

Vestry Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2008

Attendees: Fr. Mike Billingsley, Dianne Belamarich, Sue Ramsley, Gretchen Carr, David Spangler, Ruth Warner, Sally Snyder

Absent: Mary Arnaut, John Pavlov, Steve Pelletier, Frank Chase

Vestry Business:

1. Opening Prayer – Fr. Mike lead the vestry in opening prayer
2. October 2008 Vestry Meeting Minutes approval vote – there wasn't a formal meeting so there are no minutes to approve.
3. Reports:
 - Sunday School – Confirmation classes have started with about 6 participants. The St. Nicholas Day planning is underway.
 - Property (Grounds and Maintenance Proposal) – No issues to report. Been removing mice from downstairs and changing the occasional light bulb.
 - Hospitality – Grace hasn't been setting up coffee when they finish their coffee hour so Gretchen is scrambling to get it ready for our coffee hour. Sign up has been low... been depending on leftover snacks in the freezer. Gretchen is stepping down as hospitality chair for 2009.
 - Finance/Budget – tithes and offerings came in well over budget for the month. We're in the black overall...one reason being because we didn't budget to have the playhouse income for the second half of the year. The audit has been turned in but is missing a page. Fr. Mike has sent the email from the diocese to the Treasurers. As of the end of October all debts are paid in full.
 - Outreach/Fund Raisers – Wine tasting is this weekend. Ticket sales are going well. The Day of caring went well. Giving Tree is the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Ruth would like to plan a Sunday School Trip to Heifer International's live Nativity on December 13 & 14 and is looking to have half the proceeds (\$600) of the rummage sale donated to Heifer...the Vestry unanimously approved. Ruth ordered Christmas ornaments with a picture of the church on them to be sold as a fundraiser.
 - Stewardship – The letter is ready to go out. Stewardship Sunday is Nov. 16
 - Shepherd's Report – The Stokes loan for Christ Church has been re-capitalized and accepted by the committee. This was the last hold up of them receiving their grant money. Sunday Attendance: We are the size we are... we've said we're a 'family' size church and that's just what we are.
 - Grace UMC Update – Still need to hold joint dedication ceremonies for the Eagle Scout projects. Nick Dittman's scout of honor service is Dec. 13.
4. New Business
 - Discernment Issues/Priest in Charge/Rector – The principal difference between Priest in Residence and Priest in Charge is the length of the term. Bishop Cedarholm has suggested counting Fr. Mike's years as PIR toward his years as PIC so discernment can begin immediately. The Rev. Elizabeth Fitzgibbons will assist us with the process. The first action item is to form a committee. The recommendation is a committee of 6...The Senior Warden, a vestry member, 2 outgoing members and 2 parish members. The vestry suggested the discernment process be a combined process with Christ Church with the goal being to complete the process by June 1. Fr. Mike or one of the Warden's will discuss it with the diocesan rep.
 - Christmas Celebrations 2008 – St. Paul's will do a 7PM Christmas Eve service, Christ Church will have a 4Pm and 10:30 or 11 PM. Fr. Mike will contact Christine Whittiker about whether St. Michael's does a Christmas Day service in which we could participate.
 - Nominating Committee and St. Paul's representatives to Collaborative Council – Gretchen will chair.
5. Next Vestry Meeting—Wed., December 3
6. Closing prayer and adjournment – Fr. Mike finished with a closing Prayer.