

ST. JOHN'S PARISH
VESTRY MINUTES
October 12, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Fr. Greg Snyder. Vestry members in attendance were: : Junior Warden Boyd Baker, Claudia Boyce, Billy Crowther, Neal Edgerton, Senior Warden Perry Gervais, Stephen Haynsworth, Jerry Houston, Perry Jameson, Bubba Jenkins, Adair McKoy, and Libby Puckette. Others attending were The Rev. Dr. Greg Snyder, The Rev. Joe Gibbes, Treasurer John Blich, Recording Secretary Melanie Poston, Not present: Dannie Bartee

Fr. Greg Snyder opened the meeting with prayer and a meditation from Exodus 16:1-21. The Vestry continued with the reading of the Vision statement.

The September meeting minutes were accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer John Blich reviewed the August financial report. He reported that the Finance Committee has been busy preparing the 2010 budget. He distributed a preliminary 2010 budget and asked the Vestry to review it and to be prepared to discuss it at a special budget meeting.

Alpha Course Group

Libby Puckette, Stephen Haynsworth, and Fr. Greg Snyder met to discuss dates and names of people who may consider using their gifts to help with Alpha. Libby is going to an Alpha conference in Orlando, Florida on October 20-21. Fr. Greg said the clergy will make phone calls to recruit people, asking them to act on their gifts to help with Alpha. Claudia Boyce mentioned there is a lot of interest in other churches that we are going to have Alpha. She plans to set up a resource table of Christian literature at the Feeding of the Multitude and would like to have some Alpha brochures for that table. Fr/ Greg reported that we likely will begin an Alpha Course in late January or early February.

Care of Needy on Sea Islands

Fr. Greg reminded the Vestry that we have resources available to help those in need, and that St. John's parishioners have been generous. Please contact him if there is a known need.

Stewardship

Stewardship letters have gone out. Fr. Greg does not like the term "campaign", and asked the Vestry to pray about the wording of our stewardship drive. He noted that some churches have done away with stewardship campaigns. He and Walt Miller, Director of Faith Formation, are working on a booklet for family giving, which will educate throughout the year. Discussion followed on the challenge God has given us, through the generosity of others.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Iglesia de San Juan

The 10-year anniversary of Iglesia de San Juan will be celebrated on Sunday, October 18 at 6:00 pm. The bulletin for that service will be in both English and Spanish.

Que-N-Blue

Perry Jameson reported that approximately 290 tickets were sold, and that many of those in attendance were not from St. Johns Parish. He noted that it was more than a social event, but rather an evangelism event. The personal testimonies booklet, "The Road Not Taken" is a great tool. A follow-up letter will be sent to non-parishioners, informing them of upcoming events at St. John's. People attending, as well as vendors, complimented the event.

Storage Shed

Bubba Jenkins has begun cleaning out the storage shed and feels there will be a lot of space available when he finishes.

Missions and Outreach

Claudia Boyce reminded everyone that Feeding of the Multitude is Saturday, November 21 fro 12:00 - 3:00 pm. Claudia noted that Stephen Haynsworth is scheduled to rotate off the Missions and Outreach committee after five years of service.

Claudia reported that the principal of Haut Gap school has been very supportive of the Prayer Partners program, and feels that relationship is getting stronger. She would like St. John's to help the school when they move into a new building in January.

Claudia reminded everyone of the Faith in Action build on Saturday, October 24 from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm.

Fr. Greg reported that on December 13, which is Stewardship and Missions Sunday, Travis Hines will speak.

NEW BUSINESS

Manna - Bread from Heaven

Fr. Greg said it was on his heart that it is time to designate the money given to St. John's. He gave the Vestry a list of some groups which could use financial support. There was discussion on the list. Perry Gervais made a motion to spend \$125,000 as listed. Jerry Houston seconded the motion. After discussion, Stephen Haynsworth amended the motion to remove Vestry Development at \$10,000 from the list and to add Lowcountry Pregnancy Center and the Stono Baptist Blessing Basket at \$5,000 each to the list. The total amount to be distributed is \$130,000 (see attached list). Jerry Houston seconded the amendment. Billy Crowther called the question and the motion passed.

Rector's Discretionary Account

Fr. Greg would like to establish two restricted-money funds from the clergy discretionary account as missions funds. These funds would be overseen by a missions board and when people feel called to a mission they can apply through the missions board for seed funds for mission partnerships. He proposed a Global Missions fund with \$70,000 seed money, and a Local Missions fund with \$15,000 seed money. Stephen Haynsworth made a motion to accept the proposal as outlined. Bubba Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Vestry Nominations 2010

Fr. Greg said the nomination form for Vestry 2010 will be emailed and requested that vestry members give consideration to nominations. He also mentioned that Leadership Next classes will be on October 28, November 4, 11, and 18.

Use of Parish Life Building for Film

Fr. Greg informed the Vestry that a film group wanted to use the Parish Life Building while they are filming a movie at Angel Oak. He agreed to allow them to use the parking lot for overflow parking.

Fundraiser for Alex Baker Mission

Alex Baker is going to Discipleship Training School through Youth With a Mission. He will first have three months of training and then go to a mission field. Perry Gervais made a motion to approve a fundraiser for Alex Baker. Claudia Boyce seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Senior Warden's Report

Perry Gervais told the Vestry there are a few new items for the 2010 Budget and salaries which need to be discussed before the Finance Committee meeting next Tuesday, October 20. The Vestry will stay later tonight rather than meet on Thursday.

Perry asked for sign-ups for the Upper Room prayer team, and passed around a sign-up sheet.

Junior Warden's Report

Boyd Baker said he should have the plans for the colonnade in a few weeks. He also reported that the new door had been cut in the wall of the Nursery. The interior nursery door still has to be installed. Regarding the renovations to the LaRoche Building, Fr. Greg feels we need to consider how the building will be used. Jerry Houston would like to have a meeting to look at the LaRoche Building. Boyd will set a time and date and have Melanie email the information.

Associate Rector's Report

Fr. Joe Gibbes reported that the Men's Hike was a wonderful experience once again. He commented that Perry Jameson, Billy Crowther, and Alex Baker were wonderful leaders.

There will be a “Campfire” follow-up once a month. The first will be at Perry Jameson’s house from 7:30 – 9:30 pm on October 22. Some will give testimonies. Joe mentioned that the “Campfire” is not exclusive to men who have been on the hike. He also noted that over the past two years and five hikes, 35 men from St. John’s have participated.

Rector’s Report

Fr. Greg Snyder reminded the Vestry that Rob Dewey will be the preacher on Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy Sunday, October 18. Boyd Baker made a motion to donate the loose plate offering to Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy. Stephen Haynsworth seconded the motion. The loose currency plus checks made out to Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy will go to them. The motion passed.

Fr. Greg reviewed important dates coming up.

Fr. Joe Gibbes closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Melanie Poston
Recording Secretary

Manna: Bread from Heaven
Blessing Others with the recent Financial Windfall Given to St. John's

Vestry Restricted Funds, Total Amount* **\$136,000*

(read Exodus 16:1-21)

*Then the Lord said to Moses, "Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, **that I may test them**, whether they will walk in my law or not. (Ex. 16:4)*

- Manna = "testing" in Hebrew
- I believe this money is like manna; it is provision for today; it begins to stink after a day, if it is not used; it is not meant to be stockpiled or to be held onto; it is a testing from the Lord "whether (we) will walk in (His) law"
- It is "temporary provision for God's chosen people" (*Bible Dictionary*)
- There are pressing needs right now!

Local Missions

1. Iglesia de San Juan	\$10,000.00
2. Creative Learning Pre-School	\$5000.00
3. Our Lady of Mercy	\$5000.00
4. Blessing Baskets Ministry (Stono Baptist)	\$5000.00
5. Camp St. Christopher	\$10,000.00
6. St. John's, East Side	\$5000.00
7. Rural Missions.....	\$5000.00
8. Crisis Ministries (soup kitchen).....	\$5000.00
9. York Place, York, SC.....	\$10,000.00
10. Lowcountry Pregnancy Center	\$5000.00
11. Barrier Island Free Medical Clinic	\$5000.00

International Missions

12. Anglican Relief and Development	\$10,000.00
13. Trinity School for Ministry.....	\$10,000.00
14. Building Fund (LaRoche Building renovations).....	\$40,000.00

Total Proposed Spending..... \$130,000.00