

**ST. JOHN'S PARISH
VESTRY MINUTES
AUGUST 9, 2011**

Present: Bill Anderson, Claudia Boyce, Steve Brantley, Charlie Davis, Tom Gibbs, Gretchen Horlbeck, Senior Warden Jerry Houston, Perry Jameson, Bubba Jenkins, Bruce Saxman, and Ford Walpole. Also present: Fr. Dagnall Free, Treasurer John Blich, and Recording Secretary Melanie Poston.

Not present: Tom Gopsill and Fr. Greg Snyder.

Fr. Free thanked everyone for their prayers as his wife recovers from surgery. He reported that she is doing well, and that the Lord worked it all out. Fr. Free asked for prayer concerns, then opened the meeting with prayer and a meditation.

The Vestry read the Vision.

The minutes from the July meeting were approved as amended. Perry Jameson made the motion to accept the minutes as amended and Tom Gibbs seconded the motion.

Treasurer's Report

John Blich reviewed the July financial report and reported on the bank balance.

There was discussion about the procedures used by the Vestry Person of the Month for collecting money after services.

John told the Vestry that August marks the beginning of the budget process for the next year's budget. He gave the Vestry the Budget Request Forms for them to give to their ministry heads. John stressed the importance of making contact as soon as possible with the committee heads. He asked that they emphasize that the forms must be returned no later than September 13th, or the committee may not be funded. If there are any questions, they can contact either John or Melanie. Jerry Houston stated he hopes to have projected expenses for 2012 by the October Vestry meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Care and Help of Needy

Fr. Free reported to the Vestry that we are continuing to assist those in need. Funds are limited.

Sabbatical

Fr. Free asked the Vestry to continue to pray for Fr. Greg and his family while he is on sabbatical.

ALPHA

The Alpha course will have its kick-off dinner on Thursday, September 8th. Rockville Presbyterian is excited to be joining St. John's in the fall Alpha. Bill Anderson issued an invitation to Alpha to all at the latest Fishers of Men meeting. He thinks it may be a great opportunity to involve AME churches. He said 53 letters of invitation went out to churches. Gretchen Horlbeck said it is important for people to know that they will not be "hounded" to attend, and Bill said that had been made clear.

Global Missions

Fr. Free reminded the Vestry that the Missions Board is still looking for someone to do mission work in Gulu for a month.

NEW BUSINESS

Property Adjacent to Grace Chapel

Bill Anderson asked if there had been any follow-up on the land adjacent to Grace Chapel. He suggested St. John's ask for first right of refusal for the property. Bubba Jenkins will look into the situation.

Men's Breakfast

Charlie Davis reminded everyone of the Men's Breakfast on Saturday, August 13th.

Senior Warden's Report

Jerry Houston reported that the Diocese is sponsoring a Clergy Spouse Retreat at Camp St. Christopher in late September. Bishop Lawrence has asked for help to sponsor a scholarship for part or all of the weekend. Jerry Houston made a motion to set aside \$200 from Undesignated Funds to assist the spouses of clergy in attending the Clergy Spouse Retreat, and to authorize the treasurer to pay up to \$200 total if a request comes through. Bruce Saxman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Jerry reminded the Vestry that during budget time, \$9,600 was cut from the Missions and Outreach Budget, with the expectation of that amount being returned to Missions and Outreach during the year. Jerry and Treasurer John Blich discussed rather than changing the budget to take \$9,600 from Undesignated Funds. Jerry Houston made a motion to authorize Missions and Outreach to use \$9,600 from Undesignated Funds and to authorize Treasurer John Blich to sign for up to \$9,600. Tom Gibbs seconded the motion. Claudia Boyce, Vestry liaison to Missions and Outreach noted those funds will be used for Missions-Foreign. The motion passed.

Junior Warden's Report

Bruce Saxman said he has no report at this time.

Associate Rector's Report

Fr. Free again reminded the Vestry to be aware of visitors and the importance of greeting them and making visitors feel welcome. He reviewed upcoming important dates:

September 2-4 Parish Weekend - Bishop Skilton teaching on "Missions"

September 8 Alpha Kick-off

September 11 Ministry Fair and Sunday School Kick-off

October 1 Que-N-Blue at Irvin House Vineyard

October 27-30 Men's Hike

November 19 Feeding of the Multitude

Fr. Free asked the Vestry to consider any young man who may be struggling and invite him to go on the Men's Hike, as it can really help.

Fr. Free closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Poston