

St. John's Vestry Minutes
November 1, 2009

The Vestry Meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. JoAnn at 12:20 P.M. Present were Sharon Davarn, Pam Larson, Tom Kelly, Doug Richards, Carole Byrom and Bob Larson, Acting Secretary. Minutes of the October meeting were approved as presented, with no additions or corrections.

Pam Larson presented the Treasurer's Report. Giving is \$5600 below budget, thus far, so discussions were centered on what should be done between now and the end of the year. Historically, 21% of the budget has been received in November and December. It was requested that Pam send out giving letters this week to inform the congregation of their individual giving, to date, and to apprise them of these financial concerns. Tom suggested that we request that people consider increasing their giving by 10% each week, for the next seven weeks, in order to meet perceived shortfalls. Discussions were also held regarding the need for initiating a "Pledge Drive" rather than relying on a "Faith Budget" as we have for the past many years. The vestry expressed the need for having specific commitments from parishioners instead of relying just on faith to meet future budget demands. Pledge cards could be considered, without parishioners names, so that they can enter specific dollar amounts that they are willing to commit to the church.

A discussion was held regarding giving to Habil at Bethlehem House in Kenya. Eight thousand dollars (\$8,000) was recently sent for medical school tuition and various training programs that are being attended. These amounts are from individual donors, giving to a specific need or project. The pledge program that was initiated last year to provide \$1000 monthly for sustenance has been very successful and reliable. Since there was some "one-time" giving, \$1323 is in reserve, at this time, to be distributed on the monthly basis to help make up the difference between monthly receipts and the \$1000 commitment. An Outreach Committee meeting is needed to discern if Outreach suggests continuing this commitment. There are approximately 60 orphans and elders that are benefitting from this effort. It is also necessary to determine from an Outreach meeting if additional giving is recommended from the Outreach Budget that amounts to \$2000 for 2009. To date \$350 has been expended. It was moved by Tom and seconded by Sharon to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The 2nd Draft of the 2010 budget was presented for consideration. Three percent (3%) increases were proposed for plate income. In order to maintain a balanced budget for 2010, it was suggested to have decreases in Altar Guild, Office & Printing, Advertising, and Hospitality. Certain items can be eliminated, such as Diaconal Candidate obligations in the Mutual Ministry line item, since an ordination appears to be imminent. The proposed budget needs to be approved by the Vestry in December, so it is available for an annual meeting in January.

Thanksgiving Dinner discussions were held and it appears that there are two couples that can definitely help and four other people who could possibly participate, if needed. It was decided to not have a Thanksgiving Dinner, only a Thanksgiving service at the usual 10:30 A.M. time.

Yule Night is scheduled for December 5th and with the success from last year, it is hopeful that David Baker & Friends can provide the same unique and appreciated venue at Roscoe Fox, once again. This will require the congregation to provide food for this event, with the building owner providing beverages.

Kentee Pasek has reported that Gary Bennett is working on the cross for the Prayer Garden and that she is looking at various ways to finance the construction, possibly with grants from entities such as the Southwest Region and/or Woman's Club.

Congregational Development Institute (CDI) for JoAnn, Pam and Bob will be November 6-7. Training for Denis and JoAnn will be November 11-13, Ordination is the 14th and Rev. Frank will conduct the service on the 15th. Standing Committee for JoAnn is on the following Monday. The meeting was adjourned at 1:48 with a closing prayer by Pam.

Respectfully submitted, Bob Larson,
"Acting-Temporary" Secretary Only

(Vestry needs to appoint a replacement for Eileen, since she will be gone for an extended time)