

Report from the Vestry November 13, 2007

The meeting was opened with the Prayer of Bishop Clay Matthews. The Minutes from our October meeting were approved. Four Vestry members were not in attendance. We heard an extended report regarding our Stewardship Campaign from Bert Ackerman and Steve Catron. As of the meeting, 209 households totaling 314 people have attended 27 Home Eucharists; we have received 208 pledges totaling almost \$806,000.

The Home Eucharists have been very successful on a number of fronts, including providing access to information, allowing Fr. Howard to meet individuals in small groups, and fostering free discussion regarding the past and future of our parish.

The Treasurer's report was both distressing and uplifting. October was a very bad month with regards to income and fell considerably short of what we needed in order to maintain our current parish programs, but contributions during the first two weeks of November far exceeded our October total and were on a pace to correct the deficit accrued in October. The Finance Commission report elaborated on the October shortfalls described in the Treasurer's report. A special meeting of the committee was held in October in order to deal with the problems associated with the shortfall. A subcommittee has been formed to focus on anticipating expenditures and clearly reporting our financial situation to the Vestry. The commission forwarded a resolution authorizing borrowing up to \$43,000 from the Building Fund to allow pension and health premiums to be paid. Given the November upturn, this loan may be very short and will clearly be repaid during December.

The Priest-in-Charge's report focused on Caroline Vogel's leaving our staff. A separate letter from Fr. Howard and Tom Ladd is included in this Parish Paper describing the situation and how we are dealing with it. Following Fr. Howard's report, the Vestry discussed and passed a resolution authorizing the employment of Jacqueline Soltys as Director of Christian Education for Children.

The Senior Warden's report was brief. While it had been hoped that the Vestry would present a resolution for a new set of by-laws to the parish, that revision was not ready for full consideration by the parish with certain details still being worked out. Our current bylaws require changes be approved by the parish at its "regular annual meeting." In order to allow more timely consideration of the new by-laws once they have been finalized, the Vestry passed a resolution for consideration at our upcoming parish meeting that would allow consideration of those changes at a called parish meeting.

For time reasons, we did not hear our normal commission reports. Only reports seeking action of the Vestry were heard. The Building and Grounds Commission provided a summary of needs for consideration in the 2008 budget. They also recommended spending \$1000 for plants near the main entrance to the church. This recommendation was approved by the Vestry. A diocesan statement on Policy for Dealing With Sexual Misconduct was distributed by Fr. Howard. In anticipation of a resolution addressing the same, the Vestry was asked to read the documents before the next meeting.

The meeting was closed with prayer. Our next regularly scheduled Vestry meeting is December 11th. This meeting will be attended by both the 2007 and 2008 Vestries.

For the Vestry,

Tom Ladd, Sr. Warden