in Lancaster, SC attended USC, and was active in Canterbury. He has worked in the Diocese with youth ministry programs and served on the Diocesan Executive Council. He is currently residing and working in Birmingham, Alabama. St. John's has been asked to consider sponsoring him for the ministry. Mr. Hartley spoke about his background and how he felt called to discern if this is the direction he should be headed. Since he is living in Birmingham a team from All Saints in Birmingham will meet with him during the year to help determine if he is called to the ministry. The consensus of the Vestry was to move forward with Mr. Hartley's discernment process.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. McCoy reviewed the financial statement for November. Pledge income was up in November and he is confident that the current shortfall will be made up by year-end donations. He reported that currently 212 pledges have been received totaling \$799,359: 88 pledges increased, 21 decreased, 13 new and 90 unchanged. The budget committee is working on a budget of \$935,000 for 2009 with a pool of \$8,200 for staff merit increases at the discretion of the Rector. The budget committee will

meet on December 16 to complete the budget that will be submitted to the Vestry for approval at the January meeting.

Clergy Reports: The Rector thanked the outgoing Vestry members for the work during the last 3 years and looks forward to their continued work at St John's.

Warden Reports: Executive Session at the conclusion of the meeting.

Ministry Team Reports: (printed reports attached)

Worship- Mary Wallace Coleman is coordinating the Feast of Lights. The service will return to 6:00 p.m.

Old Business: The Rector reported for John Boylston that the Church Renovation Committee understands that it has the approval of the Vestry to move ahead with hiring Robert Wilshire's fund raising feasibility study at a cost of approximately \$15,000. Mr. McMillan moved that we wait until we find the approval in the Vestry minutes and wait until January to move forward with the feasibility study. Seconded by Mr. Williams. After discussion and a review of Vestry minutes it was determined that the Vestry has already approved contracting with Mr. Wilshire. The motion failed by a vote of 14 to 2.

New Business: Mr. McMillan moved, seconded by Mr. Burnette, that the housing allowances for the Rector be approved for 2009. The motion was approved unanimously. Ms. Schell moved, seconded by Ms. Duvall that the Associate Rectors housing allowance for 2009 be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

The Vestry went into executive session to discuss the Rector's salary. After returning to open session Ms. Montgomery moved, seconded by Ms. Rambo that the Rector's salary be approved as recommended by the Wardens. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes: Mr. Cotter moved, seconded by Dr. Ruderman that the minutes of the November meeting be approved as amended (spelling of Catherine Collins).

Calendar Items:

December 14 – Isaiah's Birthday Celebration

December 20 – Christmas Choir Practice (Church)

December 21 – Children' Christmas Rehearsal (Church)

December 23 – Church Decoration

January 4 – Adult Formation Classes Introductions

January 6 – Feast of Lights

January 14 – Financial Peace University Classes Begin

Respectfully submitted

Rodger E. Stroup
Clerk

Approved without correction 1/24/09.