

Report from the Vestry September 11, 2007

Following Eucharist and pizza, we opened our meeting with the Prayer of Bishop Clay Matthews. The minutes from the August 14th meeting were approved as distributed. Only two vestry members were not in attendance.

We heard reports from our Priest-in-Charge, the Junior and Senior Wardens, our Treasurer, and ten commissions. Much of the content in those reports may be found elsewhere in this *Parish Paper*, and in other announcements. Here are a few highlights.

Fr. Howard indicated two central objectives for the coming months, to make a very concerted effort to welcome guests and prospective new members, and to enhance our outreach efforts. He asked that names of anyone who is returning after an absence or who is new or interested in our parish be given to him or to Cathy Wadley.

Jim Phillips indicated that significant cracks which were found in our building a couple of years ago have expanded, and new ones have formed. A structural engineer suggested that the soil under our building may be shrinking; a soil engineer has been asked to assess the situation and suggest a means of stabilizing our structure.

Bert Ackerman reported on our stewardship campaign. The theme of the campaign will be "Join the Climb," and its featured element will be Home Eucharists. Presently, 26 households have agreed to host the Eucharists, and 204 households have accepted invitations. Much more is planned for the campaign. This fall, the campaign's focus will be sharing our abundance and treasure, during the winter it will emphasize discerning opportunity and the stewardship of time, and in the spring we'll study sharing our gifts and talents. As a Vestry we discussed our priorities for 2008. These included our need for a full-time assistant priest with 50% time dedicated to youth, other staffing, support for youth, children, Christian education and outreach.

Our Treasurer, Vaiden Taylor, reported that all accounts had been transferred to Mountain Commerce Bank, and that the new remote check capture system seems to be working well. So far, we have been very pleased with the service we have received from our new bank. Our cash flow was a bit problematic through the summer, but those issues were handled by internal loans requiring no additional withdrawals from our line of credit.

In old business, we moved the date of our annual Pig Roast back to Sunday, October 21. We had moved it forward a week, but scheduling conflicts required the change back to the 21st.

In new business, we adopted the manner for conducting the annual vestry elections. We will follow essentially the same procedures and timeline as last year. Our "Meet the Candidates" sessions will be held on November 11 and 18 during the adult education hour. The parish meeting and elections will be on December 2.

Nominations are now open for the Vestry. This year we will elect 5 new members of the Vestry, each for 3-year terms. Candidates must be confirmed communicants in good standing with a financial pledge to the parish. Any member may nominate someone for the Vestry, but should secure that person's agreement to serve before placing their name in nomination. Self nominations are also accepted. If you would like to nominate someone, send (or drop by) a letter of nomination, attention the Nominating Committee, to the Church. Open nominations close at noon on October 21. We will publish the slate of candidates to the parish on November 4.

Our next regularly scheduled Vestry meeting is October 9th.

For the Vestry,
Tom Ladd, Sr. Warden

