

# VESTRY MEETING MINUTES

May 2, 2006

**Attendees:** Fr. Mike Billingsley, Jay Jacobson, Ruth Warner, Chris Estey, Sue Ramsley, Dianne Belamarich, Ralph Edwards, Phil Robidoux, Gretchen Carr, John Diercks

**Absent:** Peter Dittman

## VESTRY BUSINESS

- 1) **Opening Prayer** – Fr. Mike led the Vestry in opening prayer.
- 2) **April 4, 2006 Meeting Minutes** – voted on and unanimously approved by the Vestry.
- 3) **Eagle Scout Project** – Sean is waiting for the Boy Scout Council to get back to him.
- 4) **Assistant Treasurer's Status** – Susan Cholakis has resigned. Dave Spengler will step in as Acting Assistant Treasurer until June. Christine Meyers has also offered to help.
- 5) **Report on 4/18 meeting with Bishop Cederholm** – The Bishop met with the wardens and Fr. Mike to get an update as to where we are right now. He seemed pleased and open to other grants coming our way. He suggested we take a look at the endowments and/or investments and see if we have access to them and where we could use them. He also suggested money be put toward Christian Education. Mike will find out exactly what grants are available.
- 6) **Report on 4/25/06 meeting with Christ Church and St. Paul's (Millis)** – Several members of the vestry attended this “second” meeting. The purpose of the meetings is to identify strengths and opportunities, explore options for our own churches as far as collaborative efforts are concerned and to draft a plan for our own church. The vestry is invited (and strongly urged to attend) dinner with Bishop Cederholm on May 30. Next meeting will be held at St. Paul's (Hopk) on May 22 at 7 PM.
- 7) **Visioning meetings to resume May 9 at 7 PM** – What are the opportunities for ministering in the area...who are we at the “faith” level? The senior center has some needs we could meet with volunteering (kids can volunteer too). Also, the food pantry, which is run by the senior center, needs items on a regular basis. We could have a collection of items twice a month. Their immediate need is for toiletries.
- 8) **Safe Church Training** – No news. Sue is waiting for information regarding host church responsibilities. Discussion surrounding the possibility of purchasing multi media equipment for this purpose. The equipment could be used for adult ed, children's Sunday school, etc.
- 9) **Reports**
  - a) **Sunday School** – Nothing new to report. This past Sunday was Teacher appreciation day.
  - b) **Property**
    - State inspection of the daycare/school downstairs resulted in the need to paint and/or replace some ceiling tiles downstairs. Ruth has taken care of the problem.
    - Test strips for the dishwasher show that it is running at the appropriate temperature. Waiting for a return call from the board of health for a final inspection and to get our certificate.
    - Scott's landscaping has removed the stumps out front and put down loam and seed.
    - Jim and Ruth have replaced light bulbs in the sanctuary.
    - Jim installed a CO detector downstairs.

- Capital expenditure fund: John put an article in the Epistle. We will explore options such as permitting parishioners to “purchase” a pew for memorial or thanksgiving. Pricing not yet determined.

c) **Hospitality**

- A few people have signed up.

d) **Financial Report**

- Financially we’re doing okay.
- A few offerings have come in designated for the building fund.
- Need a new computer in the Rector’s office. A motion to purchase a laptop from Dell was voted on and unanimously approved. When the other computer comes back from repair (if it is actually working) it will go to the office. If it isn’t working, we’ll need to discuss purchasing a new one for the office also. Chris Estey is going to research getting Verizon for an ISP.
- Mike’s 2005 pension statement was wrong. We paid the higher amount and expect a credit on the next statement.

e) **Communications** – Lori Robak has agreed to help Jay with advertising.

f) **Outreach** – Ralph has been contacting former parishioners in an attempt to “get them back”.

g) **Fund Raisers** – \$1,200 plus was raised at the rummage sale and \$160 parking cars for the marathon.

h) **Stewardship** – See note under item 9b above regarding capital expenditure fund. Will soon be doing a letter about not letting your pledge go on vacation.

i) **Father Mike’s Report**

- Attendance is up from last year
- Meeting with Millis and Medway to discuss pulpit exchange, so the faces become familiar.
- Summer worship schedule – will stay as is.
- Bishop Cederholm suggested having a guitar playing song leader for the summer.
- Talked with Amy Cook, at the diocese, about Christian Education. Ways to build it up or run an adult ed program.

10) **New Business** – None.

11) **Next vestry meeting** – Tuesday, June 6, 2006

12) **Closing prayer** – Fr. Mike led the vestry in a closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned.