

**Christ Church Vestry Minutes**  
**October 9, 2008**  
**7:00 PM**

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

**Absent:** Sandy Durgin

The Rector called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Opening prayer provided by Judy Sargent who shared that Judy and Bill McCabe's daughter, Julie, was killed in an auto accident today.

**Ruth welcomed new Vestry members:** Wilson, Betsy, Martha, and Gina.

The **Minutes** of the September 11, 2008 meeting were approved.

**Elections and Appointments:**

Steve Brodt – Junior Warden

Bitsy Robbins – Vestry Clerk

Ned Jackson – Treasurer

Mark Attix – Assistant Treasurer

Bryan Keenan – New chair of Finance Committee

Wilson Anthony – Finance Committee Vestry representative

Martha Lankford – CCEP Vestry representative

**Cluster Reports:**

**Spirit Life:** Parish Life Committee – Ruth requested that the committee's purpose be defined. Are we a hospitality committee or are we leadership facilitators for planned events? Martha relayed recent efforts to develop a mission statement and charter. Dana Robertson is the new PLC leader.

**Service to Others:** Ruth will join the November Jalonga trip to promote micro-finance talk and build relationships.

Tilly reported that there will be a re-commissioning of Stephen Ministers.

Vestry members are to determine/select Cluster choices at upcoming retreat.

**Rector's Remarks:**

Retreat information – Meals, sheets, and towels are provided. You may bring snacks and libations. Please be there by 5 PM on Friday night, October 24. Activities are planned Friday evening through Sunday worship with an approximate 11 AM departure. Come with your heart and mind open.

Ruth will be attending the Diocesan Convention, and she recently attended the National Day of Repentance with *Traces of the Trade* members of the deWolf family present.

Carl Kunz returned early from Maine and is ready to resume his ministry.

Ruth reported a CCEP situation which is being handled.

Ruth discussed a request for developing a Planned Giving Committee – determine their purpose and provide opportunities for planned giving as a sustained vehicle for stewardship.

The Bishop of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, The Rt. Rev. Charles Bennison, has been deposed after a trial in accordance with the canons of the church. He is appealing the judgment.

**Rector's Report is attached.**

**Warden's Report:**

Andy Johnston reported the IRS asked CCEP for more information regarding assets. CCCH will need to approve the amendment. Look for an email with instructions.

Andy handed out and discussed the 2009 Budget which reflects CPI projections and merit increases. Andy praised the Personnel Committee for their hard work.

**Request:** All Cluster/Committee reports are to be disseminated **in writing prior to** Vestry meetings.

**Other Matters and Thoughts:**

Vestry members were reminded of the importance of keeping Vestry confidence.

Ruth reported that Ray Nelson is looking for work. Please give your thoughts.

Several Vestry members praised Russ Bohner and all his work.

Steve Brodt reported that Hagley has offered to store CCCH historical records and make them available for scholarly research.

Closing Prayer provided by Judy Sargent.

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bitsy Robbins, Clerk

## *Rector's Report – October 9, 2008*

**Personal:** Thanks for all the birthday wishes. We had to cancel the festivities because of my head cold and Matt's pneumonia (a mild case and improving). In the month of November, I will be away for All Saints' Day to attend my niece's wedding party, then the National Association of Episcopal Schools annual conference (11/6-8) and finally the DR trip (11/14-19).

**Staff:** We are ready to welcome back the Rev. Carl Kunz from his vacation. He has attended a staff meeting to get up to date and will assist with worship this Sunday before attending the CREDO conference, an opportunity for renewal and development sponsored by the Pension Fund.

**Parish:** The annual meeting's attendance was barely the quorum required by the bylaws. There are several possibilities for us in changing the format, or at least the date and time for our annual meeting, so that the bylaws can be adjusted. As you know I also suggested that I would like to change the bylaws about the election of the wardens. I hope to start a conversation about that in the coming months. At the annual meeting the congregation elected Wilson Anthony, Betsy Field, Martha Lankford, and Gina Pike to the Vestry. I know some have an issue with contested elections, feeling for those members not elected. While I sympathize, I believe open systems provide choice and closed systems make the choice for you. Our congregation needs to be an open system where our members have clear input into the shape of our common life. Choosing those who make the decisions for them is the best way to accomplish that. I hope you will reach out to Clint Walker, Annie Woolard-Provine, and Mike Rushlow with your appreciation for their willingness to serve even as you welcome our new members.

### **Diocese:**

- The celebration of new ministry for Trinity Church and their new rector, the Rev. Patty Downing is on November 1 at 4:00 pm. As I will be out of town, I'm hoping for some Christ Church representation to join in their celebration.
- There is a clergy day on November 11 at Christ Church, Dover. The guest is the Rt. Rev. V. Gene Robinson. At 12:15 all are welcome to join in a forum before a diocesan lunch, but reservations must be to the diocese by October 27.
- I have been notified that a General Convention deputy in the clergy order has withdrawn so I become the first alternate. This means the diocese pays for my attendance in Anaheim, CA from July 6 through 17.
- It is time for our parish to assemble a team of members to serve as the host committee for our diocesan convention, March 27 and 28, 2009. We need several skills and talents at the table, but the chair of the committee needs a keen sense of the ministry of hospitality, the gift of organization and communication, and an awareness of our resources (buildings, volunteers, etc.). The blessing is that Rufus Miller is secretary of the convention and so directs the diocesan council subcommittee on convention planning. If you have suggestions for committee members who share a love for this parish and the spiritual gift of hospitality, please share your thoughts with me.