

Vestry Meeting Highlights – St. Mark's Episcopal Church – 15 Jan 2008

1. Rector's Report: George
 - discussed list of core priorities for parish;
 - baptisms of Reece Bednas and Isabel Friebel;
 - consecration of our new Bishop on Feb2, with the Presiding Bishop attending;
 - Christmas pageant on Dec23 and evening Christmas Eve service with Synergy brass quintet were well attended

George: most comments were that people were happy with the slightly earlier Christmas Eve service
Katie: most people very happy with pageant on the Sunday before, rather than Christmas Eve/Day
George: maybe next Christmas Eve services 4p, 8p, 10p – increase attendance and hospitality
2. Communications: Javier Valdivia and Matt Gillespie: new trifold brochure describing parish communications
3. Pastoral Care: Adrian Buchanan
 - goal to improve communications between Communications team (Javier and Matt) and our “pastoral providers” (staff and clergy) and establish a “pastoral alert” list;
 - altar flowers are being delivered to shut-ins.
4. Diamante Montessori School: George
 - Diamante is looking at a site at Park & Hillside (Christ Church) to move to;
 - neighbors there are resisting – their preference is to keep the church there;
 - Diamante will likely be here through Dec2008 – and lease is three years, to Aug2008;
 - we will start a feasibility study on starting our own preschool; our intent is to communicate to them (and everyone) up-front that “we want a preschool in this space, no matter what”;
 - we will communicate with Diamante and state our interest in creating a new contract with them; George and Dick will draft a letter to them.
5. Giving: Jim Jenkins
 - 151 pledges now; phoneathon yielded ten new pledges in the three weeks over the holiday;
 - pledge total is now \$417.7K and mean pledge amount is holding steady;
 - new pledges added \$31K over last year; lost pledges removed \$35K from last year's totals;
 - last-minute commitments add another \$45K;
 - with 50% compliance with old pledges (another \$7K), we will meet our \$464K goal.
6. Missions and Outreach: Ann Cardwell: M&O is running a campaign Jan27-Feb17 to help St. Gregory School teachers fill their “100 most-needed teaching supplies” – underwriting of individual items by parishioners; sign-ups in the narthex and announcements at services.
7. Youth Representative to Vestry: resolution to add Andrew Flynn as a non-voting member of the Vestry for a one-year term; approved unanimously.
8. Year-end Finances: Jack Toliver and Dick Anstee
 - 99% of 2007 pledges were PAID – a record for us;
 - Christmas and open-plate collections were generous;
 - overages on expenses were modest, but absolutely consistent with our growth – significant work on the rectory was the single biggest item in this category;
 - John Schmuck has agreed to join Dick to help with treasury reconciliation duties.
9. Budget: Dick Anstee: 2008 budget (attached) presented and discussed; motion to approve the proposed budget was approved unanimously.