

## **Vestry Minutes – Church of Our Redeemer**

Wednesday, April 1, 2009 – 7:30 PM

The meeting was held in the Handley Library at the Church of Our Redeemer.

Attendance: Connie Parrish (Sr. Warden), George Murnaghan (Jr. Warden), Dinesh Dulipsingh (Treasurer), Janet Kern (Clerk), Randy Bowlby, Erica Brotschi, Jed Geyerhahn, Sandra Keshishian, Peter Lund, Katherine Mirani, The Rev. Ted Gaiser, The Rev. Sabeth Fitzgibbons  
Absent: Jack Manes, Lindsay Koso

The meeting opened at 7:30 pm with prayer by Sabeth.

**Approval of Vestry Minutes** – Four sets of minutes were presented for approval: February 11, February 18, March 4 and March 18 . Each was moved and seconded for approval separately. Each were approved unanimously, with attendance and spelling corrections for February 11 and March 18.

### **Vestry Orientation (Part 1)**

- Connie reviewed Vestry responsibilities including Vestry Person of the Day (VPD). Assignments were made for Palm Sunday: Erica and Easter: George Murnaghan. Janet was assigned the task of putting together a schedule for VPD for the remainder of the year.
- Expectation that each vestry member will serve on a committee.
- A suggestion was made that a Vestry person should be assigned to operate the elevator for big meetings.

### **Annual Meeting reflections (“weather report”)**

Each person shared reflections and thoughts about what Annual Meeting meant to them personally and for the vestry.

Each person shared what we each appreciate about Redeemer. The list included: Music & Mission, can be vulnerable here, community comes together in worship & values, children & youth, supportive place – inspires me to support community, my friends are here, learned much and been supported, Eucharist, Family feeling, music , worship, community activities, mission, welcoming children, J2A youth, fun, food, community, our reputation for mission work.

### **Next Steps**

Communications: agreement that we will post Annual Meeting summary online that vestry had reviewed via email; commitment to post vestry agenda and minutes, as soon as they are approved. Continue to send reminders that all are welcome at vestry meeting; publish vestry summary in RF.

There was a suggestion for email or other way for people to ask questions of vestry members.

There was a suggestion for the announcement of vestry meetings and a vestry summary on Sundays. We agreed that VPD would do this.

Suggestion that we have some way of educating people about Episcopal church polity, based on parish discussion at Annual Meeting.

We agreed to draft a communication regarding the fact that the vestry is working on finding dates for forums.

We are building the narrative – one important piece would be to explain why vestry communications were as they were (e.g., dry, not necessarily informative, etc.)

Idea from Sabeth from previous parish to have primary clergy person to send out weekly message – what’s happening, etc.

**Vestry Retreat Options:** Vestry normally has a retreat shortly after election – way to get to know each other and talk about goals for the upcoming year. Ideas for how we could come together as a vestry, given the timing and particular challenges of this vestry. No decisions were made.

**Reminder of Important dates:**

- ⇒ Executive meeting, Saturday, April 11 8 am
- ⇒ Vestry meeting, Wednesday, April 15 7:30 pm
- ⇒ Patriots’ Day Pancake Breakfast, Monday April 20

**Acknowledgements/ Thank You Notes from the Vestry**

Janet committed to writing thank-you notes to the following people:

Peg Wright, Jessie Maeck and Katherine Mirani :

Thanks for adding spirit of joy to the Annual Meeting

Sally Zimmerman, Debbie LeBlanc, Joan Charlton, Joyce Dufault, Ginny Neumann:

Thank You for preparing and serving brunch for Annual Meeting.

The meeting closed with a prayer offered by Connie.

**The Meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm**

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Kern, Clerk of the Vestry