

## Church of the Epiphany Vestry Meeting Minutes – April 13, 2010

The Vestry Meeting began with Fr Robin leading the group in prayer at 7PM.

Vestry Members Attendance: Present (P), Excused (E)

Bassert, David	P	Hamlin, George	P
Conlon, Tom	P	Kodat, Roger	P
Cummings, Ross	P	Mentzer, Steve	P
Edmunds, Gin	P	McNeely, Dennis	P
Ellis, Lisa	P	Reed, David	E
Fetzer, Bill	E	Stoddard, Sandra	P

Robbie Pruitt and Paul Petersen attended as observers. Scott Reiter and Babette Arnold attended to present reports.

### **Treasurer and Finance Committee Report – Scott Reiter**

- Expenses matching budget well; 75% of fiscal year is done and 74% of budget expended
- Church attendance has been stable for the last 2 years
- Beside weather expenses for Buildings & Grounds, anticipate replacing worn heat pump for offices soon
- Insurance will cover the break-in damage
  - Policy has a \$500 deductable
  - In response to a question from Gin Edmunds, the lock on the safe and 9 doors were damaged
- It's time for the ministries to start the budget work for the next fiscal year
- Church mortgage is a balloon due in 2019; the rate is approximately the Prime +2%
- Dave Bassert motioned for the financial report to be accepted and George Hamlin second the motion. Vestry approval was unanimous.

### **Annual Celebration – Fr. Robin**

- A pot-luck brunch on April 25, after the 10AM service
- Purpose is to thank the congregation and show gratitude to the ministries
- Some discussion for church business planned

## Church of the Epiphany Vestry Meeting Minutes – April 13, 2010

### **Consignment Sale– Babette Arnold**

- Community relations focus appeared to be highly successful for this fundraiser
- Ministries and Pre-school were benefactors from sale
  - Pre-school realized approximately \$2200
  - Another \$1900 realized for mission trips
- May have another sale in the Fall and possibly include businesses, such as from the shopping center
- Dave Bassert suggested that ministry tables be included for such an event
- Lessons learned:
  - Adult clothing is tedious to tag; need to re-vamp the approach
  - Substantial effort needed to set-up and take-down
  - Consignment concept appears to keep the quality of items high
  - George Hamlin noted that the Franklin Glen is different that the Franklin Farms Almanac, that was used for this sale
  - Marketing approach seemed to work, especially the word-of-mouth by pre-school parents

### **Approval of Minutes for February 16, 2010 Meeting**

- Dennis McNeely made the motion to accept the minutes with corrections; Lisa Ellis seconded the motion. The Vestry voted unanimously to do so.

### **Reports**

#### **Rector's Report – Fr. Robin**

- Court case for church property
  - St. Paul the Apostle held a prayer service about the litigation
  - Truro held a prayer service at noon today
  - Each side will have 20 minutes to present and make its case
  - An early June decision is expected during the court's next session
  - In response to a question from Dave Bassert, court session involves mostly the judges asking questions
- Fr. Robin met with Fr. Luke last Friday
  - Farewell will be celebrated on May 15
  - Opportunity to say farewell will follow in the Great Hall

## Church of the Epiphany Vestry Meeting Minutes – April 13, 2010

- Short-term plan for the church
  - Rev Dobbs will be an interim part-time help for Sunday and in the office 2 days a week
  - 3 unsolicited offers have been received for the vacant position
- Long-term plan
  - Mark Oliphant will lead a search committee
  - Seeking an Executive pastor: admin role (operations) as recommended in the church review with ministerial duties
  - In response to a question from Dave Bassert about a target time frame for the search, Fr. Robin expects the process to take about 1 year
  - In response to Roger Kodat's question, Fr Robin said he's holding out Okay and delegating a lot
  - In response to Ross Cumming's question, the Financial Committee is exploring a recommendation to continue support through 2010
  - Dave Bassert noted that with a tight budget, there needs to be consideration to matching the support with a new hire expense

### **Junior Warden Report – Lisa Ellis**

- Church WEB site important to have
  - Joined Alvin Moore's team
  - Transition from the old site is about 50% complete
    - Effort into the site interfaces and capabilities
    - Navigation and content update have been challenges
  - Need a new membership page
  - Focus (of content) to be more outward and less a plea for volunteers
  - Feedback is sought.

### *New Business*

### *Strategic Dialog – Dennis McNeely*

- Strategy and tactics
- Stand (strategic)
  - Continual, believe, common set of beliefs as a community
  - We're are not in a supportive culture
  - Stand firm, Ephesians 6:13, not be pulled by the opposition
  - Who we are
- Grow
  - In Christ as a family
  - Development. Learning, doing

## Church of the Epiphany Vestry Meeting Minutes – April 13, 2010

- Progress, advance, movement
- Increase in numbers as a family in Christ
- Grow relationships (Deepen) with the community (in faith)
- Make Him Known
  - Matthew 28: 18-20 is the source
  - Remove (self) from a comfort zone
  - Discipleship apparently weak throughout Christianity and a need for growth
  - Invite those in our lives to attend church (with a relationship outside church), the un-churched; statistically, 1 out of 4 will attend)
- Five Strategic Ministry Areas for Epiphany to work
  1. Newcomer and Inclusion into the church (strategic)
  2. Communication and implementing vision of the church (tactical)
  3. Reach un-churched (strategic)
  4. Every member ministry
  5. Pastoral support of leaders and spiritual renewal
- Steve Mentzer noted that *Simple Church* book addresses the five strategic ministries
- Fr. Robin requested the vestry to continue to work outside the Vestry meeting for a long-term impact by the end of the year
- Vestry will meet informally on Tuesday, April 20 at 7 PM to continue the discussion

Meeting adjourned with a motion from Dave Bassert and seconded by Lisa Ellis. The Vestry unanimously concurred.