

Vestry Minutes – St. Mark's Episcopal Church – Glen Ellyn IL 60137 – 15 Dec 2009, 730pm

1. Presentation by Episcopal Church Foundation (ECF): Terri Mathes
  - presentation of feasibility study:
    - negatives: donor fatigue, three capital campaigns this decade
    - positive: bishop's matching-dollars
  - there was a 24% response rate on the survey, which is low: donor fatigue again
  - highest gauged priority on survey: a full-time associate rector
  - next two priorities on survey: 25% increases in funding to (a) children's ministries and (b) office staff
  - ECF estimate of fundraising potential: \$591.5K; they see three reasons for this level of commitment:
    - belief in the cause here
    - respect for leadership here
    - overall-parish-leadership's reputation for fiscal responsibility
  - George is a huge part of the equation for the success of this effort ... and parish's respect for him will also mean a LOT of calling by him
  - ECF recommends that, at the annual meeting, we roll out a detailed presentation – finances, history of project, and history of the debt
  - GOAL: \$600K, with \$600K match from Bishop; \$1.2M balances the budget: we have \$180K debt service per year, and halving that gives back \$90K per year (which is our budget deficit)
  - Terri has high confidence in success of meeting the \$600K goal; now need to educate parish to meet it
2. Resolution to move forward with plan to hold a capital-campaign: granted by unanimous consent.

Resolution to engage ECF for a contract of \$23750 to administer a capital campaign, and vestry authorization for overhead expenses of up to \$14250 (total of \$38000): granted by unanimous consent.
3. Rector's Report (read into record):
  - The annual Lessons and Carols service was held on Sunday, Dec 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. This service has continued to grow in popularity, with this year's attendance at about 150. The Glenbard East Madrigal Singers, under the direction of Brandon Catt, joined the St. Mark's Adult and Treble Choirs.
  - St. Mark's adopted 68 families in year's Cathedral Shelter Christmas Basket effort. A local Glen Ellyn family is also receiving Christmas presents thanks to the generosity of several members of St. Mark's.
  - Over 90 people attended the St. Nicholas brunch, which followed 10:30 a.m. service on December 6<sup>th</sup>. St. Nicholas made a special appearance, and we collected several dozen toys for Peoples Resource Center.
  - Elizabeth Molitors was ordained to the priesthood at St. James Cathedral on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. Over 25 members of St. Mark's participated in the choir, altar party and congregation.
  - The Diocesan Convention was held at the Westin Hotel in Lombard on November 20 and 21<sup>st</sup>. Our lay delegates were Elizabeth Lewis, Danna Gross and Dick Anstee. Clergy delegates were Walter Dunnett, Elizabeth Molitors and George Smith. Elizabeth Lewis submitted a report which covers convention highlights.
  - Thanks to Marsha Webster's efforts, St. Mark's produced an Advent Devotional booklet which offers scripture passages and reflections for every day of Advent and Christmas. On the first Sunday of Advent, over 50 children and adults participated in an Advent wreath making activity during the Sunday School hour.
  - The Giving Campaign has shown strong results over the past month. As of December 14, 2009, we are at 91% of our goals for both dollars and participation.
  - Attendance at Sunday services continues a strong growth pattern. Including Evensong, attendance on December 6<sup>th</sup> was about 300 for three services. We continue to welcome guests and newcomers every Sunday, and whenever given information, follow up with ambassador visits, clergy visits and other contact to develop connections and a friendly relationship with St. Mark's.
  - In the local area and around the diocese: GS participated in a site visit to the Church Home at Montgomery Place as part of the annual allocation process of Episcopal Charities and Community Services (ECCS); offered the invocation and closing prayer at the Glen Ellyn Veterans Day service on November 11<sup>th</sup>; led the weekly Friday prayer service on Friday, November 25 at the Devonshire Retirement Community in Lisle, where St. Mark's member Marty Bates is a resident.
4. Vestry slate: Gerald Carey, Dianne Dinse, Nancy Gier, Danna Gross, Reeny Linstrom, and Ben Maxson have all consented to stand for election to Vestry; Laurie Vanderlei has consented to stand for election to the seat she filled in interim for 2009; Fiona Miller has consented to stand for election as Junior Warden.

Unofficial notes by Daniel Conaway