

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting November 17, 2011

The Rector Elizabeth Bloch opened the meeting of the Vestry at 5:15 p.m. with the Eucharist.

In attendance: Rector Elizabeth Bloch, Sr. Warden Peggy St. Claire, Treasurer, Elizabeth Sepesy, Jr. Warden Dwight Nicholson, Shu Delapp, Patrick Raymond, John Davis, Joe Nuber, Pat Hale

Absent: Deacon Karen Pierce, Bill Lowry, Cathy Couch and Owen Mulkey.

Visitors: Rose Horvath, Kitty Evans, Ken Evans and Polly Fish.

Approval of October Minutes: The meeting minutes were approved.

Victorian Heritage Days: Rose Horvath gave a presentation on the Victorian Heritage Days in March of 2012 and asked for the participation of St. Paul's. It was decided that we would keep the church open during the festival and Rose would arrange for docents to answer questions about the church. It will be published in the January Bell.

Diocesan Convention: The attendees felt the convention was a success. Kitty especially liked seeing Karen as Deacon for the service. Polly felt that the way it was arranged, it didn't give much opportunity to mingle *with members of other parishes*. It was felt that the Lynnwood Convention Center did not work very well. The Diocesan Grant Process is a 2-3 year process and can't be for property projects. They need to be for program.

Faux Steeple Report: John Davis reported that he has received three estimates to repair and/or remove the steeple. The best estimate to remove the steeple was in the \$20,000 range. The work crew has done some further examination of the structure and found that all the damage was in the outside column and beam. They felt that they could do the repair for \$1,000 to \$2,000 in material costs. It was decided to do the repair in the spring when the weather is better.

Treasurer's Report: Elizabeth presented a very comprehensive report to the vestry. The 2011 budget has been revised to represent a decline in funds. The pledge and plate giving is behind and Peggy, Patrick and the Stewardship Committee are in the process of calling those who are behind on their pledge that we are in need of those funds for ongoing operations. The current budget difficulties will be reviewed in-depth at the December meeting.

Annual Stewardship Campaign: Patrick Raymond presented the Stewardship Report. We are behind on pledge from last year. Patrick is in the process of making some calls to ask for pledges.

The current volunteer recognition is for the Just Soup outreach. It has been tremendously successful and will be presented at the annual meeting.

Rector's Remarks: Elizabeth acknowledges that some of the drop in the current pledges are due to the changes in the 10:00 a.m. service liturgy (*a protest*), *as well as economic times, deaths and moves from the area*. She feels strongly that the current liturgy expresses her theology and she must stand up for it, even if we lose some pledges. *We are currently offering three services, all expressing three separate liturgies, and it was felt that if members can't find a service that speaks to them, then it is not clear what else we can do*. Regarding the budget, she also feels strongly that we are just seeing signs of growth with youth ministry and we should do all we can to keep it funded and growing.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes respectively submitted by Dwight Nicholson