

Calvary Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting

Minutes

Emison Room

February 13, 2006, 6:00 p.m.

Vestry Present: Clay Bethell, Chris Bird, Giles Coors, Susanne Darnell, Donna Davis, James Dowd, Jan Elam, Doug Ferris, Suzanne Henley, Keith James, David Lusk, Hester Mathes, Fred Piper, Connie Ross, and Peg Wahl.

Vestry Absent: Anne Connell, Scott Crosby, Billy Oates

Clergy Present: Rev. Dr. Andy MacBeth

Staff Present: None

Others Present: Nicky Hitching, chair of Pastoral Care Ministry Group

The St Clare candle remained lit and the brass figure of Christ was passed throughout the meeting to encourage continuous prayer.

The meeting was opened with prayer led by Doug Ferris.

Spiritual Reflection: A discussion of Psalm 46 was led by Andy MacBeth.

Report from Pastoral Care

Nicky Hitching, chair of Pastoral Care Ministry Group, said that this ministry group is an umbrella for six ministries: care teams, Stephen Ministry, lay eucharistic visitors, the knitting ministry, grief support groups, and the End of Life Task Force. She reported on each of these as follows.

Care Teams - There are five teams, each of which serves for 10 to 11 weeks during the year. In January the teams underwent a renewal/reorganization, and a new team, the Gold Team, was created. This team will reach out to persons with long term needs and will be on call all year long. Karen Tynes is coordinator of all care teams; she will step down at the end of this year.

Knitting Ministry - Peggy Moore has replaced Bebe Woodside as coordinator of this ministry. During the past year, the first of its existence, 30 prayer shawls and rugs were knitted and delivered to parishioners, plus baby blankets for infants receiving baptism.

Lay Eucharistic Visitors - Dale Charlton coordinates this ministry in which lay eucharistic ministers take the eucharist to shut-ins after the Sunday services.

Stephen Ministry - David Sullivan and Dale Charlton are Stephen Ministry leaders. Six Stephen Ministers were commissioned a year ago. Despite invitations to join Stephen Ministry in the fall and the winter, there have not been enough applicants to conduct training classes. Volunteers will be sought to begin a new class in the fall. Andy

MacBeth noted that all current SMs have assignments, and that efforts to reactivate former SMs have not been successful.

Grief Support Groups - These groups are led by Jo Speak and Nicky Hitching; one is held in the fall, and another in the spring. Groups are typically 4 to 8 persons, smaller than in the first years of this ministry.

End of Life Task Force - This group, formed last year, held the well-received "Five Wishes" Workshop. There are plans to repeat this workshop after Easter and then turn to a new focus. A new leader is needed for this group; Kathryn Skinner led the group last year.

Nicky Hitching said that the Pastoral Care Ministry Group's needs are people needs, not funding, since volunteers are always needed to carry on these ministries.

Rector's Report

St. Olaf Choir - Andy MacBeth reported that the St. Olaf Choir concert was a great experience with housing for choristers having worked well and with the church almost full for the concert.

Diocesan Convention - Preparations for the West Tennessee Diocesan Convention, to be held at Calvary February 23, 24, And 25, are going well. Volunteers are still needed for some tasks.

New Staff - Kay Stricklin will serve as interim Director of Children's Ministries and will be at Calvary for one weekday and Sundays. She is experienced in both child and adult education. Eyleen Farmer has accepted the position of Director of Youth Ministries and will begin her work on Shrove Tuesday. She is in the process of ordination to the Episcopal priesthood, and is expected to be Associate Rector for Youth Ministries. She has extensive experience in ministry, having served in the pastorate at Prescott Baptist Church and as chaplain at Methodist Hospice.

Staff Reorganization - In the past, all staff members reported directly to the Rector; now about six staff members do so. As a result of this reorganization by the Rector, Rick Fortin, Eric Stump, and Emmett Bell all report to Cap Pinkham. Other shifts include more emphasis on pastoral care by George Yandell, along with responsibilities for education; responsibilities for outreach for Mimsy Jones; and more interface with the public by Barbara Willingham. All deacon positions are volunteers. There is one staff position open. Formerly held by Ben Kallen, this position will have more emphasis on finance. Andy MacBeth is currently working on staff evaluations.

Building Renovation Committee - This committee continues its work.

Community Service Ministry Group - This group will continue to explore possible new ministries connected with the Downtown Churches Association, collaboration with the Church Health Center and MIFA, and the possibility of a coffee shop.

General Convention - Scheduled for June 13-22, 2006, the convention will take place in Columbus, Ohio. One of the nominees for presiding bishop is Rev. Edwin F. Gulick, Bishop of Kentucky and Calvary Lenten speaker for Apr. 5. He will also speak that Wednesday evening, another opportunity for persons from other churches in the region to hear him. Andy MacBeth said that some of the events at the coming general convention may be painful as some congregations follow through on their intentions to break with the Episcopal Church. He asked vestry members to think about how to prepare persons for this.

Integrity President - Susan Russell, national president of Integrity, will speak at Calvary for the April meeting of Integrity. This may draw a large attendance, since the Integrity chapter that meets at Calvary is the only one in the region.

Lenten Preaching Series - Posters and brochures are available for distribution. A very special guest will be George Carey, former Archbishop of Canterbury, who will speak March 14-17. On Friday evening, Mar. 17, he will be honored at a dinner, which will also raise funds to defray expenses for his visit. Andy MacBeth asked vestry members to consider Lenten speakers for the 2007 series, currently in preparation.

Calvary and the Arts - This series is currently being evaluated since its audience has changed. Originally conceived to bring cultural events to a downtown audience, it now draws predominantly senior citizens from the city at large. A decision has been made by funders of the series to recommit to the downtown population and attempt to bring persons from their offices, possibly approaching employers with offers of free lunch tickets for their employees. Also, there could be a time shift to 5:30 pm for concerts.

Youth Group - The youth group continues to thrive and had a particularly fun-filled evening on Feb. 12.

Treasurer's Report

Giles Coors presented his report for January 2006. He made a motion that funds be moved from capital expenditures restricted funds (840070-\$43,500) and from capital improvements reserve funds (840085-\$13,500) for a total of \$57,000 to pay off the remaining debt for organ repair. The motion was seconded and approved.

He described the loan from the Calvary Endowment which is being worked out. Cap Pinkham will report on this at the March vestry meeting. The loan will be beneficial in that it will offer a stable, moderate interest rate preferable to rates available from financial institutions.

Approval of January Minutes

The January 2006 minutes were approved.

New Business or Old Business

Vestry Guidelines

Andy MacBeth requested that "Guidelines for the Vestry of Calvary Episcopal Church, Memphis" be adopted. These guidelines were revised in 2001 by Kemper Durand and revised in 2005 by Andy MacBeth to reflect current organization of ministry groups. A motion was made and seconded that the guidelines be adopted as revised. Discussion of the need for the guidelines and what form they may have had prior to revision followed the motion. It was noted that they serve to regulate and communicate the procedures followed by the vestry and can be modified by the vestry at any time. The motion to adopt the guidelines passed with two abstentions.

Resolution Requested by Building Renovation Committee

Andy MacBeth informed the vestry that the Building Renovation Committee has requested that the vestry adopt a resolution that would allow them to go forward with their work by raising funds to pay consultants who can do feasibility studies for proposed renovations. The following resolution was approved:

The Building Renovation Committee is authorized to

1. evaluate parish building needs
2. develop a plan to meet them
3. raise and spend up to \$50,000 for consulting and design expenses, with the permission of the Director of Development and the Rector as to who to approach in the solicitation of funds.

Joe Steffner, chair of the Building Renovation Committee, will be at the March vestry meeting to report on the work of the committee. A request was made for a vestry member to serve as liaison with the committee. Chris Bird volunteered to serve and was given this task.

Calvary Medal for Beverly Bressler

Andy MacBeth reported that Beverly Bressler plans to move near her children's families in June and will be retiring from her responsibility as head of Calvary's library. She has worked diligently as chair of the library, including the tape ministry, for 15 years. The vestry voted to award Beverly Bressler the Calvary medal.

Discussion of Facility "Needs and Wants"

Jan Elam led the vestry in a discussion of "needs and wants" for facility renovation for purpose of communicating with the Building Renovation Committee. The following list was made.

1. Circulation needs--access and flexibility, including disability access
2. Use unoccupied real estate
3. Space for faith formation/multipurpose for interest groups
4. Security--alarm system
5. Sanctuary renovation--painting, etc.
6. Sound system, audiovisual resources/technology, storage
7. Congregating space
8. Parking

- 9. Kitchen upgrade(?)
- 10. Alternative worship space/chapel

Vestry Mailbox

Jan Elam asked the vestry to be sensitive to rumors that may be inaccurate and to address them. She reported that a letter of thanks had been received from Virginia Theological Seminary for Calvary's gift.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

February 28, Warden's Committee Meeting, 6:30 pm, Emison Room

March 14, Vestry Meeting, 6:00 pm, Emison Room

March 28, Warden's Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm, Elam house

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting of the vestry was approved.

**Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Corporation
Calvary Episcopal Church
February 13, 2006**

Vestry members convened as the board of directors of Calvary Church. (In addition to its ecclesiastical organization, Calvary Church is a civil, not-for-profit corporation, chartered by the State of Tennessee.) A motion to elect Jan Elam, Senior Warden, as president of the corporation and Susanne Darnell, Clerk, as secretary of the corporation, was approved.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting of the corporation was approved.

The meeting was closed with prayer led by Andy MacBeth.

Respectfully submitted,

Susanne B. Darnell, Clerk