

Calvary Episcopal Church  
Vestry Meeting Minutes  
October 16, 2012  
Crook Auditorium

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

**Others Present:** Reverend Chris Girata, Reverend Ben Robertson, Peg Wahl, Cap Pinkham, Brenda Johnson and Anne Percer.

**Call to Order:** Rev. Girata called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**Calvary Church Prayer:** Rev. Ben Robertson

**Minutes:** The September 18, 2012 vestry meeting minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Peg Wahl presented the financial report noting slow pledge receipts and overall reduced expenses. The treasurer's report was approved.

**Budget and Finance:** Hall Gardner, co-chair of the stewardship campaign, reported that as of 10/16/12 Calvary had 84 pledge units reflecting \$446,000 in pledges, an average increase of 12 ½ % per pledge unit. Calls continue to be made. In working on the budget for next year, the committee is looking hard at church expenses. The budget will be determined by the actual amount of money raised from the stewardship campaign. The plan is to discuss aspects of stewardship – time, talent and treasure at next week's Sunday school class. The budget and finance report was approved.

**Blessing Same-Sex Relationships:** Rev. Girata presented the following motion: After prayerful consideration and discussion, and pursuant to the document, *Three Steps in WTN for the use of the Provisional Liturgies of Blessing* written by the Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Don E. Johnson, and following the request of the Rector, The Rev. Christopher D. Girata, we the Vestry of Calvary Episcopal Church consent to use these liturgical materials. We hereby affirm the blessings of same-sex relationships at Calvary, and further believe Calvary is ready and willing to support the Rector, the couples, and one another in this decision. The motion was seconded. Discussion was held. Motion was approved unanimously.

**Clergy Report:** Rev. Girata reported that Rev. Eyleen Farmer is out of town. Rev. Ben Robertson presented his written report and noted the following items:

- a) The music under Tim Hagy is going very well.
- b) An All Saints' Day service will be offered at 5:30 on November 1 at Calvary.
- c) The Calvary Church Prayer is being developed.

- d) The Blessing of the Animals at Overton Bark on October 6 was well attended.
- e) Wednesday nights for children is going well, particularly Genesis Makers for our Junior High led by Hilary and Tom Chipley.
- f) Our contract with Youth Ministry Architects (YMA) has ended. Hilary Chipley is assisting Ellen Coleman for 10 hour/week.
- g) The Best Halloween Event Ever will take place on Wednesday, October 24.
- h) The Calvary communications department has been working on stewardship materials, the bulletin for the Celebration of New Ministry service, permanent nametags for staff, auto decals, T-shirts, a new north wall banner outside the church, and other items listed in his written report.

Rev. Girata reported he has been analyzing church expenses, organizing policies, and making the church available to the city. Calvary hosted the 1000 Homes Project and received excellent publicity with both mayors attending for a press conference. A Public Defender workshop was held at Calvary this week. Rev. Girata is in the beginning stages of evaluating interim positions. A narrative budget will be presented at next week's Sunday school class and will be posted on the Internet.

**Senior Warden's Report:** Gary Wilson advised the vestry of the dates of the next two meetings – Tuesday, November 13 and Tuesday, December 18. Desi Franklin continues to work on Waffle Shop leadership and organization. The outgoing vestry members and the past senior warden will be recruiting nominations for the 2013 Vestry. The process of the selection of wardens was mentioned and will be discussed later.

**Old Business:**

Church Security- Computer and Networks has been upgrading our computer network system in preparation for Dillard Door to upgrade Calvary's security system.

**New Business:** Jerry Stiles expressed concern about the work load in the kitchen. Rev. Girata explained that by trimming overtime, the church actually saved enough money to eventually hire additional help for peak times in the church kitchen.

**For the Good of the Order:** Charles Shipp inquired about the status of the Tower Campaign. To date the campaign has raised \$487,720.00. Desi Franklin reminded the vestry that Waffle Shop is seeking a Volunteer Wait Staff Coordinator.

**Adjournment:** Rev. Girata adjourned the meeting at 7:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucia Crenshaw, Clerk