

## **Vestry Minutes April 8, 2009**

**Members present:** Pete Plourd, Bill Beene, Chris Fleet, Jean Mary Taylor, Richard Swanson, Patti Jones, Bill Romoser, Sharon Maddox

Absent: Jorie Martin, Andrea Pinard.

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by the Rector. Vestry members gave personal updates. Debbie informed the vestry about the health issues of Jim Williams and Katharine Dodd. Both are gravely ill at this time.

Debbie also reported on the fire at Maddox Funeral Home on Friday morning, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009.

Opening prayers given, remembering Jim and Katharine.

Minutes of the March 12<sup>th</sup> Vestry meeting were approved with two corrections.

**Rector's Report:** Growth & Development Committee Chair - Martha Redstrom Plourd

**Treasurer's Report:** Sharon Maddox reported on the positive bottom line this month, but reminded all that this was due largely to members sending in all of their pledge or a portion thereof. Sharon was hopeful that we will be able to hold our own for the next several months and that we will stay above the line. Bonnie Landis asked about monies for scholarship. We have \$819.00 and this figure does not include April 2<sup>nd</sup> Lenten dinner. So adjustments will be made.

She also said that we had collected \$503.00 in cash for the Bishops Discretionary Fund.

Motion to accept this report was made by Bill Beene, second: Chris Fleet.

A copy of this report is attached to the minutes

**Senior Warden:** Chris Fleet had no report.

**Junior Warden:** Bill Romoser reported that our tenant was out of the apartment, and that she was helping with clean up by taking down wallpaper that she had hung and also doing some painting. She owes us approximately \$2,600.00 in back rent and therefore, for the work that she is putting into the apartment, we are deducting monies at the rate of \$10.00/hour. She is interested in paying off this debt. Bill informed us that the tenant said she had a contract and that a deposit of \$625.00 was made. We do not have that contract. Bill went on to discuss all areas that need repair, and paint colors to be used. Dennis Funk has started the repair on the ceiling where apparently water had done damage.

Debbie said that a woman stopped by the office on April 7<sup>th</sup> and was interested in renting the apartment. Chris will get the information from Libby, as Bill had asked Chris to take over getting the apartment rented. There have been others that have expressed interest in renting.

Bill said that he thought that we paid the utilities, but subsequently learned that the tenant paid the electricity on the apartment and we suspect it included the rental space occupied by the Red Cross. Aspen pays for the heat (fuel oil) and we pay the electric.

Pete Plourd said that he had a complaint from the folks at the Red Cross, this time regarding large amounts of trash and cat dropping in the window wells. Bill said that the wells had been cleaned and secured.

Chris Fleet said that the dealings with Becky, our tenant, have been easy and that this could have been a bad situation.

Bill Beene praised Dennis Funk, our Sexton, for all the work and help he has given to us and continues to give.

**Lay Assistant:** Jean Mary Taylor passed around the ads that appeared in the Northern Virginia Daily regarding Holy Week. She also said that the speakers at our Lenten Programs were great. Attendance: Low was 20 and the High was 40. The Sunday morning classes averaged anywhere from 4 to 10 and the Monday evening class average was 8-12.

There are 57 people that have signed up for the Seder Dinner on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

Jean Mary thanked all for their help with the food and setting up.

**Finance:** Bill Beene said the good news is that we have some money, as we have really been struggling with the paying of bills. He is in the process of generating the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Giving Reports for those that have pledged. Hopefully, he has an accurate up to date pledge list from Andrea and it appears that we are up to approximately \$265,000.

**Stewardship:** Debbie reported, in the absence of Andrea that there is a Stewardship meeting on Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30 a.m. and the Planned Giving Workshop at 12:00 noon. Something will be obtained for lunch. All are invited. Debbie asked if Pete could bring his copies of the data that Pasty Bjourling sent so that we can make copies of all the data.

**Outreach:** Richard Swanson told us that he had received three requests for outreach support thus far. The first is from the African Team Ministries, Inc. and due to our cutting our Outreach budget, he recommends that we do not support this request. However, it was pointed out that this Ministry sends jewelry to us, we will be displaying on two Sundays, April 26<sup>th</sup> and May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The money that is collected and the unsold jewelry are sent back to the Ministry. The only thing we need do is have someone in charge of the jewelry and collecting the money. Suggest that Richard contact someone to do this.

The second request is from Taylor DeNeal a sophomore at Skyline High School requesting assistance with travel expenses to participate in an International Exchange Program, which is being held in China. Expenses approximately \$5,684.00. Richard recommends we do not reply to this request.

The third request is from the United Way Day of Caring. This project is soliciting names of needy families or individuals who can benefit from this program. They provide minor repairs to homes, painting etc. The clients must live in Front Royal or Warren County, be disabled, elderly, on fixed income, below the federal poverty guidelines and own the home that needs work.

Richard recommended that we place a notice in the bulletin on Sunday asking the congregation to note the names of anyone meeting the above criteria be brought to the attention of the United Way Day of Caring Coordinator: Lee Smith-Osina.

Jean Mary can put this information in our "Calvary This Week" in the Northern Virginia Daily.

Richard recommended that we focus on four outreach organizations, those being: Salvation Army, C-Cap, St. Luke Clinic and Women's Domestic Violence (Harmony House). Richard suggested that we could designate one Sunday for each organization or collect over four Sundays and then split the money between the four. The discussion of the Easter offering was brought up and it was decided to have the loose change go to the Scholarship project, since we have been doing that throughout Lent. All were in favor of this motion.

Discussion followed on when and what Sunday we would dedicate an offering to one or all of the four organizations mentioned above.

Debbie asked the group if we wanted to go ahead and think about a date for our next outreach funds, so that after Easter we could do some PR work to help promote this next focus. Debbie also said that Richard McPherson was putting together a choral fundraiser, which has been designated for the general fund. Bill Beene said that a notice for this function was posted on the door at Weber Hall and is scheduled for May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Richard Swanson thanked everyone for their get-well calls and cards. He also gave an update on his wife Connie who is making a quick recovery post her foot surgery.

**Communication:** Peg Goodyear reported on the status of the new website and hopefully, within the next several weeks we will have something for all to look at and make suggestions/changes etc. Paul Savidge has put a great deal of effort into this project and many kudos go out to him.

Tom Dickerson of Computer Medical Center put the 2009 version of Church Windows on all of our computers today.

**Fellowship:** Bonnie Landis reported on the Easter Breakfast for the choir. She requested that we needed some extra bottles of champagne and could someone help out. Several volunteered to do so. She said the food end of things was well under control. She requested help on clean up. The review of the Scholarship applications is being done by Martha Ann Romoser, Pip Piplani, Annette Haddox and Bonnie Landis. The names of the successful candidates must be turned in by April 27, 2009. There were approximately 125-150 applications received.

**Long Range/Strategic Planning:** Chris Fleet had requested that additions/corrections be made to the Draft of "Calvary Priorities for 2009". Several additions/changes were received. Debbie said there seems to be some confusion between Worship and Pastoral Care and that she and Chris would work that out.

Chris would like for the Vestry to use this form and not just put it away and forget about it. This could also be used at the end of the year for the vestry reports that go into the Annual Report.

Bonnie suggested that this information could go into the new vestry member's packets. All agreed.

Chris thanked all for their input and the vestry thanked him for another task well done.

**Diocese of Virginia/Region 14:** Pete Plourd reported that the Region 14 meeting is April 21, 2009 in Woodstock. We were asked to nominate a youth for the council and Frank Baxter is going to nominate John Vrtis.

Pete also said that we were to talk about the election of Trustees and that has not occurred. Debbie said that this should be put in writing and brought before the group. She also suggested that we invite the trustees to the Vestry meeting and have them give their report at the same time. Two Trustees come off this year, one being Suzanne Silek. Debbie will check on the name of the second person.

**Old Business:** Jean Mary Taylor reported on the Parish Retreat at Shrine Mont. Thus far 20 have signed up.

**New Business:** Bonnie will attend the Executive Planning on Wednesday, May 6, at 10:30 a.m. The next Vestry Meeting will be May 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. Debbie will provide refreshments.

There being no further business to come before this board the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Goodyear  
Register: Calvary Episcopal Church