

**Vestry Minutes – Church of Our Redeemer**

Thursday, July 14 – 7:30 p.m.

Handley Library, Church of Our Redeemer

**Attendance:** The Rev. Sabeth Fitzgibbons (Assistant Priest), Connie Parrish (Sr. Warden), George Murnaghan (Jr. Warden), Frank Kern (Treasurer), Paula Antonevich (Clerk), Bob Bettacchi, Emily Charlton, Ian Fox, Sandy Keshishian, Peter Lund and James Surprenant. Absent: Susan Emanuel; Anna Kern.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Connie Parrish and began with prayer offerings through the use of the hand labyrinth.

**Planning for costs/CF Space (George and Sabeth):**

With Vestry's affirmation to continue Redeemer's relationship with the Lexington Playcare Center, Sabeth outlined at the June 15 meeting general costs and promises associated with that decision related to Redeemer's current space use shortage for Christian Formation.

In anticipation of further Vestry discussion of Christian Formation space needs, Sabeth assembled and analyzed the Christian Formation attendance data. The report was previously distributed for review over email. There was discussion about the anticipated (actual) attendance being 50 – 60% of the full roster.

Even with less than the full roster in regular attendance there is a space shortage for Christian Formation on Sunday mornings. To assist with immediate, short-term solutions for the most pressing space shortage expected this fall, Vestry asked Sabeth, with the Christian Formation committee, to provide a cost/benefit analysis of space use options, including the possibility and of moving the Atrium (from the current Atria space) to the LPC classrooms. The Vestry also supported the idea to move Adult Formation to the Great Hall to free up the meeting room for the youth program.

**Discernment Committee for Priest-In-Charge (Connie):**

As noted in previous vestry minutes, by diocesan guidelines, the Vestry must appoint a discernment committee which is recommended to be 6 – 8 members that will include 2 -3 Vestry members. Vestry decided to have a committee of seven members.

Vestry identified skills and criteria for committee membership and put forth names for consideration. Connie will send the skills and criteria, proposed names, and diocesan guidelines to Vestry over email. Each Vestry member will be asked to "vote" for four non-Vestry members and three Vestry members. The non-Vestry members who receive the most "votes" will be asked to participate until four people commit to serve on the committee.

The Redeemer community as a whole will have an opportunity to give input to the discernment committee.

**Task Group Reports:***Leadership Development task group report (Paula, Peter and Sandy):*

The task group has asked the Vestry to digest the reports and revisit the documents in the fall to help meet the additional goals of the strategic plan that includes the evaluation of ministries for their criticality to Redeemer's core values and operation as well as the evaluation measures Redeemer might adopt to better recruit, train and support lay leaders.

*Strategic Plan task group report (Emily, James and Susan):*

The task group will be working to create a bulletin board that will share with the parish community information about the Strategic Planning process and the progress of each working group.

*Property/Capital task group report (Bob, Connie, Frank, George and Ian):*

Connie invited music and worship committee members to start a conversation that would explore ideas for bringing our core values (identified in both Strategic Plan and 2009 Worship Committee report) more into our Sunday worship, specifically looking at our worship space. The meeting generated good discussion and ideas. The group will continue to develop a list of ideas.

Members continue to meet organize and assign expenditures to potential projects that are mandatory to Redeemer's operation; discretionary projects; and "new" projects that would be considered relative to space use decisions related to the strategic plan. It was determined that it would take \$34K - 37K annually to fund the projects identified in the "blue book" and the task group will go back to look at what the financial expectations are of the parish to discern what is affordable. The task group will look at a 5 – 10 year projection to create a long-term plan that would commit \$20K over what is currently committed to the property capital budget.

**Minutes (for approval) (Paula):**

A MOTION was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the Vestry meeting of June 15, 2011, previously distributed for review over email. After brief discussion and two corrections to the attendance list, the motion was approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report (Frank):**

Half way through the fiscal year, Redeemer is \$46.2K ahead of budget. This discrepancy is a result of timing and it is expected that once many of the capital projects are paid out in the next few months, the revenues and expenses will be closer to budgeted amounts.

A MOTION was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report previously distributed for review over email from the month of June 2011. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Vestry Liaison Reports:***Christian Formation (James & Anna):**Property (Peter):*

The liaison reports were provided via email rather than covered at the meeting due to time constraints (Attachments 1 & 2).

**Important Dates:****Next Vestry Meeting:** August 9**Executive Meeting:** August 1**Acknowledgements:**

Joan Charlton who is stepping down from Coffee Hour co-coordinator; Debbie LeBlanc who is staying on as Coffee Hour co-coordinator; IT Team: Jim Brady, Tom Swithenbank and Steve Burns for assistance with office computers; Sally Zimmerman for assistance with HVAC vendors at the Rectory.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by Paula Antonevich, Clerk

**[Attachment 1] Christian Formation Liaison Report:**

Adult Christian Formation Committee Report Submitted by, James M. Surprenant & Anna Kern  
July 14, 2011

- We are a new committee that took shape back in February. Our stated goals include:
- Assessing the Adult Christian Formation needs/desires of the congregation.
- Identifying appropriate and engaging formation topics and events based on identified needs/desires.
- Identifying and developing or modifying adult formation offerings.
- Acting as a committee of advice to clergy as related to adult formation needs and desires.

**Current Membership:**

Susan Burkhardt, Ian Fox, Anna Kern, Melissa Morgan, James Surprenant. Leadership is being shared as our committee is still taking shape and we are guided by Sabeth. At this time we are looking to add one or two more members to further represent the diversity of interests in the congregation. We meet 6-7 times for 90 – 120 minutes over the course of nine months

**Recap of last spring's programs:**

January: The Prayer Book through the ages, Reading Scripture Historically & Faithfully

February: Global Politics from a Faith Perspective (Ted), Seasons of the Church Year

March: Strategic Plan and PIC process & Series on the Rite of Reconciliation

March & April: Bibles, Bread & Battles led by Bill Fortier

May & June: Question of Faith Series, or "Via Media goes local", Walking the Labyrinth

**Fall Programs Being Planned:**

October 9 – 30 Creation Series – themes Forest/Land/Wilderness/River

December 4 – 18 Advent Series

Other sessions will be dedicated to music (Bernadette), a Welcome to Redeemer discussion with Kate, stewardship and mission.

**[Attachment 2] Property Liaison Report:**

Steeple . . . see page 1 of this week's Lexington Minuteman and photo by Ann Ringwood. Well underway. Special thanks to Peter Koso.

Driveway sanctuary and great hall windows . . . still to get underway. Lead paint a challenge.

Three of the four Great Hall windows have significant rot at the sill level.

Lawn gets mowed and gardens get tended.

In the course of tending the driveway garden during normal working hours, I find non-Redeemer folks parking in spots reserved for those on church business. Will put a notice, found in church office, on windshield if no one in car. Carolyn Wartman does the same thing. If I see a culprit parking, I diplomatically inform the driver that this is private property. There is a sign in place. Perhaps Roy or Lisa, when they take a break, could it check out and if there is a stranger put the proper notice under the wiper blade. Other option is just to forget it and let the parking occur but I don't believe that is fair to parishioners on church business. The rear parking lot is generally full with permit holding vehicles and it's a hike from the Hancock Street end which is where available parking is found during normal working hours.

D.Peter Lund, Vestry Liaison, Property Committee