

Calvary Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2013

Crook Auditorium

Vestry Present: Alison Boeving, Sam Cole, James Dowd, Hall Gardner, Mike Nelson, Brett Norman, Bob O'Connor, John Pruett, Charles Shipp, Drew Smith, Leslie Atwood Smith, Alex Wise, Clay Woemmel

Others Present: Eyleen Farmer, Chris Girata, Katie Owen, Ben Robertson

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chris Girata at 6:00 p.m.

Opening Prayer: Reverend Chris Girata opened the meeting in prayer.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Katie Owen presented the treasurer's report, which was approved.

Work Group Reports

Doing and Supporting Ministry

Chair Bob O' Connor had no update.

Using Our Inheritance

Chair Hall Gardner reviewed that the first two loans totaling \$400,000 have been realized. Work quotes continued to be obtained for repair of the air conditioning and heating systems.

One concern of the Budget and Finance Committee was the budget for outreach projects, specifically how to reduce redundancy, and how to maximize the amount of the donation with the strength and intensity of the interest of church members. Specific programs such as the Sunday morning Community Breakfast and the Hospitality Hub need to be looked at in terms of number of active volunteers, budgeted costs compared to actual costs, hidden costs such as staff and sexton support, as well as security, and level of enthusiasm and interest from the general congregation. Calvary's contributions to the projects for the homeless need to be reviewed in comparison to other community programs in order to avoid duplication and maximize resources.

Another concern is the percentage of Calvary's tithe to the diocese. By diocesan canon, each diocese is to tithe 10%. Calvary is blessed to have an endowment. However, it is included in the determination of the tithe, which causes a skew.

The budget process needs to be reviewed to determine a process to allocate funds to community ministry projects and to balance our contribution to the diocese with our need to invest in the growth and health of the parish.

Clergy Reports

Ben Robertson

Small Group Formation

Nine small groups will begin this fall! Leaders have been identified and are invigorated to begin. Robbie McQuiston from Holy Communion served as a consultant. Both the clergy and staff will continue to support the leaders, and the formation of more groups. Each group will discern its own purpose and material.

Eyleen Farmer

Adult Formation Committee

The fall schedule is complete. The winter/ spring 2014 will be completed by Oct.15 including Sunday offerings and Wednesday evenings. Options will include more bible study related courses. Eyleen is pleased with the work of the committee and commends them.

Start up- ideas emerged from committee as listened to parish and strategic planning committee including 1) identity and spiritual discovery of own gifts with Rene Miller and Bill Craddock, and 2) Stocking Your Bible Study Tool Kit with Mitzi Minor. The suggestion to have classes taped and posted on the website was made. There is the possibility of repeating classes in the spring if there is a demand. Brett Norman asked if it is possible to link small groups, ACE and worship with a continuous thread. Chris states it would be ideal to access topics in various ways.

Lenten Preaching Series

The schedule is complete for 2014. Speakers will include both Dan Matthews, and his son, Dan Matthews, with a possibility of a joint offering, and Ray Suarez from the PBS News Hour. Another offering will be Waffle Shop after Dark as this was surprisingly well received this past year. The schedule will intentionally use touchstones for Calvary parishioners on both Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings tying into the speaker's series. It is important for parishioners to feel this. Another speaker group will be "Friends of the Groom." Marcus Borg will speak on Ash Wednesday and open the series on Thursday and Friday. Vestry questions included whether we should have LPS speaker on Sunday. One possible idea is to alternate LPS speakers with clergy staff. Another possible idea is to bring in guest speakers at other times such

as Founder's Day. Brett Norman suggested using other artistic media such as music, dance, and video. Clay Woemmel mentioned the importance of timing and spacing of special events. Drew Smith stated that the recordings of the Lenten Preaching Series on You Tube could also be a preaching and teaching resource.

Chris Girata

Tim Hagy's Departure

Positive feedback has been received regarding Tim's departure. It was an opportunity for a formal corporate goodbye for the entire congregation. The choir also had a reception for Tim. These events also allowed for a clean welcome for Kristen Lensch. Mike Nelson commented it is important to have a positive departure for a former employee.

Next Month

We will begin the process of looking at our church's bylaws and how they affect vestry elections. It has been proposed that new vestry members be elected in the fall and have a new member orientation. The wardens committee would be chosen in December. The annual meeting would continue to be in January. Information was given regarding changing the by-laws and how to deal with changes and logistics of voting procedures.

Consultant Contract

Madge Clark has volunteered to give her expertise of many years as St. Mary's School development director to look Calvary stewardship. She has engaged the services of Brydon DeWitt, a development consultant with much church giving experience. The purpose is to help develop the giving program with a clear, simple message. The communications group will reinforce the message throughout the year. A core leadership group will be chosen whose passion is fundraising.

Senior Warden's Report

Alex expressed his enthusiasm for the development and growth of small groups and expanding the church's vision of RECEIVE TRANSFORM SHARE, and the importance of "doing ministry." A goal is to get to this point in a more intentional way with the purpose of motivating others.

New Business

Question for Bob's working group

How to allocate funds for ministry (outreach) projects while moving away from funding through grants toward supporting projects connected with volunteers.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Atwood Smith on behalf of Terre S. Sullivant, Clerk