

St. Martin's Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting
October 25, 2010 Approved

Present: The Rev. Jon Hall, Rich Luebcke (Sr. Warden), Sherrie Algren (Jr. Warden), Steve Gillies (Treasurer), Bob Buehler, Larry Cornelius, Mary Drastal, Heidi Gioia, Jeanne King, Carrie Morrison, and Steve Young

Guest: Todd Eller

Absent: Doug Edmondson, Debbie Marx

Opening: At 6:05 pm the meeting was opened with a prayer by Fr. Hall. Roll call was taken. It was acknowledged that a quorum was present and agreed that Jeanne King would act as clerk in the absence of Debbie Marx.

Approval of October 4, 2010 minutes:

NOTE that the October 4, 2010 meeting was in place of the September meeting. Larry Cornelius moved to accept the Oct. 4 minutes as written. Sherrie Algren seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Invited Guest: Fr. Jon introduced Todd Eller ~ Diocesan President for the Missouri *Oasis/ Believe Out Loud*. Todd explained that the group *Oasis* was developed to help Episcopal Churches (maybe all churches) to become intentionally welcoming to not only the gay and lesbian community but to all races, gender, socio-economic classes. Todd talked to the Vestry using a personal narrative and reminded all that to be intentionally welcoming is a part of our Baptismal covenant. He handed everyone around the table a booklet *Building An Inclusive Church ~ A Welcoming Toolkit*. Todd suggested we read the booklet and the info in it as a starting point for conversation. Todd also shared his experience with our Bishop, the Rt. Rev. George Wayne Smith. He spoke to the compassion and the deliberate/ intentional public acknowledgement and that he, the Bishop of the Diocese of Missouri,

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was living his Baptismal covenant and the slogan “The Episcopal Church Welcomes You”. Father Fr. Jon charged the Vestry, as leaders of St. Martin’s, to begin the conversation.

Ministry Reports:

- Outreach – Jeanne King reported that the recycle pickup from *The Fountains Senior Living Center* needed some additional help. Steve Young gave Jeanne an update that the additional help had been found.
- The Thanksgiving Grocery bags will be handed out to parishioners on Sunday October 31, 2010. The groceries should be back at the church by November 14, 2010 for delivery November 17, 2010. *Circle of Concern* stressed that “general” groceries were needed more than “holiday” foods.
- The St. Nicholas event is going serve twenty people – 5 families. Dana will be getting their names and “wish lists” shortly. When this info is received, Loretta will make up the tags for the patrons to choose who/what they will give. There will be a book in Park Hall next to the tags so that anyone taking a tag(s) can record whom they are. Thus, assuring Outreach will have a record. The St. Nicholas event begins the First Sunday in Advent with all gifts due by December 12, 2010. Larry Cornelius has agreed, once again, to deliver the gifts.
- Fundraiser ideas: Beth Buehler submitted a plan for *Lone Wolf Café* social. Wine tasting and golf tournament also suggested. The Outreach Committee ask the Vestry liaison, Jeanne King to ask the Vestry to allocate funds from the proceeds of the Garage Sale to the Outreach Committee. In addition, the Outreach committee agreed that the St. Martin’s Scholarship money pledge of \$3000 should be added to the 2011 budget and thought that an additional \$2000 should be included for our commitment to *ECM, Circle of Concern and Grace Hill*

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Christian Formation:

- Children/ Youth – Heidi Gioia handed a full report to the Vestry members present. She spoke about the positive energy coming from the youth. She attributed this to parent involvement and good leadership (Mike and Ashley Kellogg). In addition Heidi talked about the leadership that was coming from the diocese. The upcoming diocesan youth events are *The Happening* and mission trip to Pine Ridge S.D. June 4, 2011. The college outreach has sent the Halloween treats. The *Family Fall Festival* is Saturday October 30, 2010. The *Advent Event* will be Sunday December 5, 2010, 9-10 am.
- Adult – Larry Cornelius reported *Living With Money* series has begun in the adult formation classes. It is a 2 class series. The stewardship forum is scheduled for Sunday November 7, 2010. November 14, 2010 David Peters will be a guest speaker. His topic is *Humor in the Bible*. Larry Cornelius will speak to the Adult Christian Formation class on *MDG* for the two Sundays following David Peters.
- Parish Life- Mary Drastal is the new Vestry liaison for Stewardship. Mary began with a personal narrative describing how it was revealed to her that parish life and stewardship go together with a real synergy. Mary also announced that the ECW is working on a Christmas ornament that will feature the mosaic that is on the outside of our church building.

Senior Warden: Rich Luebcke recently read *The Vestry Resource Guide*. He found that it was easier reading *the Vestry Handbook* and supplied more useful information and connected the Vestry to the National Church. Rich recommended that the Vestry read *The Vestry Resource Guide*. The budget billing for monthly utilities is now in place. Stewardship representation by the Vestry is expected on November 7 ~ All Saint's Sunday 2010. *Vestry Papers* can now be found online as *Vital Practices*. www.ecfvp.org Rich also commended this website as a good resource for the Vestry.

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Junior Warden: Sherrie Aldgren reported on the progress of the AC/ furnace monies. \$14,000 has been collected and \$7,500 is coming for the Diocese in grant money. Sherrie asked if she could speak to the congregation at next Sunday's service. It was determined after discussions that she, Steve Gillies and Jeff Klieve would each make a short announcement/plea. The parking lot looks good. Wayne Peters did the work (with parishioner help) and donated the supplies. Steve G. added that the final payment on the loan for the previous parking lot had just been made. Brother Mel's cross to hang in the Narthex has been provided by private gifts. The October 10 service day was a success; all the work that was needed to winterize the grounds was completed. The permits from Ellisville on the lighted sign for the circle are still being worked out. Another aspect of the signage that Sherrie is working on is how the electricity is to connect to the sign.

Rector's Report: Fr. Hall

Pastoral ~

- Fr. Jon cautioned us to be sensitive to some of the parishioners that are still learning of Don Harbaugh's death. Judy right now is be held up by her church and her family but to remember her in a few weeks and months as she goes thru the stages of grief.
- Ramon Miraflores had surgery due to an injury. He is able to due some work from home but to be aware that he has 5 children and will need help and prayer.
- Jeremy and Jen Brown have inquired about becoming members of St. Martin's church along with their twins Jack and Lila.
- The Vestry gave Fr. Jon all positive feedback on our guest, Todd Eller's visit.
- November 9 (from 9 am to 3 pm) will be a staff development day. The venue for this is St. Tim's. Jane Klieve will be the facilitator. Fr. Jon spoke to the 'ministry' of the St. Martin's staff.
- *Care & Counseling* is ready to move in. (The *Space Agreement* given to us by Bob Buehler gave details)

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- Susan Cupini is the new part-time sexton. Fr. Jon gave a little background info on Susan and explained how she would “split the time” with Tom Warrington. There remains a little confusion on Tom’s intentions to fully retire or not.
- The *Personnel Policies* were given to the Vestry to review for discussion at the next Vestry meeting.
- Concern about fireproofing the area for the proposed votive candle prayer station was discussed.
- Trivia Night is scheduled for February 25, 2011. Hospitality committee is sponsoring this event.
- Discussion about the Garage Sale brought about questions as to the allocation of the proceeds and other details such as how will it effect other ministry work: Hannah’s Socks, Mother Day Toy Drive and the youth’s winter coat collection. The outcome of the discussion was: Heidi Gioia made a motion *that all proceeds from the Garage Sale will go for service and community outreach purposes and to cover any repair costs to the building as a result of the garage sale.* Larry seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- Bob Buehler *moved that dental coverage for Janet Theiss is covered thru 2010.* Carrie Morrison seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
- Carrie Morrison reported that after meeting with our Deacon Susan Naylor, the Stephen’s Ministers had a renewed energy. Susan helped them to discern the future and now a new class of Stephen Ministers will start later this fall.
- Fr. Jon presented Carrie and Mackie Morrison with their “gold medals” that they missed receiving at the Hanley’s party last spring.

Treasurer: Steve Gillies

- Sherri motioned to approve the October 4 (September) financial report. Rich seconded. Motion approved.
- The offerings for September were down and expenses remained as budgeted but due to a strong and positive response there is no “backlog” of bills pending.

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- A previous Vestry forgave \$2,400 Shaffer loan but the numbers still remain on all reports. Steve G will do come research on how to eliminate the Shaffer loan as a line item w/o creating an admin nightmare.
- St. Martin's no longer owns the 2 houses on Field Av. The Vestry approved the removal of the houses from all reports since the line item reads 00.
- The 2009 review has been completed and copies of the review were provided.
- The finance committee is getting several proposals for the refinancing of the loan on Park Hall. Reliance Bank now is holding the loan. Other banks' proposals are competitive and at the moment the finance committee is leaning toward the Commerce Bank proposal. Potentially St. Martin's will move all accounts (checking, etc.) to Commerce Bank.

Old Business:

- Bob Buehler reported on the status of the Community Garden. He had a hardcopy report for all to see the 'pros & cons' of the community garden. A discussion followed. Sherrie Algren *moved that St. Martin's not renew the contract w/ Bridgett.* Carrie seconded this motion. All agreed.
- There will be no New Year's Eve Party held at St. Martin's this year.

New Business:

Bob B gave a space usage policy update by handed each Vestry member the final draft of the written policy for using our space. Bob B *made a motion that the Vestry uses the final draft copy of **The Facility Use Policy** for their decision making prior to the vote at the next Vestry meeting.* Larry seconded. Motion approved.

Calendar:

- Fall Festival Saturday October 30
- Staff Development Day November 9 ~ Jane Klieve

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- St. Martin's Sunday November 14: Pledge Ingathering and luncheon. The luncheon to focus on evangelism and recognition of new church members.
- Diocesan Convention November 19 –20 at the St. Charles Convention Center. The liturgy will be at St. Tim's.
- Thanksgiving Day Liturgy at 10 am presiding will be Rev. Sally Weaver.
- The First Sunday of Advent November 28 Rev. Stephen Bergmann will celebrate at all worship services.
- December 12 The Bishop's annual visit. The Bishop will speak at the adult forum.
- The Annual Meeting Sunday January 30
- Trivia Night February 25

The next Vestry meeting is scheduled for November 22, 2010

At 8:35 pm Fr. Jon closed the meeting with a prayer.

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Christian Formation – Children & Youth October 2010 Vestry Report

October 25, 2010

Nursery: Average Sunday attendance is 4. We have several new members with newborns, so this may increase. We still need help finding additional child care workers for Sundays & Tuesdays.

Children's Worship: Average Sunday attendance is 10. Worship in the children's chapel is going well – we have a good rotation of teachers this year

Sunday School (PS–12): Average Sunday attendance is 13. Classes are going well – middle & high school class has best regular attendance. Younger kids are only coming occasionally. Preschool and elementary kids will have music with Earl this Sunday and the kids will perform during the 10:15 service.

Youth Group:

Two events were held in October. Stephanie Wiles, Rebecca Barger & Colleen Hall filled in while Mike & Ashleigh were honeymooning. The group baked cookies and made care packages for college students. The kids also played games during the event. 8 youth attended. On Friday, Sean Parker & Janis took the kids to Chesterfield Sports Fusion for a fun evening of laser tag. 13 kids attended, including friends.

In November the youth will sponsor the St. Martin's Coat Drive. They're making a presentation during 10:15 church service on 10/31. The group will meet on Nov. 21 to count, sort and deliver coats to charity.

In addition to events, we are working on strengthening both our networking and organization for youth ministry. To that end, we've met with youth leaders at St. Timothy's and St. Peter's to discuss hosting events between the parishes. A Circle of Concern work day is in the works for December.

A diocesan-wide Mission Trip to Pine Ridge, South Dakota is scheduled for June 4-11, 2011. We already have 7 youth who have expressed interest.

College Outreach: Stephanie Wiles worked with the youth group to create care packages for 22 of our college students on Oct. 17. Thanks to Stephanie for not only organizing the event, but also personally paying for the postage (about \$120) for the packages.

Confirmation Class: Only one teen in class this fall – Madison Lee. She is shy, but coming regularly and participating. Janis is encouraging her to also attend youth group events to help her feel more a part of the church.

Special Events:

Fall Festival, October 30th, 5 – 8 pm

Christian Formation is sponsoring a parish-wide fellowship event. Janis is organizing the festival, with the help and support of lots of people throughout the church. All proceeds will go to our Sunday school mission project, purchasing school and art supplies for kids in Lui (Susan Naylor will deliver on her trip).

Advent Event, December 5th, 9 – 10am

The theme of this inter-generational event is "Family Faith Traditions". Planning has just begun.

Faithfully submitted,

Heidi Gioia