

**Christ Church Episcopal
Vestry Meeting
July 16, 2008**

Approved – August 15, 2008

Vestry Members in Attendance:

Karen Akens, Sr. Warden; Dave Wasik, Treasurer; Pam Board, Elaine Champion, Mary Ann Cooley, Rick Elliott, Amy Goodman, Jon Napier, Mike Richards, Ted Susac, Shelley Putney

Staff in Attendance:

Paul Johnson, Rector; Hillary West, Assistant Rector; Sarah Fogler, Director of Parish Operations

Guests in Attendance:

Pete Gallagher, Capital Campaign Co-Chair; Pete Dysko; Bob Meier, Boy Scout Liaison; Emily Kempson, Intern

June Minutes and Financial Reports were approved via email prior to the meeting.

Summary of Financial Reports for June 2008 – Dave Wasik

- June revenue was \$16k above budget, 84k v budget of 68k, aided by the fact that June had five Sundays;
- YTD revenue is \$11k below budget, \$582k v budget of \$593k;
- Shortfall concentrated in pledge income, YTD \$513k v budget of \$524k.
- Expenses running \$8k favorable to budget YTD, \$607k v budget of \$615k;
- Variance driven primarily by favorable timing of outreach spending and will be made up later in the year;
- Large (within budget) mission expenditure in June made June expenses unfavorable;
- Utility costs running ahead of forecast; staffing in line with budget;
- YTD contribution (revenues minus expenses) running \$3k below budget;
- June contribution was a \$41k deficit, in line with budget;
- Given approved budget cuts in June, our outlook is a deficit of \$25k - \$60k;
- Cash position remains strong, but will fall off during summer months;
- General Fund cash balances of \$337k with \$186k unrestricted;
- Policy on discretionary funds is in development;
- **Treasurer requested vestry approval to open 2nd money market account with SunTrust to diversify our bank accounts – Approved.**

Boy Scout Liaison Presentation – Bob Meier

Bob reported to vestry on Boy Scout Pack 788. CCE has agreed to provide a meeting place to Pack 788, which Bob reports is a very well organized and well run group. The group's charter is reviewed annually. Subject to approval by vestry, Bob will serve as the 'Chartered Organization Representative' to CCE for Pack 788. **A motion was made and**

seconded for Bob to serve as Chartered Organization Representative to CCE for Pack 788. The motion carried.

Values Discussion

There was discussion around the questions/ statements listed below. The primary issues are the principles and values by which govern our common life. The following questions were posed by Paul to the vestry at the June meeting. However, there was insufficient time to discuss. The discussion was reopened at the July meeting.

- What are the principles by which we make decisions?
- Where in our common life do we emphasize ‘being inviting’ to those who are not yet here? Do we affirm ‘being inviting’ as a value of our congregation? If we do, to what degree?
- Where in our common life do we emphasize ‘being nurturing’ to those who are already here?
- What are we trying to do here at CCE?
- Are we ordering our common life to achieve that goal?
- Framework: We will enhance those already here and continue our commitment to bring in new people.

Comments during discussion of the above questions were as follows:

- We need to be sure to clarify and communicate why we do what we do. We must be sincere in our invitation to others, not superficial. If we can let the congregation know what principles we have based our decisions on, they will feel ‘invited’ and will better understand the decisions that are made.
- We should be able to be ‘growing’ and ‘inviting’ and should do both well. People already here can continue to grow and be challenged. We want to continue to welcome people at all levels of ‘membership’ and involvement.
- We should not look at the challenge of ‘nurturing those who are here’ versus that of ‘inviting those who are not yet here’ as a ‘zero sum game’. Being a bigger church does not mean we can’t be intimate.
- We should be cognizant of the needs of 75 year olds, 21 year olds, 35 year olds etc and look at needs of *all* groups as we make decisions.
- If we ‘move the pendulum’ one way or the other towards ‘nurturing’ or towards ‘inviting’, we must think about whom the movement will affect and how they will be affected.
- We must be representatives of the congregation.
- We need to serve two groups better: the ‘over 65 group’ and the ‘20’s – or young adult group (prior to being parents)’.
- There was discussion about the value of participation.
- There was discussion about the differences in needs of someone with a church home versus someone without.
- What do we mean by a ‘deeper relationship with God’?

Vestry affirmed that ‘being inviting’ is a value of CCE. The vestry will engage in further thought and discussion around these questions. Paul invited vestry members to email him with further thoughts.

Capital Campaign – Growing for the Generations

Pete Gallagher, Campaign Co-Chair distributed pledge cards, handout and a CD to vestry. The CD, which includes a prayer, a short message from Paul and a song by Keith Tan, will also be distributed to the congregation. Pete asked that vestry members return pledge cards to the church office by August 1. The goal of the Capital Campaign Team is for 75% - 80% of gifts to be pledged by mid-September. All gifts are confidential. Pete closed by saying how exciting it is to be a part of the growth, excitement and vitality of CCE. He reminded us that the buildings built by the campaign are so much more than just 'buildings'. They will be tools for ministry now and in the years to come.

Building Steering Committee Update

Marc Halbritter sent a written report to vestry prior to the meeting. The report showed no surprises and was not discussed at the meeting. A brief summary is as follows:

- BCWH is on schedule to have necessary documents ready for filing in early August.
- Geotechnical work is complete. No issues were raised by BCWH as a result of core sample results.
- BCWH will place a site model in the Milling area. The model should be available in August.

Senior Warden

Karen reported that we will be authorized to keep trailers as soon as our Plan of Development is filed with Henrico County and as long as the filing takes place by August 31, 2008.

Karen also asked vestry members to remind ministry teams to avoid expense overruns and to carefully watch monthly budgets.

Iowa Trip

Hillary reported on the mission trip to Iowa. The group saw great need among the people whom they met and helped. Another CCE group will travel to the same area soon. No budgeted funds were used on this trip. Parishioners supported the trip with gifts of \$7k. Eight people drove 2200 miles to the Diocese of Iowa where they worked with 'Samaritans Purse', a very efficient and well organized group, to help the people of Iowa by 'mucking out' homes and listening to stories. The hard work was appreciated and CCE missionaries were invited to return.

Ministry Team Requests of Vestry

- Preschool - Executive Committee approved Julie Grinder as 4 day four year old teacher.
- Children's Ministry Team – requested prayers for successful VBS.

The meeting was closed with prayer and adjourned at 9:25.

The next meeting will be on August 20.

Respectfully submitted,
Shelley Putney, Registrar

