

## **Vestry Meeting Minutes June 10, 2010**

**Present:** Steve Brodt, Barbara Cairns, Ted Cover, Betsy Field, Oliver Faulkner, Andy Johnston, Wes Jones, Ruth Kirk, Gina Pike, Judy Sargent, Rich Tucker, Ann Wick

**Also Present:** Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly, Russ Bohner

**Absent:** Wilson Anthony, Bitsy Robbins, Ann Wick

The meeting was called to order by the Rector at 7:13 PM.  
Opening prayer by Martha Lankford.

The Minutes from April 15, 2010 were approved. Our meeting on Ascension Day was a dinner and received rave reviews for the food and ambiance, with warm thanks to Ruth.

### **Cluster Reports**

#### **Stewardship** – Ruth Kirk (see Addendum A)

The Rector gave an overview of the initial plans for our 2010-11 campaign and reported that work is under way. A document titled “Getting into Stewardship 2011” was shared with the Vestry. Rosanne Miller will again chair this year’s campaign. Traditional stewardship campaigns may be a thing of the past, as new dynamics and processes evolve, resulting in stewardship shifting to a more year-round process. The Legacy Society event has been scheduled for November 13, 2010. This is the kickoff event for our planned giving campaign. It is hoped that Vestry members will be among the list of founders of our Legacy Society.

#### **Finance Committee** – Andy Johnston

Andy reported that the Finance Committee had a good meeting with our auditors. Weaknesses were identified, and it was noted that many were already being addressed at the time of the audit meeting. A thorough review of the audit will be given by Bryan Keenan at the July meeting. All of the contribution records have been reviewed and corrections made where needed. Ned Jackson will report on our budget in detail. Our records and work are now up to date and back to where we should be.

#### **Spirit Life** – Betsy Field (see Addendum B)

In addition to the attached report, Gina Pike’s work as Directress of the Altar Guild was applauded; she passes that position to Mary Henderer. Gina will be the Assistant Directress for the coming year. Russ Bohner applauded Ran Barton for his work as leader of the Adult Enrichment Committee for the last 18 months and noted that Ran has done an outstanding job in this ministry.

#### **Service to Others** (see Addendum C)

Special thanks to Linda Boyden and her team for going above and beyond in heading up our efforts at Epiphany House. There were roughly 50 parishioners actively participating in renovating and refurbishing the house, culminating in an opening celebration on June 1, 2010 of this new shelter for women. Key Murray led training for volunteers who will serve as teachers of decision-making for Epiphany House residents. Training for the residents is to be scheduled.

Russ reported over 70 in attendance at Sunday’s 90-Day Bible challenge discussion group. Russ was commended for his leadership and interesting discussion on Sundays. Also

being discussed are other times when Bible study might be offered, other than Sunday mornings. The Newcomer Evangelism Team has a new website that is being piloted with the 90-Day Bible Challenge group. So far, 70 parishioners have logged in to the site. The new site allows, among other things, for closed discussions which might be useful for parish groups and committees or for closed discussions among Vestry members. Kris Younger is taking the lead in this effort. Also reported was that the Pastoral Ministries Team is changing their meeting day to the last Tuesday of the month.

### **Rector's Report**

The Rector distributed and reviewed a document from the Consortium of Endowed Parishes, prepared by the Institute for the Future titled "2008-18 Map of Future Forces Affecting the EC." Our own Futures Group used this as a tool in their work this year. The group has proposed a framework for a process of visioning and planning for the future of CCCH and recommended that the October retreat be used as a time for vision work to begin with a goal of presentation at the May 2011 annual meeting. Rich Tucker moved, Wes Jones seconded a motion to begin the vision process at the October vestry retreat. The motion carried unanimously. A parish planning night for parish leaders and organizers is scheduled for June 29 to look at and develop plans for the coming program year. (Note: the date had been revised to July 6 and was then postponed until September.) A new notice will be emailed to parish leaders. All Vestry and parish leaders will be invited to be a part of this planning night.

### **Annual Meeting Plans**

This committee has been meeting, and Rich Tucker reported on the plan to move the meeting from the fall to the spring. This change was approved by the Vestry back in March 2010. The next Annual Meeting will be May 2011. It was pointed out that our bylaws require us to meet each calendar year for the purpose of electing Vestry members. We could meet in October, but there would be no business to discuss if we are meeting in May, as currently planned. The committee is asking for Vestry guidance on how to comply with our bylaws requirements. Discussion followed. It was noted that this is similar to an organizational change in fiscal year, which happens often. As long as there is clear communication to the parish and we demonstrate a clear intent to follow the spirit of the bylaws, it would be considered in compliance. Noting that Article III, Section II does state that an annual meeting shall be held for the purpose of electing Vestry, all agreed that the Vestry just needs to communicate its intent to honor our bylaws, if the lack of a meeting during the 2010 calendar year is questioned by parishioners. The mind of the Vestry is to continue forward with plans to have the next Annual Meeting in May 2011. It was agreed that we continue to actively communicate this change to the parish in future monthly newsletters and with bulletin and eNews notices.

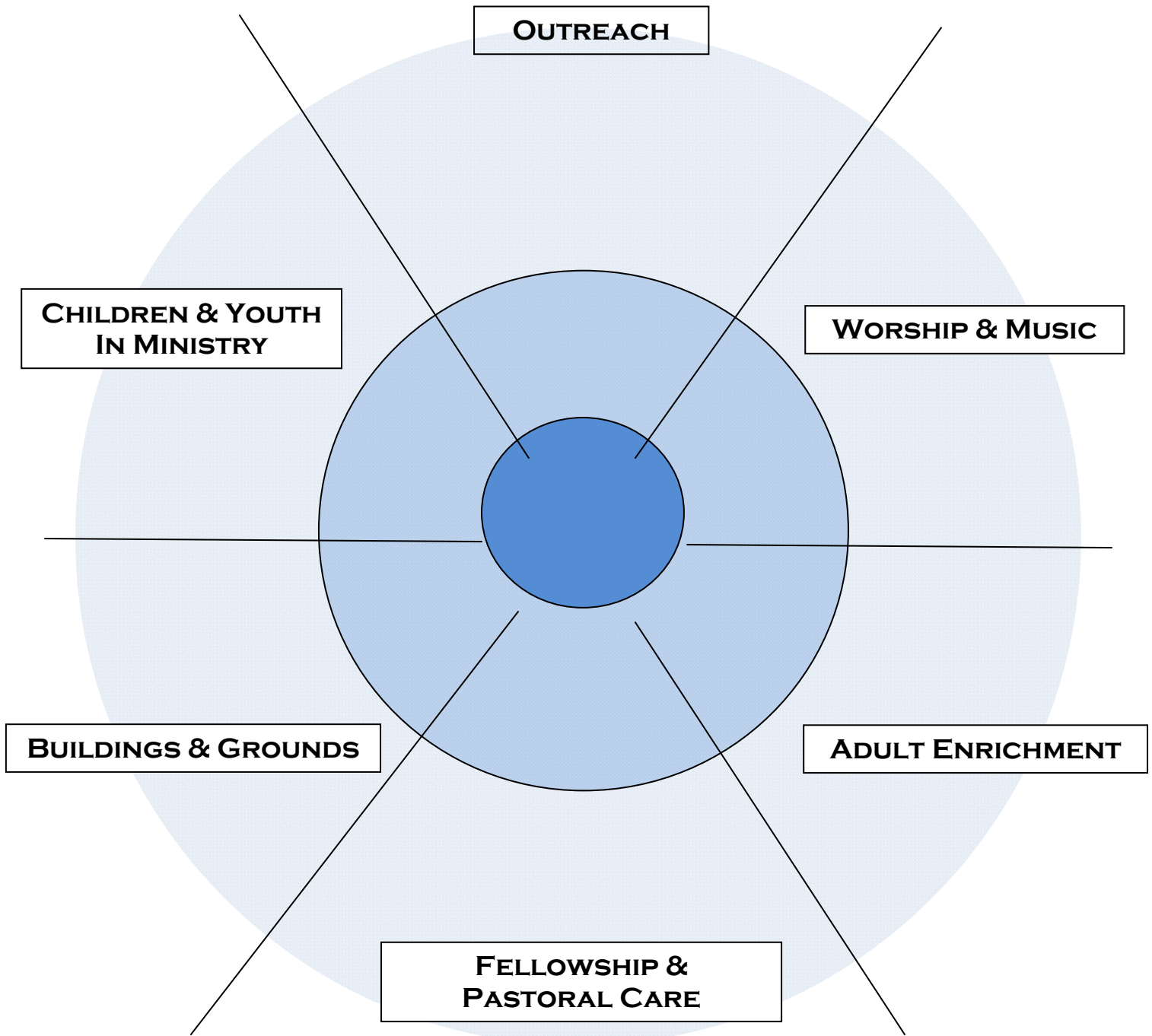
Closing Prayer offered by Martha Lankford.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

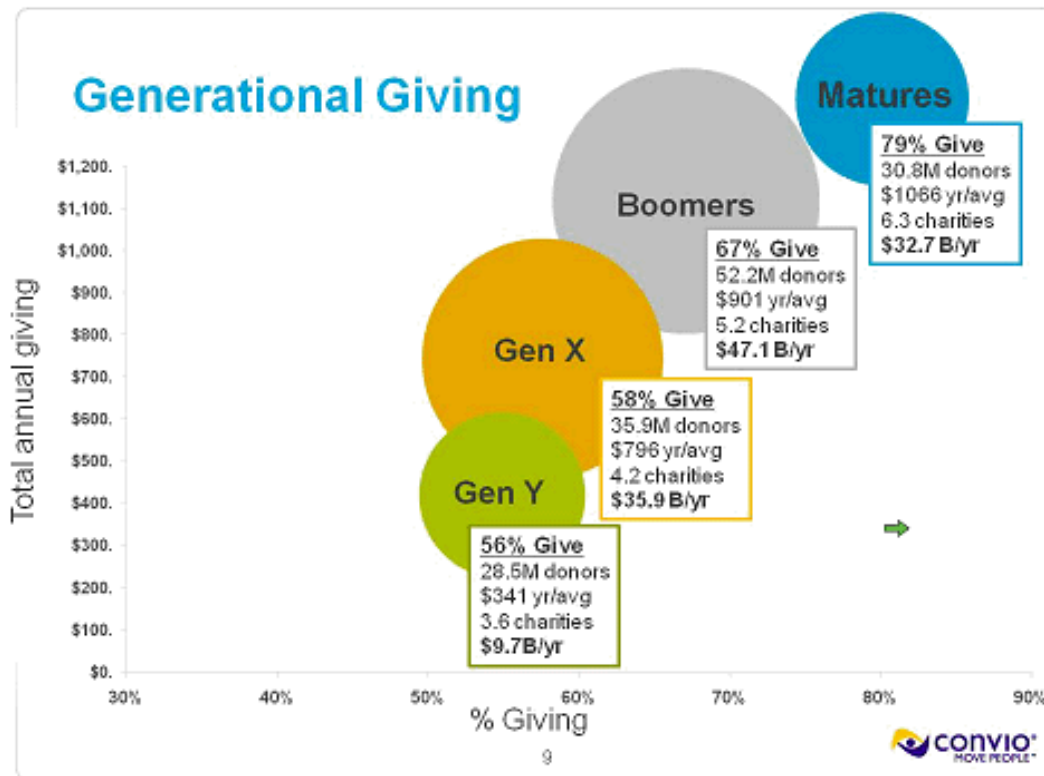
Next meeting: July 8<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dana Robertson, Clerke

## ADDENDUM A – GETTING INTO STEWARDSHIP 2011



The ministries we share as members of this sacred community connect us one to another, and draw us closer together as followers of Christ. At the core, members are converted givers, seeing stewardship in the church as an act of faith that supports the whole. Near the core is a circle of committed members who have found purpose and connection through some aspect of our congregation's ministry. They may give time, talent, and treasure in order to strengthen the ministries they value most. At one level there are also members who are connected by identity but are not committed in their practice of stewardship (giving time, talent, & treasure). They may or may not manifest an affinity to an aspect of our ministry.



Rosanne Miller is again the leader for our annual campaign and chair of the Stewardship Committee. She has materials from a webinar on giving to non-profits to bring to the table this year and inform our communication strategy.

Our starting point is to meet with Ned Jackson and Mike Sayer on Monday, June 14. We will:

- Discuss "sacred community" framework and the capabilities of Shelby to "tagged" the congregational community by generation, ministries of interest, and level of involvement (converted, committed, connected)
- Alignment on goals for 2011 (financial and sacred community building)
- Identify # of recruits needed for Team Stewardship 2011 (by generation, ministry and level of involvement) - names if possible
- Set start date and (4) key milestones:

kick-off  
pledge card mailing  
in-gathering of pledge cards  
phone-a-thon follow-up

#### Product of the meeting:

Draft a Charter for recruitment of Team Stewardship 2011 - purpose relative to our overall mission, goals by segment, timeline, budget and staff support (announcements, parish mailings, material printing, data/reports)

We are in part driven by some concepts of the Biblical giver as outlined in the book, "Ask, Thank, Tell," which we will use in telling the story of stewardship and shaping the practices of our members as stewards of the resources with which God has entrusted them.

## **ADDENDUM B – Spirit Life Cluster Report**

### **Worship**

1. Bishop Wayne Wright visited Christ Church on Sunday, May 23, The Feast of Pentecost. At the 9 AM service, one baptism was conducted. At the 11 AM service, there were five confirmations, eight receptions, and three reaffirmations by the Bishop.
2. On Sunday, June 6 at the 10 AM service, Sunday morning teachers, youth ministers, graduating seniors, and St. Nicholas Choir members were recognized. Rising 3<sup>rd</sup> graders received prayer books marking their transition to regular attendance at 9 AM worship this fall.
3. The Christ Church Summer Volunteer Choir will begin on Sunday, June 13. A rehearsal will be held at 9:15 AM in the church prior to the 10 AM service.

### **Spiritual Formation**

1. On Sunday, May 23, a Dominican Dinner was prepared and served by the Jalonga Team and their families with proceeds benefiting the upcoming Jalonga trip.
2. A J2A Pilgrimage Fund-raiser took place at the Charcoal Pit on May 18 with a percentage of the proceeds benefiting the upcoming Youth Pilgrimage to Italy.
3. A Cake Auction to support the Youth Pilgrimage to Italy will follow the 10 AM service on Sunday, June 13.
4. The 90-Day Bible Challenge has 166 people registered—159 parishioners and 7 people from the wider community. For support, encouragement, and reflection on the readings, the clergy are offering five discussion sessions each week (see below). Kris Younger and Russ Bohner created a private social networking site for the participants of the 90-Day Bible Challenge that allows for discussion forums and blogs as well as online messaging and chatting between participants. Russ Bohner has also created an e-mail list of all the participants and regularly sends e-mails with information about the Challenge, support and encouragement, and the readings. Discussion sessions are: Sundays 9 to 9:45 AM; Wednesdays 12 to 1 PM and 7 to 8 PM; and Thursdays 7 to 8 AM and 9 to 10AM.
5. Christ Church will host a retreat for the leaders, interns, and staff of UrbanPromise on Sunday, July 25 from 4 to 8 PM. We will offer our classrooms for small group meetings, followed by dinner and worship with the help of our youth. A special thank you to our youth and to those providing food, service, and friendship. To help, please contact Betsy Field at 654-4199 or [ewfield@verizon.net](mailto:ewfield@verizon.net).
6. This Sunday begins the Sunday Morning Summer program for children during the 10 AM service. The children will process from the Church to the Chapel for a weekly Saint Story and short service then process back to the Church in time for Communion. The children will continue to gather items for Epiphany House throughout the summer for the welcome bags.
7. The youth going on the Youth Mission Trip to Harrisburg will be participating in the Bowl-a-thon at Prices Lanes on June 17 as a fund-raiser for Emmaus House, a homeless shelter in Newark. It is a great time of bonding for the kids going on the mission trip and for a good cause too.
8. The DR Mission Trip is all set to leave on June 19, and the Jr. High Trip to Harrisburg through Youthworks leaves on June 20. The Pilgrimage group continues to finalize their preparation for their trip in July.
9. VBS preparations are going well. Lisa White is leading this ministry. We hope to serve 100 children this year.

## **Parish Life**

1. Pantry Shelf canners led by Maryann Younger and Chuck Durgin met on May 20 to make marinated mushrooms for the 2010 Green Show pantry shelf. On June 9 and 10 they will pick strawberries and make jam for the Pantry Shelf.
2. Allison Brokaw will be the Chair of the 2010 Green Show to be held on December 4 and 5. Elizabeth Brodt has been working with Allison to assemble a team of several co-chairs. Many of the critical areas of the Green Show have been covered.

--Submitted by Wilson Anthony, Betsy Field, Bitsy Robbins, Rich Tucker

## **ADDENDUM C – Service to Others Cluster Report**

### **Pastoral Ministries Team**

The Pastoral Ministries Team met on Tuesday, June 8. The group is exploring a change in monthly meeting dates to facilitate communication with the Vestry. Care continues to be offered and given to members of the Christ Church community through the various ministries within the Pastoral Ministries Team. Of note are the following:

### **Celebration of Life**

On behalf of the Celebration of Life Committee, Tilly Maassen reported that the committee has instituted a new form for recording their activities. This should facilitate record-keeping.

### **Contemplative Prayer Group**

Recently, attendance at the prayer group has been dwindling. Russ Bohner and Barbara Tucker will be evaluating the situation and exploring options for the future.

### **Notes of Care**

A Note of Care from the CCCH parish expressing sympathy for the recent death of her spouse will be sent to a member of the Caregivers Support Group who is not a member of the parish.

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Eleanor Sinclair reported that there are currently 11 prayer shawls blessed and ready for distribution. Five more are awaiting blessing. Response to the recent *Communicator* in April asking for more people to knit or crochet shawls was minimal. Eleanor continues to receive warm notes of thanks from prayer shawl recipients.

The addition of Prayer Beads as an adjunct to the Prayer Shawl ministry is being explored, thanks to the generous offer by Gina Pike to make prayer beads available for distribution to CCCH parishioners and friends facing a time of need. If the clergy approves, this ministry will be added.

### **Visitation**

Communication with the clergy continues to be an issue for some parishioners who are going into the hospital. Russ Bohner reported that the clergy are not always being notified and therefore often are not informed in a timely manner. He encourages people to let the clergy know or encourage other parishioners to notify the clergy, even if they do not want the congregation at large to be informed. Hospitals can no longer make patient admission information available to the clergy because of privacy laws.

--Submitted by Martha Lankford

### **Outreach Committee**

The work to renovate Epiphany House was completed in time for the dedication on Sunday, June 6. We ask that the work and contributions of all parishioners involved, particularly the leadership of project manager, Linda Boyden, be raised in celebration for an incredible job. The ministry to women now begins.

The Committee closed their program year with a brief meeting and appreciation lunch on June 1. While the work of each committee member was acknowledged, special thanks were given to three members retiring from the committee after dedicated service: Vicki Novak, Michele Cross, and Mike Rushlow. After preliminary visits to a meeting and review of responsibilities, five prospective members have confirmed they will join the committee.

--Submitted by Barbara Cairns

### **Christ Church Episcopal Preschool**

The Preschool report will be made at the CCEP Directors meeting that will follow the Vestry meeting this month.

### **Global Missions**

We had our third service project on Saturday, May 15 at SOAR. We planted pots around the house and reworked their garden beds with mulch and some annuals and cleaned out a scrubby area along their driveway. We took a tour of their facility, and I had the development director tell them what SOAR did, in some detail. Kids had no questions, but it clearly registered on them that SOAR did good work in a tough area. SOAR let us know that many of their patients had commented on how nice everything looked. I later heard that at least one of the youth was deeply touched by the tour.

More than 250 people went through the Friendship Houses that were open for Garden Day, including the gardens at Epiphany House that we had worked on last month. I missed the dedication last weekend, but it was held out back in the garden, well in all three backyards, so it was appreciated work.

As a side note, Preston Boyden and his friend Demetrius Murray specified that they wanted their graduation gifts to be donations to Epiphany House. That was pretty nice.

The Jalonga youth put on a Fiesta on May 23 at church. Maybe 80 to 90 attendees.

We have done some modest fund-raising, something the DR trip has not done in the past. The Fiesta made about \$700. We rented out the youth doing helpful labor for parishioners, for about \$600. They each wrote letters to friends and relatives talking about the mission trip, and raising \$1,000 to date. Someone underwrote the bus for \$700. So far, about \$3,000 in all.

The last pre-trip meeting, which included parents, was Sunday, June 6. A much more relaxed atmosphere than prior years. The group is much smaller and all have been before, so there is none of that pre-trip anxiety.

--Submitted by Tom Scott