

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

Tuesday, August 9, 2011 – 7:30 PM – meeting in the Handley Library

**Attendance:** The Rev. Kate Ekrem (Priest-in-Charge), Connie Parrish (Sr. Warden), Frank Kern (Treasurer), Sandy Keshishian, Bob Bettacchi (clerk of the night), James Suprenant, Peter Lund, Ian Fox and Anna Kern

Absent: George Murnaghan (Jr. Warden), Paula Antonevich Clerk), Susan Emanuel, Emily Charlton and the Rev. Sabeth Fitzgibbons.

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

### **Worship Space:**

Connie led a discussion on the worship space in the church. This was a follow-up to a discussion with the worship and music committees and part of the process to flesh out our strategic plan and inform our decision-making with regard to any space modifications. The discussion focused on the following three questions:

Does our worship space reflect what we say is important to us?

What does it say about what we believe?

What messages does it send to those visiting for the first time?

**ACTIONS:** No conclusions were reached and no actions are required.

### **Discernment Committee:**

A prioritized list of potential candidates has been prepared and is being approached by members of the executive committee. Three vestry members have agreed to serve and additional parishioners will be asked to serve until four more agree.

**ACTIONS:** Executive Committee members will invite four additional parishioners to join the discernment committee.

### **Property Update:**

Peter Lund reported that the property committee has been executing a number of projects that were planned for 2011 including painting the steeple, repairing the stairs, painting and caulking and painting the church windows (one side), and working with Verizon to install FIOS.

Peter also reported that we have insufficient volunteers to adequately maintain the lawn and that the property committee will be looking to include funds for lawn maintenance in next year's budget.

**ACTIONS:** None Required

### **Amazon Account:**

Frank Kern reviewed the account that COOR had established at Amazon.com that provided a rebate for any purchase from Amazon thru Redeemer's web site. The funds had been earmarked for use by J2A for their pilgrimage which will not occur.

A **MOTION** was made and seconded to redirect the rebates from Amazon.com to the general fund and after discussion was **approved** unanimously.

### **Minutes (for approval):**

A **MOTION** was made and seconded to approve the minutes previously distributed for review from the Vestry meeting of July 14, 2011. The motion was **approved** unanimously with no discussion.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Frank Kern reported that since the vestry meeting was a week earlier than scheduled, the treasurer's report was not yet available as the books hadn't yet been closed for the month. Despite the lack of the formal report, Frank did advise that the finances appeared on track with the exception of fuel oil which is expected to over-run budget due to higher-than-anticipated oil price

A **MOTION** was made and seconded to over-run the fuel oil budget by \$4,000. The motion was **approved** unanimously.

### **Vestry liaison reports:**

*Stewardship* – Ian Fox reported that the stewardship committee had met and had started the planning for the fall campaign.

*Music* – Ian Fox reported that the music program had been planned for the balance of the year. The music committee report is attached.

### **Adjournment and Closing Prayer**

The meeting adjourned at 8:58PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Bettacchi  
Clerk-for-the-night

## **Music Liaison Report to Vestry August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

### Worship

Bernadette planned music for special Sundays for: Youth Recognition Sunday (5/22); Choir appreciation (6/12); Bishop's Visit (6/19); Outdoor/Ted's Farewell (6/26).

Response to the call for a Redeemer Roster of musicians yielded 16 individuals willing to contribute their talents. This summer we are hearing from a number of them beginning on Ted's farewell service June 26th with the Redeemer "band," and then: vocal soloists Mary Ann Ziegle, Ian Fox, Tony Johnson, trio Kate Ekrem and Linda and Stephanie Kukulich on vocal duet and violin. On 7/31, a service including music of the Hispanic diaspora in celebration of the El Hogar group commissioning.

Other summer activities include fall and winter service planning, coordination of Mary Bailey's September 17th memorial service with the Brookhaven choir & director & other guest musicians, and assessing and organizing the music library.

In coordination with the Worship committee's initiative to devote one service per month to alternative or experimental worship styles and formats, we have engaged the Fellswater celtic instrumental ensemble for October 16th.

We have hired the "Renaissonics" early music ensemble for our Advent procession on Dec. 4th

### Instrument (Sustainability)

We have engaged the firm of Pelland Pipe Organ Co. LLC, and Richard Pelland to service and maintain both sanctuary organs.

The Music Committee is reviewing a proposal to go to the Endowment Committee to obtain funds to support the restoration of the Bevington organ. The Music Committee is planning to submit this to the Endowment Committee as soon as possible for their consideration.

### Formation/Development

Bernadette attended a continuing education workshop with the Western Wind Vocal Ensemble at Smith College from July 25-30th.

Bernadette will present an adult forum session on the connection between spirituality, worship, and music September 18th.