

Minutes of a Special Meeting  
of the Vestry of Trinity Church  
November 1, 2009

This special meeting of the Vestry was called to put in place a Stewardship program for the forthcoming year at Trinity. Present were the Rev. Heidi Truax, Linda Lloyd, Martha Baer, Pat Barton, Bob Reid, John Lloyd, Jane Canfield, Al Dorf, Janet Walker, and Geoff Brown. Absent was Roy Bickley.

Vicar's Report: The Vicar reported that the Worship Committee, as previously constituted, will be meeting shortly. She announced plans for the Christmas services as follows: There will be one service Christmas eve, at an hour sufficiently early to accommodate those who wish an early service and yet late enough for those who wish a "midnight Mass". There will be a Christmas Day service. The Children's Pageant will be held on 4 Advent. In response to a question, Heidi will consider a short children's service on Christmas eve, at around 4 PM. There was general agreement that Christmas eve is not the right time to have the Pageant due to the excitement level of the kids at that time.

Stewardship: Heidi noted that she had reviewed the material for the stewardship program we used last year, and while she understood that it had been effective, she noted that we do not have sufficient time to execute the same program this year and still have a budget in place by year-end. Accordingly, she outlined the following program:

--In the next 10 days, Heidi will mail a letter inviting families to participate in pledging. The letter will include a pledge envelope and specify the date for an Ingathering Sunday.

--Someone in the congregations (Alexis Dorf was suggested) will speak on stewardship at the 10:30 AM service, while the Vicar will speak at the 8 AM. John Lloyd will be available to speak about the budget. This will occur on November 15.

--On Advent II (December 6) we will have an Ingathering of pledges. Those who do not pledge at or before that time will be subjected to follow-up.

--Incremental gifts for specifics (e.g. fuel oil for a month) will also be solicited, although this will not necessarily come at the same time as the stewardship solicitation.

--As Heidi calls on parishioners, she will also personally convey the stewardship message.

Discussion of various aspects of church budgeting followed, including the possibility of getting closer to our target Diocesan assessment, the status of the Rector's Discretionary Fund, and visits by the Vicar to parishioners.

The remaining matter of business was to plan to develop a mailing list for the Stewardship mailing. Toward this end, Geoff will forward a copy of the current e-mail list and Jane Canfield will furnish a copy of the parish birthday list.

Heidi also suggested that, instead of mentioning individual birthdays during the year, we might consider praying for a family each Sunday.

The next regular meeting of the vestry will be held on November 22.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey Brown, Clerk