

Vestry Minutes
St. John's Episcopal Church
September 11, 2008
5:30 p.m.

Present:

Fletcher Montgomery, Rector

Worship, Beth Blakeslee
Administration, Bonnie Montgomery
Christian Formation – Adults, Michael Burkett
Christian Formation – Children, Katie Gibson
Church Renovation, John Boylston
Communication, Faxie Watt
Parish Events, Ann Rudermann
Long Range Plan, Anne Miller
Pastoral Care, Eileen Schell
Stewardship, Lee Rambo
Treasurer, Russ McCoy

Others present:

Assistant Clerk, Joan Savage
Harvest Hope Food Bank Representative, Davis Bourne

A quorum was established, and the meeting was opened with a reading from Matthew 18 and prayer.

Minutes: The minutes of the August meeting were presented and discussed. Mr. Burkett moved approval, seconded by Ms. Montgomery.

The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. McCoy stated that the operating budget shortage through August is \$23,933. This is offset by a good response to the capital debt reduction campaign. We are getting ahead on principal payments, which will lead to reduced interest payments.

Clergy Reports: Rev. Montgomery reported that Rev. Roberson is currently on vacation.

Rev. Montgomery has met with the Ministry Committee Chairs, emphasizing furtherance of Christ's Kingdom and unity of purpose, so as not to hinder another committee's efforts.

He will attend the Diocesan Clergy Retreat September 15 through 17, and will be available by phone. He will attend a Diocesan Executive Committee Meeting on September 20.

Tracy Radosovic, of Baltimore, MD, will be the program leader for February, 2009, Kanuga family weekend.

There have been several funerals recently.

Three new church school classes will begin September 14, and the monthly class and breakfast after the early service will also be on September 14.

The adult study for Wednesday nights beginning September 24 will be the book of Philippians.

Ministry Teams:

Administration: Ms. Montgomery stated there has been a request for general publication of Vestry minutes. After discussion, a decision was made to provide minutes to the Vestry as soon as available, with the understanding that there will be no approval until the next meeting. After approval of minutes, they will be sent to Ned Badgett for publication on the web site.

Communication: Ms. Watt distributed guidelines for church mailings.

Old Business:

Ms. Miller reported that St. John's is host church for the Diocesan Convention, October 17 and 18, at the Columbia Convention Center. All committee chairs have been selected. Registration is available on the new Diocesan web site. Attendees may register for

1. Friday business
2. Friday dinner
3. Saturday program

Music will be a collaborative effort between St. John's and St. Martin's.

New Business:

Mr. Bourne gave a report from Harvest Hope Food Bank. Need for food is increasing, and supplies are low. This summer, demand has been 30% higher than in the past. Governor Sanford has proclaimed September 28 to be "Eliminate Hunger Day". Mr. Bourne made a request for dedication of loose plate offering to Harvest Hope. Since September 28 is UTO ingathering, a decision was made to announce an opportunity after the Service to make a special donation to Harvest Hope.

Rev. Montgomery introduced, in absentia, Mr. Jimmy Hartley, currently living in Birmingham, Alabama. Mr. Hartley lived in Columbia while growing up and was an active participant at Camp Gravatt. There is now a provision for students not living in a certain diocese, but previously from the diocese, to request approval for postulancy for the priesthood from the home diocese. Mr. Hartley has contacted Rev. Montgomery with a request for signatures from the St. John's Vestry for his postulancy papers. Rev. Montgomery will obtain more information for the St. John's Vestry from the Lay Vestry Committee in Birmingham. If deemed necessary or desirable, there is the potential for a personal visit by Mr. Hartley to St. John's Vestry.

Calendar Reminders:

09/21/08 Deadline for ordering fresh shrimp from the men of the church. There is a 10 pound minimum per order, and the price is \$8.50 per pound.
09/25/08 Men of the church steak dinner
10/09/08 Next Vestry meeting

The meeting was concluded with the Lord's Prayer.