

## **VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS JANUARY 2010**

The Rev. John Talk opened the meeting with prayer.

John Talk distributed 2010 Vestry Notebooks to the group. These notebooks contain CCD Bylaws, excerpts of Diocesan Canons pertinent to Vestry operations, and the 2010 calendar which will be updated as necessary.

John explained the duties of the Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer and Secretary and called for nominations for these offices.

Susan Diehl was elected Senior Warden by acclamation.

John Leney was elected Junior Warden by acclamation.

Tom Cragg was elected Treasurer by acclamation.

Jan Weir was elected Secretary by acclamation.

John said that there was a concerted effort to revitalize the committee structure last year. Some committees are fully functioning and some are still getting up to speed. Each committee should have a Vestry Liaison. John sent around a sign-up sheet for Vestry members to indicate which committee they would like to be involved with. Liaisons should remind committee chairs to contact people who expressed an interest in their committee at the recent committee fair.

Vestry meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month. It was agreed to move June, November and December 2010 to the

third Thursday.

John distributed a handout entitled Keeping Our Church Safe: Policies for the protection of children and youth at Christ Church Detroit. This policy, when accepted, will be phased in over a period of time. John is asking for volunteers to serve as "Hall Monitors" downstairs to ensure that children are moving safely from classrooms to restrooms. After much discussion, John asked Vestry members to take the packet home, share it with family members or any other parishioners and be prepared to discuss the policy next month. A motion was made to restrict access to the downstairs hallways, restrooms and classrooms to parents, teachers and children. The motion passed.

A question was asked as to who are our representatives to the Deanery. They are the same people who represent us at Convention: Oliver Coleman, Sue Barber, Josephine Powell and Lucinda Keils (alternate).

Harold Cherry has decided not to continue with the Christ Church Christmas Party at the DYC. In the past, Genet Barthwell has expressed an interest in having a Christmas Party in Ledyard Hall. Aretha Marshall, as liaison to the Parish Activities Committee, will follow up on the party.

Oliver Coleman found out about buying used carpeting from the Auto Show. The information was provided to Maggie Blanchard for follow-up by the Christian Ed Committee.

Marilyn Shahly got a quote from Hagopian to clean the High Altar kneelers, runners and seat cushions. The quote was given to George Ellenwood for follow up by the Altar Guild.

Susan Diehl welcomed everyone and reminded us of the goals and objectives which were put in place last year. We will be concentrating on these in 2010, paying particular attention to communicating them to the parish.

The fence has been installed in the Jefferson St. Courtyard. The gate will have a lock with a key in the future. There will be a fundraising concert in April to support the project. John Kelly is interested in having the garden named the Mother's and Children's garden and having it planted with vintage plants.

Tom Cragg said that the Finance Committee wants to spend \$5000, which is in the budget, on contracting with an accounting firm. They would assist in making adjustments to our automated accounting system, in refining reports and would complete an internal controls analysis. After some discussion, it was determined that if it is in the budget, it has already been approved.

Tom distributed the January Budget Review. Operational revenues/Expenses improved by almost \$100,000 from 2008 to 2009. That is, we withdrew \$100,000 less from the endowment. Next month Tom will provide a report on off-budget items, such as investment income, bequests, and Capital Campaign pledge revenues which continue to come in.

Tom mentioned that Michigan law on endowment usage by non-profit organizations has changed. Some additional restrictions are now in place. Tom will have a presentation for us in a few months.

The bridge loan will be paid off soon.

Tom was asked if he could provide an analysis of the numbers of pledges over the past ten years and average Sunday attendance.

These figures will be provided at a future meeting.

John thanked Maggie for attending the meeting and mentioned that she will be preaching in the future on Family Sundays.

The Rev. John Talk gave a blessing and dismissal.