

Calvary Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2012
Crook Auditorium – 6:00 PM

Vestry Present: Gary Wilson, Hall Gardner, Bob O'Connor, Charles Shipp, Rose Johnston, Sam Cole, Dana Sue Percer, Clay Woemmel, Brett Norman, Alex Wise, Drew Smith and Lucia Crenshaw.

Vestry Absent: Desi Franklin, John Pruett and Jerry Stiles.

Others Present: Reverend Philip Wiehe, Reverend Ben Robertson, Reverend Ellen Roberds, Brenda Johnson, Cap Pinkham, Jan Elam, Penn Owen, Suzanne Darnell and Ann Percer.

Call to Order: Rev. Philip Wiehe called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Opening Prayer and Bible Study: Brett Norman

Minutes: The February 21, 2012 vestry minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Brenda Johnson reviewed the treasurer's report. Budgeted pledges have been reallocated for the year to reflect collections more accurately. Collections are lower than expected which the vestry needs to monitor. Plate receipts are better than budget by \$3.2K. Actual postpaid pledges from 2011 have been better than estimated. The treasurer's report was approved.

Outreach Grants: Lucia Crenshaw presented the recommendations from the Outreach Grant Committee for the 2012 grant cycle for Carissa Hussong, Chair. Bridges - \$7,500, Calvary Community Breakfast - \$5,000, Carnes Elementary - \$5,000 for reading tablets, cases and ebooks, Church Health Center - \$15,000, Community Legal Center - \$5,000, Emmanuel Episcopal Center - \$7,500, Friends for Life - \$5,000, Hope House - \$5,000, The Hub - \$5,000, MIFA - \$15,000, and Samaritan Counseling Center - \$15,000. Calvary's Middle and High School Youth Groups under the direction of Andrew Moore will work with Carissa Hussong to select an organization to receive \$2,000. Carissa will also work with Connie Ross to promote volunteer opportunities with the funded organizations. \$8,000 remains to be allocated possibly for the Community Breakfast or the Hub and the Outreach Committee will meet via email or in person to make a final decision. The recommendations for these allocations were approved.

After a short dinner break, the vestry took up discussion of the Community Breakfast as requested by the Outreach Grant Committee. Previously, all kitchen expenses at Calvary had been compiled into one lump sum. This has been changed and now Community Breakfast expenses are separated and run approximately

\$2,000 each month. The question emerged as to whether the Community Breakfast should be a line item in the Calvary budget or funded by a grant from the Outreach Grant Committee. It was decided that the Budget and Finance Chairs meet with Carissa Hussong, Rev. Ellen Roberds, Mary Nease and Christine Todd to come up with a plan and report back to the Vestry.

Strategic Planning Report: Jan Elam presented two documents from the Strategic Planning Team. As a congregation, it sets our priorities about where we are going as a church. The Strategic Planning Team's work is evidence of the Holy Spirit speaking through us and to us. The four levels of planning – "Help us grow in faith, Bind us together, Guide us in the use of our inheritance, and Prepare us to do ministry" are linked to the primary goal, "Set our hearts on fire to be the Body of Christ." A rationale and areas of attention are outlined for each level. A "prayer for our future" was read. These documents will be posted on a Calvary blog, Basecamp and the Epistle internet newsletter to gather input from the congregation. It will be further discussed and voted on at the April Vestry meeting. Once the Strategic Plan is approved, the next phase will begin when the new rector arrives.

Rector Search Committee Report: James Dowd reported good news on the rector search. The committee continues to receive applications and there are many exciting candidates. The first round of skype interviews will take place in the next few weeks. The committee feels it is on schedule. Actual visits to Calvary by candidates will occur much later in the process.

Stewardship: Alex Wise and the stewardship team have increased pledges for 2012, reporting we are now only about \$16,000 short. Cap Pinkham presented the brochure for the \$888,000 capital campaign to cover the tower preservation, other improvements, a contingency fund, tithe, and administrative costs. Vestry members noted that a good communication plan is needed for the campaign. Deferred maintenance needs to go back into the budget and the plan is to create a reserve for this in the annual budget.

Adult Christian Education Update: Postponed to the April vestry meeting.

Pastoral Care Ministries Report: Dana Sue Percer distributed the report for vestry members to read and discuss at the April vestry meeting.

Covenant Discussion: The proposed vestry-staff covenant was amended to read, "can grow" and was approved.

Interim Rector's Report: Rev. Philip Wiehe reported on the following:
The tower scaffolding will be completed March 21. Large banners will be displayed on the scaffolding.

Five people from Calvary attended the Endowed Episcopal Churches Conference – Rev. Philip Wiehe, Brenda Johnson, Robyn Mauldin, Cap Pinkham and Peg Wahl. Attendance at next year's conference in San Diego was encouraged.

The Icon Art Exhibit opens April 15 at Calvary. A preview party organized by Jill Piper and Pat Vescovo will be held on Saturday, April 14 from 6-8 including food, music, and time to meet the artist. Tickets are on sale for \$35.

Staff departure dates are: Sumner Jenkins – June 24, Andrew Moore – July 29, And tentative dates: Rev. Ellen Roberds – July 1 and Rev. Philip Wiehe – August 5. The Interim Organist Search is progressing. Rev. Ben Robertson stated that dozens of resumes have been received and St. Mary's Cathedral's organist, Scott Elsholz, is assisting us as a consultant.

The ACS system for merging internal computer files and accounting files will be completed this spring.

Waffle Shop and the Lenten Preaching Series are "a marvel of efficiency." There are no lines in the kitchen and 30% less paid staff. Special thanks go to Bill Webster and Mary O'Brian.

Senior Warden's Report: Gary Wilson reminded the vestry of our next meeting on Sunday, April 29 from noon until 3 PM. The agenda will be less new business and more strategic planning. Vestry minutes will be sent to the vestry electronically for approval, additions or corrections for 72 hours. After electronic approval, minutes will be posted.

Evaluation: Basecamp is going well. The vestry likes the move to the Crook Auditorium and room set up. The group would like more time for discussion, but realize there is much business to cover. More orientation for new vestry members would be helpful.

Adjournment: Rev. Philip Wiehe adjourned the meeting at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucia Crenshaw, Clerk