

Vestry Minutes—Church of Our Redeemer

Wednesday, January 6, 2010 – 7:30 pm

Handley Library, Church of Our Redeemer

Attendance: The Rev. Kate Ekrem (Priest-in-Charge), Connie Parrish (Sr. Warden), George Murnaghan (Jr. Warden), Dinesh Dulipsingh (Treasurer), Janet Kern (Clerk), Randy Bowlby, , Erica Brotschi, Jed Geyerhahn, Sandra Keshishian, Lindsay Koso, Peter Lund, Jack Manes, ,

Absent: Katherine Mirani, The Rev. Sabeth Fitzgibbons.

Opening: The meeting was called to order at 7:33 pm by Kate Ekrem; We began with prayer using stones placed on our small finger labyrinth.

Approval of Minutes:

A MOTION was made and seconded to approve the minutes previously distributed for review over email from the Vestry meeting of December 16, 2009. The motion was approved unanimously.

Follow-up phone calls for Stewardship campaign

Some people might need reminders. Jim will send a few names to call to each of the following vestry members who volunteered to make calls: Jack, Connie, Randy, George, Peter, Dinesh, Jed, Janet.

Budget Discussion (Jim and Dinesh)

Before presenting Finance Committee recommendations, Jim presented a Stewardship update and noted that it's very difficult to form a budget based on the current pledges received, knowing that there may be about a \$40K difference between what we have in pledges vs. what we might end up receiving in pledges. Therefore, the starting point for the budget will use \$275 K for pledges which is flat, i.e., based on last year's pledging (not including the special "13th -month" pledges).

Finance Committee believes that the vestry should review what it believes is a "structural issue" that has existed for a number of years in the area that is our largest in terms of expenses, i.e., does our personnel budget accurately reflect our parish size and needs?

The Finance Committee recommendations with respect to budget changes to address this question were presented and reviewed by the vestry, with each vestry member given an opportunity to respond with his or her viewpoint.

Jim asked the vestry for direction for the Finance Committee with respect to developing a draft budget for our January 20th meeting. Randy asked that the vestry be given a draft of a balanced budget, i.e., no deficit.

Others on the vestry asked for a draft budget that included particular changes, but that reflected a deficit that the Finance Committee felt comfortable with, i.e., that was not "\$0", but low enough

that the vestry could envision possibilities for managing it or even closing the gap in the coming year.

VPD Announcement for upcoming weeks

Jim agreed to make an announcement at church on Sunday about the projected budget deficit and what the vestry is considering in its budget discussions.

Acknowledgements:

Many thanks to Frank and Eric Kern, Dinesh Dulipsingh, Ian Fox, and Jim and Chris Neumann for their hard work moving pews and the piano to prepare the Sanctuary for floor tile replacement work.

The meeting adjourned at 9:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Kern, Clerk