

**Christ Church Christiana Hundred  
Vestry Meeting Minutes  
May 14, 2009**

**Present:** Wilson Anthony, Sandy Durgin, Brandon Elliott, Betsy Field, Andy Johnston, Bruce Kallos, Martha Lankford, Tilly Maassen, Gina Pike, Bitsy Robbins, Judy Sargent, Ann Wick

**Absent:** Steve Brodt, Ruth Kirk

**Also present:** Russ Bohner, Ned Jackson

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Andy Johnson. Andy presided at the meeting in Ruth's absence.

The opening prayer was offered by Sandy Durgin.

Minutes from April 23, 2009 were reviewed and accepted unanimously.

Wilson Anthony acted as Clerk for this meeting.

### **Cluster Reports**

#### **Stewardship:**

Ned Jackson presented the quarterly financial report for January-March 2009. Revenue and spending are on track as expected, and in line with previous years.

Ned reviewed YTD giving. The rate of giving through early May is running on par with previous years.

Bruce Kallos gave an update on the progress of the Stewardship Committee, which met on May 4 and 11 and will meet again on May 18. The committee is working to have a program designed by June. Three persons new to the parish have joined the committee.

The Nominating Committee has been formed and includes Steve Brodt, Sandy Durgin, Betsy Field, and Bitsy Robbins.

#### **Service to Others:**

Sandy Durgin reviewed the principles presented in March, developed by the members of the Cluster for use of the portion of the Capital Campaign allocated for Outreach.

Sandy reviewed a letter from the Strategic Planning Committee of Friendship House which details their potential expansion plans. Sandy asked for the Vestry's thoughts on using the Capital Campaign funds to fund the purchase of a new transitional housing facility.

Russ Bohner suggested that the Capital Campaign funds should be managed through the Outreach Committee.

Brandon Elliott suggested that the Jessie Ball du Pont Fund might be approached for a grant to provide matching funds to the Capital Campaign funds.

Russ suggested that the principles developed by the Cluster group be further developed to aid the process of discerning the best use of the funds.

Ann Wick moved that the responsibility for the distribution of the Capital Campaign funds be given to the Outreach Committee. Tilly Maassen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Cluster group will refine the principles to guide the Outreach Committee.

### **Spirit Life:**

Wilson Anthony presented the Spirit Life Cluster report. See Attachment A.

### **Discussion on Membership**

Brandon Elliott distributed notes on the meaning and definition of Membership for Episcopal churches. Brandon discussed some of the guidelines adopted by some Christ Church committees that discuss responsibilities to the parish required for membership. Brandon discussed the need to be prayerful in any discussions on the subject of membership with the parish.

Russ mentioned that research shows one of the principle criteria for successful, growing parishes is a formal well defined membership program.

Further discussion on the issue of membership will occur at a later date when Ruth's input is available.

### **Other Matters and Final Thoughts**

Due to Ruth's absence, there was no Rector's Report at this Vestry meeting. The closing prayer was offered by Sandy Durgin. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Wilson Anthony, Clerk-Designee

## ATTACHMENT A

### **Spirit Life Cluster Report; Christ Church Vestry Meeting, May 14, 2009 From: Wilson Anthony, Betsy Field, Martha Lankford, Bitsy Robbins**

#### **Worship**

1. A Worship Committee meeting was held on April 28. The content and format of the Sunday Bulletin were discussed, and a subcommittee was formed to study possible redesign of the bulletin. Jim Graham reported on the progress of a committee which is studying the possible construction of a Labyrinth at Christ Church. The next Worship Committee meeting will be June 23 at 7:00 PM.
2. Bishop Wayne Wright visited Christ Church on May 10. At the 9:00 AM service, 9 baptisms were conducted. At 11:00 AM, there were 37 confirmations and 6 receptions by the Bishop.
3. Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly will join the Christ Church staff as Curate on June 15. Jennifer will be ordained as Deacon on June 24 at the Cathedral Church of St. John.

#### **Spiritual Formation**

1. The Wednesday Night Senior High Small Group has continued to meet and will do so through the end of May. A summer devotional book will be given to each of the members to keep them connected through the summer.
2. There will be a summer program for children ages 4 through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade during the 10 AM service. The theme will be the Saints of God. The children will explore the saints through Godly Play stories. They will join their families during the service at the Peace.
3. May 17 will be the last day for Sunday school. Lynne Turner is meeting with each group of teachers to talk about their year and vision a bit for next year. Teacher recognition will be during the 9 AM service on June 7.
4. Christ Church youth will be hosting Urban Promise leaders on July 26 for dinner and worship.
5. The Adult Education Program will conclude for the spring with a presentation by the Outreach Committee and a discussion on this summer's General Convention.

#### **Fellowship**

1. Christ Church will be hosting three Choirs from England over the coming months. On Friday, July 10 at 8:00 PM the Cheltenham College Chamber Choir will perform, followed on Monday, July 13 at 8:00 PM by the Choir of Christ's College, Cambridge. In September the Choir of King's College, London will perform on the afternoon of the 14<sup>th</sup>, which is also the day of the Parish Picnic.
2. A Newcomers Reception was held at 10:00 AM on May 3. 10 newcomers attended.
3. The Interfaith Social Action Committee (IFSAC) conducted the packing and preparation of bags for youth "aging out" of foster care (collected food stuffs and toiletries) at Christ Church on May 3. Participants included representatives from Christ Church, Mt. Lebanon Methodist Church, Congregation Beth Emeth, Congregation Beth Shalom, and First Unitarian Church.
4. Christ Church at the Blue Rocks will be May 30.