



Trinity Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting Minutes

October 22, 2008

Present:

Gates Agnew

Mary Jo Barker

Steve Chambers

Father Charlie Dupree+

Virginia Hall+

Stanley Hamilton

Mary Ann Hart

Gretchen Horlacher

Kim Hurley

Anne Jones

Pat Martin

Betty Rose Nagle

Connie Peppler

Murray Robinson

Debbie Satterfield

Steve Hale - clerk

**Approval of Minutes from the September Vestry Meeting** - Stanley Hamilton moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Betty Rose Nagle seconded. Passed.

**Treasurer's Report** - Murray Robinson said that there was a profit reported in September due to updating funds and endowments at Hilliard Lyons. Murray asked the Vestry to set a time for a meeting to review and prepare for approval of next year's budget. Steve Chambers moved to accept the treasurer's report. Stanley Hamilton seconded. Passed.

**Rector's report** - Fr. Charlie+ asked for feedback about the change in worship schedules. He said that attendance has been good and there is room to grow. There are a lot of new faces, especially at the 11:15 service and there is good attendance at Forum.

Debbie Satterfield said that there has been a shortage of bulletins. Gretchen Horlacher said that the 11:15 service needs more greeters. Pat Martin said that he has heard good feedback on the weekly Bits and Pieces email. Anne Jones said we need to also reach people without email. Gates Agnew will follow up with the Pastoral Care Commission on this issue.

**Assisting Clergy's Report** - Virginia Hall+ reported on planning to use the Great Hall as an overnight facility for homeless persons. There is a need to hire a person to help supervise. Jail Ministry will have party with gifts for children of incarcerated women and children from Shalom. Caroling will be on the 21<sup>st</sup> of

December. Trinity will host a meeting of the Institute on Radical Abundance on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January.

**Deacon's Report** - Connie Pepler reported that the coat drive will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November. Connie will provide training for Lay Eucharistic Ministry on the following weekend. Connie is getting ready to make mission strategy visits.

**Rector's Warden's Report** - Steve Chambers reported that Connie Pepler is celebrating her 6<sup>th</sup> anniversary as Trinity's deacon. Steve noted that the Diocesan Convention starts this Friday and asked for prayers for our delegation. Anne Jones suggested having the copies of Bishop's address to the Convention available to people on Sunday.

**People's Warden's Report** - Anne Jones asked people to look at Bits and Pieces for dates of Winter Star preparations that start next Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Outreach** - Betty Rose Nagle reminded the Vestry that in addition to coats the coat drive needs caps, mittens and scarves. Renovo is now using the kitchen on Saturdays to prepare food for Sundays. However, due to burnout they can only do this every other week. There is an opportunity for Trinity to fill in on some Sundays. Fr. Charlie+ said he would like to see us take this on.

**Parish Life** - Debbie Satterfield reported that the commission is working on a coffee process for Forum. Social Circles are starting up. The commission would also like to do a parent's night out. Fr. Charlie+ said he has idea to do something after the 11:15 service. This could be a simple coffee or some other type of gathering.

**Stewardship** - Mary Ann Hart reported that the mailings of the quarterly statements and pledge cards included a pie chart showing where our money goes. The commission is working on a theme of transparency. Gretchen Horlacher said that we need to have an announcement that pledge cards are due by the 2<sup>nd</sup> of November. Anne Jones asked that all Vestry pledges be turned in this week so that this can also be announced. Fr. Charlie+ asked that something be put in the bulletin every week and said he will also mention this in Bits and Pieces. The pie chart showing where funds go will be sent out with Topics so that more people will see it than just those who pledge.

## Old Business

**Induction Loop System for Hearing Assistance** - Pat Martin reported that he is representing Mary Ellen Brown's case that we need a hearing system in the church. We have met with Assistive Audio from Toledo, Ohio. The bottom line is that induction loop is the best overall technology. The warranty is for 5 years. The proposal is to install an induction loop under the sanctuary floor tied into the existing microphone system. Telecoils in digital hearing aids would pick up the signal. In the Great Hall the induction loop would be installed along the top

perimeter beam above the windows and above the drop ceiling in kitchen. The system performed well in a test. The cost is about \$8400. We know of a donor who is willing to provide \$3400 toward this purchase. Mary Ellen Brown proposes that the balance be paid from the Battenhouse Speaker Fund. Steve Chambers said that Murray Robinson suggested that we contact the Battenhouse family to confirm their intentions. Steve asked for a motion to accept the donor's offer in principle along with the budget estimate and to approve the intention to pay the balance from the Battenhouse Fund if the family approves. Anne Jones seconded. Passed. Mary Ann Hart suggested that we also ask others to see if they are interested in contributing.

**Vestry Nominations** - Anne Jones reported that the nominating committee will be hosting a coffee/tea to acquaint people with the role of a Vestry member. She is looking for input on skills that are important for Vestry members to have. Steve Chambers said these meeting dates are the 8<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of November. The nominating committee is planning to meet on the 19<sup>th</sup> of November but this date may change depending on when we will have the November Vestry meeting. There will be 10 to 12 nominees for 5 openings. The election will happen during the annual meeting on January 25.

### **New Business**

**Rector's Discretionary Fund** - Fr. Charlie reported that his letter of agreement says that collections from the plate on the first Sunday of each month will be for the Rector's Discretionary Fund. Steve Chambers said that this is also required by Diocese although we have not done this before.

Stanley Hamilton moved that the loose offering from all services collected on the first Sunday of each month be designated for the Rector's Discretionary Fund. Gates Agnew seconded with the remark that this should be mentioned in the bulletin. Passed.

**Discussion of a Change to Trinity's Bylaws** - Fr. Charlie+ distributed copies of Articles IV and VIII. These Articles are attached to the minutes. Fr. Charlie+ said that Article IV is no longer appropriate for a University Ministry Vestry member. Fr. Charlie+ asked if a University member can be student or and ECM board member. Kim Hurley said that the intention was for the person to be a student. At the time this wording was added to Article IV there was no ECM board. Gretchen Horlacher said that this has been an appointment and not an election. Kim Hurley said that this practice started in 1994. Fr. Charlie+ said that voting for five members each year contradicts the University Ministry sentence in Article IV.

After discussion, Stanley Hamilton moved that Fr. Charlie+ convey to Mr. Linda Johnson+ the Vestry's vote on deleting the text referring to a University Ministry Vestry member from Article IV with a proposal that we come up with an improvement to the bylaws.

Anne Jones called the motion to question. Passed.

Steve Chambers moved that we empower Fr. Charlie+ to negotiate with Mr. Linda+ to find a better way to communicate between Trinity and the University Ministry. Stanley Hamilton seconded. Passed with 3 abstentions.

**Dates for the November and December Vestry Meetings** - The Vestry agreed that the November meeting will be on the 19<sup>th</sup> and the December meeting will be on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Motion to adjourn** - Gates Agnew moved to adjourn. Mary Ann Hart seconded. Passed.

The meeting closed with a prayer.

**Meal assignments for November 19:**

Set up - Gates Agnew

Beverage - Pat Martin

Salad - Matthew Cole

Entrée - Anne Jones

Dessert - Debbie Satterfield

Clean up - all