

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

Wednesday, August 5, 2009 – 7:30 pm

Handley Library, Church of Our Redeemer

**Attendance:** The Rev. Kate Ekrem (Priest-in-Charge), Connie Parrish (Sr. Warden), Dinesh Dulipsingh (Treasurer), Janet Kern (Clerk), Randy Bowlby, Erica Brotschi, Jed Geyerhahn, The Rev. Sabeth Fitzgibbons, Peter Lund, Sandra Keshishian, Jack Manes, Katherine Mirani.

Absent: George Murnaghan (Jr. Warden), Lindsay Koso

### **Introductions and Opening Prayer**

We welcomed The Rev. Kate Ekrem to her first vestry meeting as Priest-in-Charge. Kate opened the meeting with prayer and began with introductions from each member and a sharing about highs and lows of our week, celebrations in our lives and what others could pray for us in the weeks ahead. We closed introductions with prayers for each other.

### **People Kate should meet**

We gave recommendations to Kate about people she should meet over the coming weeks, that ended with a very large list of many Redeemer parishioners!

### **Main Discussion**

We each tried to answer the following questions with answers recorded on newsprint:

1. What keeps you coming to Redeemer? OR What is an example of something you think is best about Redeemer?
2. Are there things you wish were different about Redeemer? OR What challenges do you see for Redeemer in the short or long-term?

Taking all that we had heard from each other, we tried to identify a symbol or visual picture to summarize Redeemer's story and where Redeemer finds itself at this time? The images that were identified ranged from a compass-like Lakota symbol that had different meanings for North, South, East, West to other multi-directional images. We also tried to identify a biblical story that reminded us of Redeemer's story. We considered the story of the first Pentecost with everyone speaking in tongues; there was no particular consensus and we agreed to let it sit for a while.

### **Sept 12 Vestry retreat**

We decided that we would take to the vestry retreat the many ideas and thoughts generated during our discussion, and try to develop some concrete goals for this vestry to accomplish by the end of the year. We decided that we should try to find another parish nearby that would be available for us to have our retreat. Important to get away from Redeemer, but also needs to be inexpensive!

### **Closing Prayer**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Kern, Clerk