

**Vestry Minutes**  
**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
**November 13, 2008**  
**5:30 p.m.**

**Present:**

Fletcher Montgomery, Rector  
Mary Moore Roberson, Associate Rector

Worship, Beth Blakeslee  
Administration, Bonnie Montgomery  
Christian Formation – Adults, Michael Burkett  
Christian Formation – Children, Katie Gibson  
Church Renovation, John Boylston  
Parish Events, Ann Rudermann  
Finance, Les Cotter  
Long Range Plan, Anne Miller  
Newcomers, Nancy Duvall  
Pastoral Care, Eileen Schell  
Property Management, Hoyt Burnett  
Servant Ministry, Tuck Williams  
Stewardship, Lee Rambo  
Treasurer, Russ McCoy

Others present:

Assistant Clerk, Joan Savage  
Margaret Todd

A quorum was established, and the meeting was opened with a reading from next week's Gospel and prayer.

There is a proposal for Ms. Todd's ordination to the Order of Deacons on January 31, 2009, at St. Mary's Church. Ms. Todd presented a brief description of her journey toward ordination, and following, she answered questions presented. The proposal requires the signature of Rev. Montgomery and two thirds of the Vestry. After the presentation, signatures were obtained. Any future assignments of service will be made by Bishop Henderson.

**Treasurer's Report:** Mr. McCoy indicated that each year in December, some pledges are fulfilled with appreciated securities. Because of the economy, a change in that pattern may be seen this year. Conservative spending is encouraged until the end of the year.

\$5600 was received in October toward the capital debt.

The balance sheet for July to September for the Diocesan account with Wachovia is \$20,000 in the red.

Ms. Duvall moved, seconded by Ms. Rudermann, to pay our Diocesan apportionment in an even number of \$151,000. After discussion, this motion was defeated. Mr. Burkett moved, seconded by Ms. Rambo, to pay the assigned apportionment of \$150,454. This motion passed with a majority. Mr. Burkett stated that any discussion of an additional amount to support the Diocese would be revisited at the January vestry retreat.

Mr. McCoy provided information on research into the cost of the Church's insurance policy(ies). The Church is currently paying approximately \$50,000 per year. Proposals obtained from other companies indicate that this figure may be reduced considerably. The finance committee will meet this Wednesday at 6:30pm.

**Clergy Reports:** Rev. Roberson reported that regarding Convention she had been told, "St. John's has welcomed us into their home."

Rev. Montgomery reported that his conference in San Francisco was very good. The conference has a significant percentage of repeat attendees each year. The goal is to build trust and fellowship amongst the Church leadership through teaching on leadership and mission.

The end of the year marks Barbara Catoe's 20<sup>th</sup> year of service to St. John's.

Rev. Montgomery thanked Ms. Miller, the many volunteers, and vestry members in attendance for making the Convention a success.

**Wardens' Report:** Ms. Montgomery noted that there are eight nominees for the Vestry, with five to be elected at the annual meeting on December 7. They are Dana Turner, Jason Lockhart, Georgianna Wheeler, Ann Gregg, Joe Fort, Jamie LaBorde, Lynn Teague, and Paula Bowers. Nominations for delegate are Ms. Montgomery, Marion Swain, and Barbara Mullen (alternate). Other delegates are the 2009 wardens. Katherine Collins is nominated as part of the youth delegation.

### **Ministry Teams:**

*Finance:* 165-170 pledge cards have been received. More cards are expected to be returned. Of those received, the majority of pledges have been increased over last year. The budget will be set after all expected pledges have been received.

*Newcomers:* There are many newcomers, but response to the latest newcomer gathering was low.

### **Old Business:**

None

### **New Business:**

Mr. Burkett announced a program to be led by Shelly Jones, entitled "Financial Peace University". This is a 13 weeks financial stewardship program, which includes a video and small group discussion. The charge is \$100 per couple. At the January 4<sup>th</sup> adult Church School time there will be an introduction to the program, which is planned to start on January 14 and following Sunday evenings from 5pm until 7pm. Invitations will be sent to other community churches, including all Episcopal Churches.

Rev. Montgomery will try to find an "out of town" location for the January Vestry retreat. He will also begin planning a Vestry Bible study group to be offered at a time separate from the regular Vestry meeting. This will begin in January.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the October meeting were presented. Mr. Cotter moved approval, seconded by Mr. Burnett, that the minutes be approved as distributed. The motion carried unanimously.

**Calendar Reminders:**

November 17      ECW Fall Branch Dinner  
November 20      Silent Auction  
November 23      Harvest Eve  
November 27      Thanksgiving

December 3      Advent Festival  
December 7      Annual Meeting  
December 14      Isaiah Knight's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Reception (time to be announced)  
December 23      Church Decoration

January 11      Shandon Cluster of Churches Service, St. Joseph's, 3pm, Rev. Montgomery to give the homily

April 26      Bishop Henderson's Visitation

The meeting was concluded with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted:  
Joan Savage, Assistant Clerk