

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

Fr. Clements opened the meeting with a prayer. Present were, in addition to Fr. Clements, Linda Lloyd, Janet Walker, Roy Bickley, Bob Reid, Pat Barton, Jane Canfield, Martha Baer, Al Dorf, John Lloyd, and Geoff Brown.

Bob Reid moved that the June minutes be approved as circulated, and Pat Barton seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

John Lloyd distributed the Treasurer's report. Aside from the usual seasonal cash shortage, no items in the report elicited comments. We have been offered the possibility of obtaining electricity at a discount rate. Linda moved that John and Al be empowered to investigate the offer and obtain and secure an appropriate rate. Roy seconded the motion, which passed by voice vote. Linda moved that we accept the Treasurer's report, and Roy seconded that motion as well, which likewise passed by voice vote.

Linda presented the Wardens' report. Since Fr. Clements has accepted a call to be Rector of Christ Church, Roxbury, Linda reported that she had been in contact with the Rev. Canon Erik Larsen, the Diocesan Clergy Deployment Officer. The following steps will now be taken:

--Linda has obtained supply clergy as follows: August 30, the Rev. Franck DeChambeau. September (except for September 27) and subsequently until an Interim can be in place, the Rev. Heidi Truax. The Rev. Bill Lowe had already been obtained for the first two Sundays of August, when Fr. Clements will be on vacation.

--Canon Larsen will preach, celebrate, and meet with the Vestry on September 27. That will constitute September's Vestry meeting.

--The Vestry will have an additional meeting on August 30. Committee chairs not on the Vestry, as well as Alexis Dorf (who has agreed to assist Linda during the transition), will be invited to attend.

--Administrative details to be resolved before Fr. Clements' departure include transferring the electronic Staples account, converting e-mail addresses, arranging for office coverage (either by extending the bookkeeper's hours or utilizing parish volunteers or both).

--Fr. Clements will prepare the orders of service through EOM August before he departs.

--Linda has discussed the possibility that new clergy may need to live in the Rectory, and reported that Christine is aware of the possibility and has the option of temporarily living at the residence of her husband's parents in Lakeville if necessary.

--It appears that Emergency Services Sunday, originally scheduled for September 27, will need to be re-scheduled or that we will need to skip a year. Jane and Pat will determine an appropriate course of action and ensure that those who require notification are advised of their decision. Al

asked if it might not be possible to rescheduled Canon Larsen's visit but was advised that it was not possible under the circumstances. Discussion ensued in which the consensus was reached that the local first responders were not an appropriate audience for a sermon dedicated to preparing a parish to move ahead to obtaining new clergy.

The following matters were addressed under old business:

--Stewardship: Fr. Clements noted that due to his departure, some financial relief will be available in the short run. Following brief discussion, the sense of the Vestry was that we should continue the stewardship program we undertook last year, but that we would wait until after Canon Larsen's visit to start the process.

--Fundraiser for 2009: Fr. Clements noted that there was no significant revenue likely to be coming from Lime Rock Park this year, as only 15 cars parked in the field yesterday, and typically this is the most important race of the season. No incremental results were reported for the "Small Donations" program. With regard to the Church World Service's "Buy a Blanket PLUS" campaign, it appears that our water well will be installed in a Latin American village instead of an African one, as African governments are unwilling to accept funds from Episcopalian donors due to our denomination's acceptance of persons with non-traditional gender orientations.

--Buildings and Grounds: Fr. Clements reported that the contractor will be visiting Thursday to estimate the cost of the narthex roof repair. No report has yet been received from the Fire Marshal inspection. Fr. Clements has ordered (for \$40) the state-mandated signs advising hand-washing in the kitchen. No inspection is yet scheduled.

--Sunday School: Fr. Clements reported that Gretchen Hachmeister and Cheryl Duntz, with the assistance of their husbands and of Marian Browning, will be conducting Sunday School in the fall. There are no plans at present for the Young People's Choir. Geoff reported that Summer Sports attendance, while light, is more or less as expected since the age group catered to this month is not apt to bring friends. He noted that volleyball is in August, and that the age group involved is more apt to bring friends who are not parishioners. He also noted that August 23, when we will be marking Fr. Clements' last Sunday with us, is also "Sundae Sunday" so we may have a number of kids present as well.

--Prayer garden: Martha reported that Lynn Gaffney has secured a landscape designer for whom the design will be a graduate school project.

--Discernment committee: Fr. Clements noted that the discernment committee was meeting while the Vestry met, and that they did not expect to complete their work until October at the earliest. He noted that the candidate is expected to become involved in worship functions, and that we should plan on her preaching a sermon in the not too distant future.

--Victory Garden: There has been no activity on this project due to the illness of Jose Oracca, who has been the driving force behind it.

--Outreach – backpacks/lunchbags: Backpacks will also be blessed on August 23. In another outreach matter, Opportunity International was identified as a possible charity with which we

might want to work. Jane also mentioned Doctors Without Borders as a worthy recipient of our outreach funds.

Vicar's report: Fr. Clements reported that the current ASA (Average Sunday Attendance) is 68. He noted that on August 16 Trinity will baptize the fourth baby of the year, Genevieve Gaffney Backus.

The Vestry then met in closed session to discuss the forthcoming transition.

Linda Lloyd led the Vestry in the Lord's Prayer to close the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey Brown
Clerk