

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Vestry  
Of Trinity Church, November 21, 2010**

Pastor Heidi offered the opening prayer. Present were Janet Walker, Lynn Gaffney, Linda Lloyd, Pat Barton, Alan Swide, Jane Ellen Canfield, the Rev. Heidi Truax, John Lloyd, and Geoff Brown. Bob Reid and Alexis Dorf were absent.

Linda moved, and Lynn seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting as circulated and amended. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

John Lloyd presented the Treasurer's report, including our year-to-date status, stewardship campaign status, and the 2011 proposed budget. As a first formality, determining bonuses for part-time staff, Linda moved and Pat seconded a motion that bonuses this year be paid in the same amounts and via the same methodology as last year. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

John reported that the status of the stewardship campaign for the year had generated approximately \$118M in pledges, and that there had been 40 pledges received, with eight new pledgers this year. He then distributed the proposed 2011 budget and thanked Martha Nesbitt and Al Dorf for their assistance with it. Considerable discussion ensued, including discussion of concerns that the budgeted \$140M for pledges was too optimistic, and that therefore we perhaps ought to budget for a deficit of \$14M for the year instead of a deficit of \$4M. Following discussion and explanation of various expense lines, the consensus was reached that the budget was satisfactory in its current form, and that, if further scrutiny revealed problems, it could be amended at the next Vestry meeting and still be in place for the Annual Meeting. Accordingly, Geoff moved that we accept the budget for 2011 as submitted and Jane Ellen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

To complete the transfer of the formerly separate ECW and Altar Guild accounts to the main Trinity account, Linda moved and Lynn seconded a motion that the Clerk write a letter to Ginny Dildine recognizing the consolidation of the ECW and Altar Guild accounts with the parish accounts in accordance with Diocesan policy and thanking her for her service in maintaining them while they were separate. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Pat then moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Linda seconded the motion, which likewise passed by unanimous voice vote.

Linda presented the Wardens' Report. She noted that we will need to fill the position of Junior Warden as she is retiring as Senior Warden and current Junior Warden Alexis Dorf will move into that position. She noted that the Wardens are traditionally drawn from the current Vestry and asked that any Vestry members with an interest contact her. She discussed, in response to questions, how the position interfaces with the Senior Warden and the Vicar, and what the position entails in other respects. She noted that one new Vestry member has been identified so far and has accepted, and that discussions are open with another candidate. If a current Vestry member is selected to be Junior Warden, another Vestry position will open. She concluded her report by noting that the separate Rota for the Christmas season will be out shortly.

Pastor Heidi then presented the Vicar's Report. Several dates were confirmed, including the following: Annual Meeting January 23, with a snow date of January 30. Bishop Curry's visit January 9, with a possible adult Baptism. Visit by Canon Erik Larsen, including Mutual Ministry Review and an open Vestry meeting on February 13. A wedding, our first in some time, is scheduled for May 21. Pastor Heidi will be on vacation from December 27 through January 7, and the Rev. Chris Webber will supply on January 2. Pastor Heidi (along with Marian Browning and Slava Browning from Trinity) will be on a mission trip to Honduras February 19 through February 28, and the Rev. Walton Zelle will supply for the Sunday that Pastor Heidi is away.

Pastor Heidi advised the Vestry that our awareness level at the Diocese is increasing, as Alexis Dorf continues as a Safe Church trainer, Danielle Gaherty is on the Standing Committee, and Geoff Brown has been selected to be involved in Disaster Coordination in pilot project the Diocese is undertaking with Episcopal Relief and Development.

Pastor Heidi ask the Vestry for their opinion regarding sending out a special Christmas envelope with a Christmas letter, noting that she preferred not to take this route to donations. In that connection, she requested that Geoff investigate means of accepting donations online via a "Donate Now" button on the website. Several questions ensued, including whether donations received online could be earmarked for specific purposes and the suggestion was made that we rotate "causes" on a monthly or quarterly basis. Geoff will produce a prototype for Vestry review.

Jane Ellen suggested that some sort of Christmas ornament sale might be undertaken at the Christmas Bazaar as she and others have significant numbers of ornaments that are excess to their needs. She was

advised to contact Ginny Dildine, who is managing the Christmas Bazaar, promptly to see if this feature can be added.

The Buildings and Grounds report followed, including a handout prepared by Buildings and Grounds Chair Judy Brown. It was noted that the latest Rectory roof repair appears to have worked as the roof no longer leaks. The painting of the exterior of the addition and Walker Hall is nearly complete, and Jeff Silvernale has painted the benches in the same color scheme. Jeff is expected to repair the roof of the entryway into Walker Hall shortly. The pew repair continues to become more complicated. The present plan is to prototype one or more solutions in an effort to devise a cost effective solution that actually works before undertaking the entire project. The heating vents in the church, which have as long as anyone can remember been raised above the floor surface, creating a possible tripping hazard, have now been recessed to be level with the floor. The work was performed by Jeff Silvernale, and was made possible by a generous donation by Al Dorf. The clerk was requested to write a letter to Al thanking him for his generosity. The carillon is expected to be installed and operational by Christmas. While a new amplifier will be needed, it appears that the loudspeakers will not, so the project should come in at the estimated cost.

2011 Buildings and Grounds project were discussed. The condition of the church door facing route 112 is deteriorating, and it appears that we need to stabilize it promptly even if we do not totally rehabilitate it at this point. John noted that the small amount left in the 135<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Facelift might suffice for this kind of stopgap measure. Judy Brown's concern about the furnace in the Rectory was noted, and the consensus of the Vestry was that unless it fails this winter, we should plan on undertaking a special fundraising project – likely a musical one – next summer so we can replace it. Depending on the amount raised, and unexpended budgeted Buildings and Grounds funds available, rezoning the heat in the Rectory might be undertaken at that point as well.

Pastor Heidi reported on youth and the Sunday School. She noted that the children and the teachers both seem to like the new Sunday School curriculum. With regard to the Nursery, a new Nursery attendant is needed. While not filling the vacant position would result in a \$1000 saving, it was felt to be important to have it filled both so we can offer the service and to provide a second adult in the Sunday School wing instead of relying on our teenagers who are generally (but not always) present to assist the Sunday School teacher. All were requested to suggest candidates, and the possibility of a resident of the cottages at Noble was proposed.

Geoff reported to the Vestry that the Northwest United Soccer Club, successors to the Berkshire United Soccer Club, has expressed an interest in using Reid Field for practices and games, noting that the invitation had been extended to the BUSC a few years ago but not accepted. The sense of the Vestry was that we should welcome NUSC, and that a porta-potty would be preferable to opening the church for sanitary facilities, with attendant expense.

The report of the Pennies for Peace campaign was omitted in Alexis' absence.

Geoff noted some possible interest on the part of the Lakeville Pony Club in using Walker Hall for a dismounted Quiz program in February. Pat noted that their riding facility does not have a suitable meeting room for this type of activity. The sense of the Vestry was that this was an appropriate invitation to extend as long as the activity did not conflict with other church activities, and that the Pony Club was willing to cover the cost of the Sexton for cleanup and incremental heat and light.

Lynn then presented the Outreach Report, noting particularly the record donations for the Feed a Family of Four for a Day, and particularly the help that Trinity Glen residents had provided in achieving this. She noted that there will be table at the Christmas Bazaar for the Central Asia Institute's Pennies for Peace program, and in addition that wool Christmas ornaments made by our young people from the Orzano flock will be on sale. She noted that Katrina would be running a Quiz night to raise outreach funds some time in February. Finally, she advised the Vestry that her committee needed a new member.

The scheduled report of the Long Range Planning Committee was not received and will be deferred until next meeting. It was emphasized that the Vestry will need to review and pass on the report prior to its presentation at the Annual Meeting.

There was no Old Business scheduled for discussion or identified at the meeting.

Under New Business, it was generally agreed that holding a Christmas tree lighting at Trinity would be a good community activity, but that time was short to undertake it this year. Accordingly the matter was tabled until some point next year when it can be planned and publicized.

No Concerns were identified.

There being no further business, Pastor Heidi closed the meeting with a prayer. The next meeting of the Vestry will be on December 12, a week earlier than usual, due to the Christmas Pageant and the Greening of the Church on our usual meeting date.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey Brown, Clerk