

Galilee Church  
Vestry Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, May 2, 2007

Attending: Jamie Rawles, Jimmy Jordan, Mel Sautter, Jim McCaa, Interim Senior Warden, Hugh Patterson; and Junior Warden, Tim Robertson

A special meeting of the Vestry began at 7:10 p.m. in the church library with Jamie Rawles leading the prayers. Hugh Patterson as Senior Warden then formally called the meeting to order. Sue Antonick recorded the minutes.

A discussion was held regarding the upcoming Vestry elections. The Vestry Nominating Committee consists of Pam Everett, Mel Sautter and Jamie Rawles. Information was shared regarding the election, nominee forms and how to distribute the information to the congregation so they could submit suggestions to the committee for possible candidates. The existing forms were evaluated and updated. A deadline of June 1, 2007 at 4:30 p.m. was set for the nominee information forms to be submitted to the church office. A mailing will go out two weeks prior to the election, which is tentatively set for Sunday, June 24th.

Hugh Patterson reminded everyone that the following clergy will be serving at Galilee through May 20th for the Wednesday healing services and Sunday services while Coleman is away: Bill Brake will serve on May 6 and 20 and Ron Greiser will be here on May 13. Bill Brake will travel to and from the outer banks and will be at Galilee on Tuesday and Wednesday of each week.

Hugh Patterson reported that he had talked with Dr. David Gyertson and a meeting with David is planned for Thursday morning, May 3rd at Mr. Patterson's office. Dr. Gyertson has been asked to meet with the Vestry on May 10th to discuss leadership issues during the next several months as Galilee rebuilds its staff and ministry structure. Dr. Gyertson is a distinguished Professor of Leadership and Entrepreneurship at Regent University and a former President of Asbury College in Wilmore, Kentucky.

The Jane Doe lawsuit is now in the hands of the church insurance company and several pending motions will be argued before a judge soon.

A discussion was held concerning recommendations of the Personnel Committee to outline benefits to be offered to the three clergy who resigned on April 20 (Larry Crowell, Julian Linnell and David Ball) as part of their separation agreements. Tim Robertson moved that accumulated vacation pay and then severance pay be given to the three departing clergy to provide compensation through June 30, 2007. Medical benefits should also be provided for six months or until a departing clergy person has found new employment and is covered under a new employer's health plan, whichever event first occurs. Pension benefits will be paid through the date of resignation with no additional accumulated time. This motion was seconded by Mel Sautter and approved by the Vestry.

The Vestry also requested that the inclusion of a non-disparagement clause, a confidentiality clause and the agreement by the departing clergy to participate in an exit interview with an independent third party be explored as topics to be covered in the separation agreements.

A report from the Personnel Committee included:

1. The search process for hiring a Business Administrator and a Director of Family Ministry has begun.
2. Sherry Carawan, Office Administrator Assistant – health and status are being looked into.
3. Mary Smith has agreed to serve as Nursery Coordinator and along with Erica Brown has committed to assist in the nursery through the end of August.
4. Temporary receptionists will be working in the office while Sherry is away.
5. Pete Pearson is working as an independent business consultant to supervise the financial side of Galilee's operations on a part-time (20 hours a week) basis through July 6, 2007.
6. In the Kidstuff area – Children's Ministry Assistants, Cindy Wall and Chris Marshall are committed until May 31st. A new Youth Minister will be needed for the Fall program.
7. Mike Terranova's last Sunday as Director of Student Ministries will be June 3 (Youth Confirmation).
8. Summer's Best Weeks may be cancelled for this year. Tim Robertson plans to talk with an outside group to run the program and seek church assistance.

A discussion was held concerning various lay committees of the Church such as the Missions Committee, the Youth Committee, the Christian Education Committee, the Pastoral Care Committee, the Children's Ministry Committee, the Worship Committee and the need for participation from additional members of the church who are willing and able to help. A request for new members will be made each Sunday during the next few weeks.

Submitted by Sue Antonick