

Minutes of the Meeting of the Vestry
Of Trinity Church, April 19, 2009

The Invocation was offered by Fr. Clements. Present were Fr. Clements, Janet Walker, John Lloyd, Bob Reid, Al Dorf, Martha Baer, and Roy Bickley. Absent were Linda Lloyd, Pat Barton, and Jane Canfield.

Approval of March minutes: Bob Reid moved that the March minutes be approved as circulated. Al Dorf seconded the motion. Fr. Clements asked if the discussion regarding Safe Church including the Vestry's concern about parents permitting their children to roam the building unsupervised, and was assured that it had been included. The minutes were accepted by voice vote.

Treasurer's report: John Lloyd presented the Treasurer's Report. He noted that the finances for the year have now turned negative. However, he also announced that Crescendo will shortly be paying an additional \$20/month for the use of our facilities. At this point, two buildings and grounds matters were discussed. First, in response to the bid by Adams Roofing to repair leaks in the Rectory roof for an estimated \$1900, Martha moved and Al seconded a motion to ask the Buildings and Grounds chair to proceed at once with the repairs. With regard to the Narthex roof repair, Geoff reported that Bob's Roofing had advised the Buildings and Grounds chair that his business does not do slate roofs. Roy moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted, and Martha Baer seconded the motion, which was passed by voice vote.

Wardens' report: There was no Wardens' report.

Old business:

--Stewardship – status: With regard to the stewardship campaign, the Vicar and the Treasurer will revisit the status following processing of all first quarter results, reporting at the next meeting. The Vicar expressed concern regarding cash flow in the third quarter, normally the quarter in which the parish receives the least cash but expenses continue. There is a possibility that a supplementary campaign may be needed at that time.

--Fundraiser for 2009: The "Small Donations" fundraiser was discussed. Janet, in view of the anticipated expense repairing the slate roof, suggested that "donate a slate" could be added to the list. Other items identified for possible donations included a kilowatt, a gallon of oil, altar candles, new prayer books, and other liturgical items. Suggestions were again solicited for this type of donation. A chart will be prepared for the bulletin board identifying items that can be funded in this way and the appropriate dollar amount for each.

--Buildings and Grounds: It was reported that the state-mandated well housing replacement has been completed. As well, the Vestry was reminded of the parish clean-up day set for next Saturday at 9 AM. Other buildings and grounds matters were discussed earlier (see Treasurer's Report).

--Sunday School: The problem of young people remaining in Walker Hall during services was again discussed, and the Vestry agreed that we must continue to try to get both parents and children to comply with Safe Church requirements. Fr. Clements mentioned that in spring and fall migrations of seasonal workers occur, and at these times people unknown to us may occasionally suddenly appear in

church buildings; and that there is some implicit incremental risk to children at these times. Geoff noted that the scheduled Easter egg dyeing session did not occur due to insufficient RSVPs.

--Animal memorial garden: The Vicar noted that the Animal Memorial Garden has been renamed the Prayer Garden. Martha reported that Lynn Gaffney is continuing with architectural plans, and that she (Martha) will be contacting a gardener shortly to work on the garden. Fr. Clements wondered if we might draw more people with animals to be blessed if we conducted our St. Francis Sunday blessing outside on the Saturday preceding, perhaps also blessing animals in church on the actual Sunday. The intent would be to offer a blessing for animals of those who normally attended another church or who did not attend church. The matter will be discussed further as St. Francis Sunday approaches. Also in this vein, Martha asked if we had ever approached the Little Guild of St. Francis to see if they had any interest in joining with us for this blessing. Fr. Clements will contact them in this regard.

--Discernment committee: Fr. Clements reported that the first meeting of the committee, of which Emily DiMartino is chair, will take place on May 3. A diocesan representative will attend this meeting. He also identified the subsequent steps a candidate for the Priesthood must undergo.

-- In response to a need for a Vestry member to take responsibility for advertising liaison with the Lakeville Journal, Roy Bickley volunteered to assume the responsibility.

New business:

--Subject matter responsibilities for Vestry members. In accordance with our need to have a Vestry liaison for each committee or subject matter area, the following changes to responsibilities were determined:

Adult Education, including EFM: Fr. Clements and Roy Bickley

Finance: John Lloyd

Music: Martha Baer and Pat Barton

Outreach: Pat Barton

Prayer chair: none, pending reorganization

All other responsibilities will remain as at present.

Vicar's report: Fr. Clements advised the Vestry that he had received a communication from the diocese that the state may determine that the Rectory, since it is not used to house clergy, may be subject to property tax. He and the Treasurer will meet with regard to this possible development.

He also reported that Easter attendance this year had totaled 134 at the 10:30 AM service and 10 at the 8 AM service, for the largest attendance in six years.

Fr. Clements noted that he has accepted the position of Chaplain to the Lakeville Hose Company, replacing Rev. Taber, their long-time Chaplain, who cannot continue in this capacity due to his retirement from his church.

He also noted that a memorial motorcycle gathering called "Anthony's Run" in honor of the first Connecticut service person killed in the Iraq war has been invited to assemble at Trinity in July for a blessing. The Vestry was pleased with this opportunity to both minister to a new and larger community as well as to remember a fallen service person.

He noted that on May 10 he will resume Adult Education classes, likely on the subject of Biblical Archaeology. He will also ask Alexis Dorf if she is interested in holding another book group.

Janet Walker, who had participated in the Easter Vigil as a member of the congregation, spoke highly of the service and asked if we could do an Easter Vigil in the future collectively with other churches. Fr. Clements provided the Vestry with the history of Easter Vigils in the Deanery. It was concluded that we would make an effort to include other parishes in the Vigil next year.

There being no further business to come before the Vestry, Fr. Clements offered a benediction.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey Brown
Clerk of the Vestry