

St. James' Vestry Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 11, 2008

In attendance: Jan Brandt, Janet Fischer, Connie Rux, Jan Scrutton, Tim Young, Greg Miller, Scott Kennedy, Scott Whitaker, Johanne LaRocque, Sylvia Ma, Jim McConnell, Charlie Paratore, and Elizabeth Hart

Absent: Penny Trant

Sylvia Ma called the meeting to order, and Greg Miller led the opening Bible study with a discussion of Matthew 18:21-35. Questions discussed:

- How do we as individuals define forgiveness?
- Is it possible for us as individuals to forgive and forget?
- How do we as the body of Christ at St. James' manifest forgiveness?

Blessing of the Animals Service

- Saturday, October 4th is the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi
- Last year St. James' with St. Paul's Methodist Church held the blessing on Sunday, October 7th at 4 pm. There were approximately 42 people with pets. We do have a copy of last year's liturgy.
- It will be difficult to hold the Blessing on Sunday, October 5, the same day as the stewardship dessert. It was decided to hold the Blessing on Saturday, October 4th.
- The banner we have for the Blessing of the Animals says "this Sunday at 4 pm." We could attach a sign (with Velcro?) saying "Saturday" to cover the "Sunday" on the current banner. Communications will work on getting a sign that says "Saturday".
- Janet Fischer will write an article for the Window, and communications will make up flyers.

Pew Chairs

- St. James' received 164 chairs from St. Christopher's in San Lorenzo (which closed).
- It looks like St. James' will not be able to use the chairs the way we thought we were going to be able to, as they are not solid oak and do not match our existing chairs.
- We could keep some of the chairs for the teen room, and as spares if we are able to reupholster.
- St. John's of Capitola has a wish list of 80 to 120 chairs. Sylvia Ma sent an e-mail saying they could come and look at them.

Review of 2008 Cluster Action Items

- Each cluster needs to look at their top 3 cluster action items. Have the items been done? If not, why not?
- Please have your report done by October 1st. This will be discussed at the October vestry meeting.

Town Hall Meeting – a conversation on the Interim Period

- Canon Michael Barlowe cannot be here on October 14th, but could come on October 28th.

- The Town Hall Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 28th at 7 pm. Child care will be available.
- As many vestry members as possible should attend.
- There will be a presentation, and a question and answer period.
- Vestry is providing dessert – each vestry member needs to bring a dessert.

Sylvia Sweeney's Farewell Party

- Communications will prepare flyers.
- Parish Life will provide tablecloth, balloons, decorations, etc.

Ice Cream Social

- Jan Scrutton has asked for assistance. Penny Trant may miss this event, as she has been ill.
- Need ice cream scoops and people to help scoop ice cream.

August 2008 Vestry Meeting Minutes.

- Corrections: (1) Bob Iles name was spelled incorrectly, (2) page 5 under Lead Team, one bullet item was rephrased, and (3) page 5 under Facilities leaks (as in water leaks) was spelled incorrectly.
- The August 14th, 2008 vestry meeting minutes were approved as corrected.

Application for Search Committee

- The application for the Search Committee was approved via e-mail.

Facility Use Agreement

- The Facility Use Agreement was approved via e-mail and sent out to those who use St. James' facilities.

Treasurer's Report

- Operating cash is down to \$15,513. With supply priests, expenses will go down.
- Donations are not coming in very fast for the bathroom renovations. Should something be said at each service?
- Building pledge figure includes total bathroom renovation donations of \$11,742.
- In special interest, the negative \$10,000 is the loan for the concrete work.
- In the last month we had slid quite a bit in pledges. Pledges often slow down this time of year.
- We have received more in unpledged, plate, and fundraisers than budgeted.
- Please look at the budget before spending money.

Cluster Reports

Lead Team – as submitted.

Social Ministries and Congregational Care

- Raised a little over \$1000 for shoe ministry

- If St. James' has an official group for the Episcopal Charities Walk-a-Thon, it receives 35% of the proceeds raised. The Walk-a-Thon is Saturday, October 11th at 9 am at Grace Cathedral.

Faith Formation – as submitted

Communications and Evangelism

- Have been working on updating the ministries tri-folder. Will send out again after the updates completed.
- Also working on updating the church directory.
- The 9 am bulletin will now have the Readings.

Facilities

- Bathroom renovation – having difficulties getting the permits required from the city. An architect is drawing up the plans to present to the city to get permits. The city is very particular on the ADA requirements.
- There is work party at 9 am on Saturday, September 13th.

Parish Life – as submitted

- Need help the next two Sundays.
- Need a better method to sign up people who plan on attending events.

Interim Rector Search

- The discussion regarding the interim rector search was held in a closed meeting. No notes taken.

Scott Whitaker led the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Hart
Clerk of the Vestry