

St. Johns' Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting
August 21, 2008

Present: Bill Vorhies, Father Snyder, Karen Snyder, Chris Roost, Felicia Daniels, Richard Bowers, Roger Tuttle, Meg Oliver-Mills, Susie Messer, and Janet Fife-LaFrenz
Absent: Sandy Seabold

Father Snyder offered an opening prayer.

Roger Tuttle moved approval of the minutes of the last meeting as submitted via e-mail. Richard Bowers seconded. Motion carried.

Susie Messer presented the financial report as submitted by Kathy Gorham. Kathy requested Father Snyder provide a copy of accountable expenses and health insurance receipts. Richard Bowers moved the financial report be accepted. Meg Oliver-Mills seconded. Motion carried. There was discussion as to the review of stocks and investments by the finance committee. Richard Bowers asked for a year-to-year financial report. Bill Vorhies moved an audit be conducted by Kathy Gorham and Karla Dunlap. Roger Tuttle seconded. Discussion items included the audit team to have no authority to write checks and the cost of the audit. Karen Snyder indicated the audit can be conducted in-house at no cost and that she would be available to assist. Motion carried.

The Bishop of Iowa will visit St. Johns' and St. Paul's' beginning on Saturday, August 30. He will conduct the 5:00 PM Saturday service and 8:00 AM Sunday service at St. Johns' and the 10:00 AM service at St. Paul's'. Following the Saturday service the Bishop will join the Vestry at the Messer home for dinner. Spouses are included. On Sunday, August 31, the Bishop will participate in the 1:00 PM golf outing at Deer Run followed by a picnic beginning around 5:00 PM.

Bill Vorhies moved to match the \$500 contribution of the ECW to Meg Clark (a total of \$1,000) to help defray tuition and book costs at seminary. Felicia Daniels seconded. Motion carried. Meg will be ordained in Des Moines in 2009. More details will be provided later as to the date of the ordination and carpooling options.

Bill Vorhies moved to offer the sexton position to Jay Roth. Beginning wages would be \$9.00 per hour. A satisfactory 6-month evaluation will be reflected with an increase in salary. Felicia Daniels seconded. Motion carried. Jack Fader is compiling a list of duties for the sexton and will help Jay with the transition. Jay will work from 9:00 to 12:30 Monday through Thursday and be on call as needed.

Bill Vorhies reported a steel plate would be placed over the concrete base of the heating system. The plate will allow the system to be level. The replacement parts and labor could reach \$4,000. It was suggested this would be a good project to be included in a special financial drive. The option of having a geo-therm system installed is too costly. Bill is working with State Central Bank to secure two air conditioner units to cool the sanctuary. These units would lower the cost

of the water bill, as they do not have compressors that are water-cooled within the building. Bill reported a 1 ½" pipe that had been leaking has been replaced. Bill is working on securing an estimate for re-roofing the tower. He has had the flat roof over the classroom repaired and a dormer window caulked. It was reported a light is on continually at the Rectory. This will be looked into by Bill. Shrubbery has been removed and trimming has been done by Roger Tuttle. The branches need to be removed. Bill also will secure a cost from Stacy Hawkins on tree trimming. Finally, Bill reported he is working with Don Anderson on repairing the louvers and securing a bid for caulking and painting all the windows.

Meg Oliver-Mills reported on the upcoming New Orleans party. Longnecker will prepare ribs for \$3.00. Tickets will be sold for \$10.00 each. The dinner will be served on September 28 from 12:00 to 2:00 at the Yacht club. Sandy Seabold will be asked to do publicity. Everyone needs to sell dinner tickets and 50/50 raffle tickets. All profits will be used to for the New Orleans project.

Susie Messer informed the Vestry of Margaret and Robert Dowling relocating to Newton to be closer to family. She will talk with ECW to plan a send off dinner on Saturday, September 20 following the 5:00 service.

The convention dates are November 7 and 8. Registration information has not been received. Susie Messer is talking with Julie Hays to have her contribute a display of the Dafur project for the convention. Susie Messer and Meg Oliver-Mills are planning on attending.

Meg Oliver-Mills provided a Chapter report. Pat Genereux reported on the flood victims and the response of the diocese. In the future, the Episcopalian Church needs to be more proactive. A faith-based first responder plan will be investigated as an option. Meg will provide a written report for the Eagle. A million pennies project is underway to emphasize the 11 million children who die of malnutrition nationally and internationally annually. The budget of the diocese needs to be reviewed prior to the conference in November.

Susie Messer brought to the Vestry the need to revise the wedding brochure. Father Snyder, Chris Roost, and Emma Lee Lahmeyer will serve as the sub-committee to re-write the guidelines and submit them to the Vestry.

Father Snyder and Susie Messer will work to develop advent activities. On the first and third Monday of each month, Susie Messer and Father Snyder will call upon people. A discretionary fund for Father Snyder was discussed. Diane has been using her judgment as to the distribution of assistance. Guidelines will be identified by Father Snyder and coupons will be provided rather than cash. Hy-Vee will be contacted for coupons and community action (Jeanette Varner) will be contacted to see what other agencies provide the same services. Bill Vorhies moved \$300 be allowed for the discretionary fund. Roger Tuttle seconded. Motion carried.

Mission activities locally include a healing mission, daycare/preschool (Grant funding would need to be secured.), and divorce counseling. During the next months more work needs to be done on these ideas and others that may arise.

The Messer's attended Pat Genereux retirement reception.

Kid-Zone needs help by sponsoring a child financially. This item will be placed in the bulletin.

Father Snyder reported:

Out of town on September 20-21, October 11-12, October 18

Wednesday meetings on September 17, 24, and October 15 are cancelled.

September 17 is the first Keokuk Christian Ministerial Association meeting.

October 11-18 is the New Orleans mission. School supplies are still being accepted.

During January, 2009, a medical mission to the Dominican Republic will take place. More information will be provided the bulletin and in a newspaper article. A power-point presentation will be presented during Advent.

Christmas services will be Wednesday evening – 5:30 in Keokuk, 7:30 in Warsaw.

Thanksgiving eve service will be in Warsaw. It will begin at 7:00. Rides will be provided. The joint service will be promoted in the bulletin and Eagle. Children from God's Way church are available to perform at the service. Meg will make the contact for a 20-minute program.

Business cards have been printed.

Roger Tuttle moved to adjourn. Richard Bowers seconded. Motion carried.

Bill Vorhies offered a closing prayer.