

**TRINITY CHURCH LIME ROCK
MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING
MARCH 18, 2007**

Present: M. Baer, R. Bickley, M. Carley, R. Clements, J. Conzo, A. Dorf, C. Duntz, L. Lloyd, M. Nesbitt, T. Schindler

Absent: G. Brown

The meeting was called to order at 12:20 and Noonday Prayers were read by the Vicar.

Minutes: Moved by Linda Lloyd, seconded by Jim Conzo that the minutes be approved as circulated. Passed.

Treasurer's Report: Martha Nesbitt presented the updated financials for the 2006 parochial reports (see attached). Moved by Linda Lloyd, seconded by Martha Baer that the report be accepted. Passed.

Rob noted that our membership is probably more in the range of 120 people, not 170 as previously counted.

Martha distributed the income and expenses report for the year to date (see attached). We are off by about \$6,000 as of the end of February. So far we have 27 pledges totaling about \$73,000 for 2007. Parishioners will be encouraged to complete and submit pledge cards for the current year. We are facing a deficit of about \$30,000.

A brief discussion of fundraising ideas ensued. Martha Baer has followed up on the idea of a pet show, but concluded that given the costs of doing so, it is not feasible. Alexis Dorf proposed selling refreshments during Crescendo concert intermissions, but the space available to do so is not adequate. Rob suggested having periodic luncheons for the elders of the community, along with a low key type of entertainment or a lecture following. This would increase our visibility in the area. Other fundraising ideas include an Antiques Roadshow type event (per Trudy Washburn's suggestion) and a Christian Youth Concert in the field. Roy Bickley will look into this possibility.

Rob recommended that we ask someone to take on the task of PR for advancing our ministry at Trinity. Jim suggested Mel Tarr, who does PR professionally. Rob will speak with Mel.

Cheryl Duntz noted that our copier rental of \$400.00 per month is high and suggested that we look into other options that would be less expensive.

Moved by Linda Lloyd, seconded by Cheryl, that the treasurer's report be accepted. Passed.

Wardens' Report: Linda said that we need to contact the town and state in order to get the regulations concerning the sign. Alexis will pursue this issue.

Alexis noted that we need to determine an age cut off for child care on Sundays, and suggested that children in kindergarten and younger be offered child care and those in first grade and older attend the service with their parents. We have the children's worship bulletins as well as a variety of books available for them in the church. We also need to be in compliance with the Safe Church policies set forth by the Diocese, which means that no child can be unsupervised at any time at Trinity.

Alexis will follow up with Kitty Benedict concerning the repair of the handicapped ramp. The Bible Study group that Beth Long mentored had wanted to do something to honor her, and were considering the ramp reconstruction.

Buildings and Grounds: B & G chair Judy Brown submitted her report on the “This Old Church” program and its results for Trinity, along with an updated “to do” list. (see attached) The action plan is as follows:

- To ask Judy to get a thermostat installed on the second floor of the Rectory.
- To ask Judy to get some prices on replacing the Rectory furnace.
- Roy will look into the cost of replacing the windows instead of just putting up storm windows. Alexis suggested that Roy speak to Jeff Silvernale as a starting place.
- Al Dorf and Lynn Gaffney will arrange with Christine to look at the Rectory re insulation of the building.
- Judy will be asked to contact CL & P about a low cost energy audit of the Rectory.
- The Men’s Group will be asked to paint the outside of the Guild Room when the snow melts and temperatures moderate.
- Spring clean up date will be April 28 with a rain date of May 5.

Stewardship: Chair Kitty Benedict is away until the end of March. Meanwhile, Alexis will draft a letter on this subject for review by Rob and then to be included with the March 31 financial statements sent out by Martha. Rob recommended that a Vestry member be on the stewardship committee and thus able to update progress each month.

Outreach: Cheryl said that for our Easter outreach project, envelopes for cash, voucher or gift certificates for local stores were distributed last Sunday. They will be collected and blessed on Palm Sunday and then given to the Salisbury Family Services representative for distribution to their clients. The families will be invited to the egg dyeing program and Easter services.

Children’s Programs: There have been requests for some sort of Christian education program for the children, and the Vestry concluded that we need to start on this now rather than wait until the soccer program as a jump start to an autumn church school. Rob will write to the parents and he and Cheryl will meet with them, ideally while the children are dyeing eggs the day before Easter.

Linda requested that on Palm Sunday all Vestry members bring at least 1 dozen plastic eggs filled with candy for the Easter egg hunt on Easter.

- **Egg Dyeing:** 10-11 am Saturday, April 7 in the Sunday School room
- **Soccer:** Per Geoff’s recommendation, the Vestry agreed to start summer Sunday soccer June 10 and end the last Sunday of August.

American Boys Choir: This touring group will visit Trinity May 22. The tentative plan is for Evensong and a concert. A potluck dinner will be held before the program. Tom Schindler, who is coordinating the event, needs homes for the boys (2 boys per home) and their music directors for the night of the 22nd.

Inventory: Jim Conzo reported that we have in the pews 122 Books of Common Prayer, 105 hymnals, and 29 copies of *Wonder, Love and Praise*. We will order an additional 31 WLPs. We have no Bibles. Roy has found a source for Bibles stamped with our name on the front for \$8.00 each. He will get prices for 50 and 100 copies, and we will ask the congregation to give them as memorials, etc.

Healing Ministry: Tom has had no response to his inquiries at the Oratory. Rob said that he can instruct those who are interested in this ministry instead of pursuing the Oratory further.

Art Show: Linda has written letters to the artists from last year, and Arete Warren and Martha Baer will follow up with some of their own contacts. Linda’s request for help with the show has been met with a good response.

Memorial Day Tag Sale: The ECW will coordinate this annual event on May 26 from 10-2. Books especially are requested, along with good used furniture. Alice Tweed will be asked to coordinate the bake sale. There will be a potluck picnic at 6 pm that evening for all involved in the day's events.

Falls Village Children's Theater: They have found a summer camp home at the high school and so will not need Walker Hall.

And also...the telephone system has been repaired and now works. Geoff's report of EFT is tabled until the next meeting. Malcolm MacLaren will be asked about bushhogging the field around the edges to create a walking/jogging trail.

New Purpose Statement: We have changed our mission statement from the one in the BCP to a purpose statement: *Trinity Church: offering companionship on the Way*. We feel that this offers people an opportunity to interpret the statement as is most appropriate to them individually and emphasizes our focus on community.

Vicar's Report: Rob reviewed some administrative issues that he is facing.

The Vestry also discussed the matter of our subsidizing other churches' printed materials, which have been created and printed at Trinity at no cost to them for the hardware or paper involved.

Moved by Martha Baer, seconded and passed that: **The vicar offer the wardens and Vestry at Christ Church Canaan, for whom, (along with its missions at All Saints in Cornwall and the Geer Convalescent Center) Trinity is preparing and printing orders of service and other materials each week, an opportunity to continue that arrangement for a payment of \$200.00 per month, representing half the monthly cost of the copier lease. Should the wardens and Vestry of Christ Church Canaan decline the offer, the vicar should inform them that as of 31 March, 2007, we will no longer do that work at Trinity. The Vicar is also asked to request Christ Church Canaan to make a donation to Trinity for past use of our facilities.**

Next Meeting: April 15

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:20.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alexis Dorf
Acting Clerk