



## **Minutes of the Vestry Meeting on July 22, 2008**

***Our Mission: Following the example of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, the Vestry is called to foster the health of the parish spiritually, physically and financially, in accordance with the Canons of the Church and the Bylaws of this Parish.***

The Vestry and officers met in the Parish Hall for its regular monthly meeting July 22. The meeting was opened at 6 p.m. by a prayer from Charlie Franz and a “welcome back” for travelers Denise Noll (Germany) and Ed Hewitt (cross country). Dinner was provided by Al Johnson.

***Present (11):*** Janice Gordon-Barnes, rector; Denise Noll, senior warden; and Ed Hewitt, registrar; Vestry members Sam Davis, Charlie Franz, Ann Gearhart, Al Johnson, Fran Kephart, Shirley Lindsey, Bill Pheil and Robin Vahle.

***Absent (3):*** Junior Warden Susan Escobedo, Vestry members Bob Ash and Sarah Craig

There was a quorum for conducting official business.

**Minutes** -- The minutes of the June Vestry meeting were approved with some minor changes.

**Agenda** --- The agenda was approved with the addition of one item – the stewardship letter sent to parishioners.

### **Extravagant Generosity**

**Stewardship Letter** --- Sam Davis noted that when the annual stewardship letter went out to the parishioners last year, no budget had been adopted by the Vestry. Should we wait to send out the letter until we have more concrete information about what the parish’s needs will be? This year, Charlie Franz will write the letter, which will go out around Sept. 29. The Ingathering Service will be Oct. 12, and the annual meeting is Oct. 19. Sam and Charlie will confer about the contents of the letter.

**Treasurer's Report** --- Charlie Franz gave an overview of our financial situation. There are 130 pledging units, but as of June 30, only 43 units are current with their pledges. One "large pledge" has come in since, and so "we are not in bad shape." Our income is off 2.7 percent through June, but we have held the line well on expenses. Charlie will submit an article for the September Cupola about our financial situation.

## **Administration**

**Junior Warden's report** --- The roofs have been finished, and the lightning rods installed. We have received pledges and checks for \$26,000; we need \$14,000 more for the project.

**Nominating Committee** --- The rector has received the list of possible candidates for the Vestry and is considering them.

**Cupola** --- Kudos for the latest monthly newsletter were expressed, and the rector said that Marty Hartman had resumed editorship for it.

*A prayer for continued wisdom was expressed by Denise Noll.*

## **Radical Hospitality**

**Newcomers Dinner** – The dinner July 19 was pronounced a success, with many thanks to Robin Vahle. There were 39 people in attendance. There was discussion that we should consider May or June, instead of July, for next year, or maybe May and early November.

**"Care Notes"** – These are pamphlets, collected and updated by Pat Ash. They address a variety of concerns and problems from "dealing with anger," "climbing up from depression," "anxiety," "giving your worries to God" to "praying when you feel spiritually empty." New pamphlets are being added to address situations faced by teen-agers. We may get a new box for contributions to help defray the costs.

**Pastoral Counseling Service** --- We received a letter from John Michalczyk, agency development coordinator, asking for an opportunity "to formally express our gratitude to you and the members of the congregation for including us as part of your extended ministry." Shirley Lindsey said that the PCS has also paid the \$25-a-month increase in rent, as requested by the Vestry, starting with the June payment.

## **Risk-Taking Mission**

**Outreach** --- Ann Gearhart reported on the disbursement of the \$1,000 raised by this year's book sale. To the John McDonogh Senior High School in New Orleans, part of the Recovery School District -- \$334. To the Mercy Center, Mariam House Program, an educational-literacy program for women -- \$333. To the Church of the Holy Comforter, to the Handbell Choir for the purchase of music and related educational materials -- \$333.

Ann also distributed "bookmarks" that were given out at the book sale that offered details about the services at CHC and invited people to attend. She also spoke about the annual Blessing of the Animals on Oct. 4 and the Environmental Board posted in the Narthex.

## **Intentional Faith Development**

**Retreat** -- The annual Vestry retreat will be held Nov. 7-8 at the College of Preachers of the National Cathedral in Washington. Denise Noll, Fran Kephart and the rector will work on the format and agenda.

**Mission** --- There was a discussion of the "mission of the laity," based on the Book of Common Prayer.

## **Passionate Worship**

There were concerns, intercessions and thanksgivings for Patrick Lindsey, who heads to Iraq at the end of July; Al Johnson's neighbor who committed suicide recently; Sam Davis' brother and sister-in-law, who are traveling to Baltimore soon; Gayle and Scott; Martie Johnson's search for a parish; safe return from a six-week travel for Ed Hewitt; and Bill Barnes' cousin Malcolm Ford.

The Lord's Prayer was said for these concerns.

The Vestry members signed a copy of the history of CHC for Sarah Craig, Vestry member who is heading off to the University of Michigan in the fall.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

The next meeting of the Vestry will be Tuesday, Sept. 23, 2008.

Edward Hewitt  
Registrar

**Food schedule**

<b>September</b>	<b>Bill Pheil</b>
<b>October</b>	<b>Sam Davis</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>Charlie Franz</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>Fran Kephart</b>