

St. David's Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes
September 21, 2004

Members in attendance

Father David, Tom George, Senior Warden; Jerry Williams, Junior Warden; Dave Byers, John Runcie, Bill Paff, Charlie Parker, Deb Cornell, Jerri Hoffman, John Post, Dawn Sonnenberg, Craig Leinbach, and Charlotte Byers

Others in attendance

Carolyn Jacobs

Members not in attendance

Steve Leiby

Opening Prayer (Father David)

Father David opened with prayer and a reading from St. Luke. He said that he would be doing a reading from the bible at every meeting. He invited members to submit readings they would like to hear and, if none are provided, he would be choosing the readings for the meeting.

Secretary's Report

Bill Paff had a slight correction to the minutes. Motion was made by Jerry Williams and seconded by John Runcie that the minutes be approved as corrected. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Craig Leinbach said at this point all of the expenses for the year are up to date. He also said that we are behind on the restricted pledge. A lively discussion followed. Jerry Williams moved and it was seconded by John Runcie that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion corrected.

Rector's Report

There was no rector's report this month.

Sr. Warden's Report

Tom George welcomed Father David back to his first vestry meeting since he has been back from sabbatical. Tom said that things have been going well. He mentioned that the kitchen hood issue had been resolved since the special meeting in August. Tom also mentioned that we had talked about the Labyrinth Project and that there was an active Labyrinth Committee in place. At this point, Charlie Parker said that a design for the labyrinth is forthcoming and that they were not asking money from the vestry. Money is available when the plans are in place.

Steve Leiby will be absent from the next several meetings, but he will be mailing information on the New Persons Report.

Jr. Warden's Report

Jerry Williams talked about some of the issues from the Bishop's letter to the diocese.

Areas of Ministry Reports

Financial

Buildings and Grounds

Father David showed directional signs for outside of the building that had been at the church since June. A discussion had occurred this summer about what had happened to the signs and now the lost is found. Bill Paff said that the door to the nursery is up and the carpet is ordered. Bill also welcomed Father David back but wanted to extend his appreciation to Tom George, Senior Warden, for his outstanding leadership during Father David's absence. A discussion followed regarding the handicap signs for the parking lot that have been stolen. It would appear that we need to order more signs. Father David discussed the load lugger for cleaning out the garage. He said that he will talk to Jerry Purol about that.

Memorials

There was no report. By the next meeting there will be a report for distribution.

Stewardship (Grace Fund)

Jerry Williams talked about Grace of Giving and he asked the vestry for approval of the plan. Tom George moved that the plan be accepted and Jerri Hoffman seconded the motion.

Jerry Williams had the revised stewardship statement and it was passed around for signature.

Discussion followed regarding restricted funds. John Post put the issue of the restricted funds forth last year, and it was put on the table for the vestry's consideration again. Jerry Williams said he thought the need was still there. The question was asked if we wanted to do it again. We just have to change the date and the percentage. The diocese is asking for 12%. Dave Byers moved that we use the resolution again this year and it was seconded by Dawn Sonnenberg. Motion carried with one objection.

Endowment Fund

Jerry Williams asked for approval of the Endowment Fund's July 20 version. He said the purpose of the fund is a system for people to leave funds for church use, and he opened this up for discussion. The funds would be used for mission work and upkeep of the church facility. This is in addition to a memorial fund. The Endowment Fund is for long term use. Discussion followed. Jerry proposed that we take action contingent upon receipt of a federal blessing from the IRS. Tom George moved that we table this for further discussion, and it was seconded by Charlotte Byers. Jerry Williams and Dave Byers nayed the motion.

Communications

Jerri Hoffman said that Amber Matthews will not be working at all on the newsletter and Sarah Taber will be doing it entirely.

Outreach

Renewal and Evangelism

John Post said that the Renewal and Evangelism committee had met twice. The Order of St. Luke will be sponsoring a healing conference on March 11 and 12, 2005.

Outreach

Charlotte Byers said that the next dinner at the Rescue Mission will be September 28.

New Person - Dinner

The New Person dinner will be rescheduled.

Fellowship

Charlie Parker said that there is nothing to report.

Growth

Christian Education

Debbie Cornell said that there are 30 children registered for Sunday School, and the teachers have planned everything up to December. She said the nursery needs new toys and books. There will be a wishing tree with a list of things that are needed. She is hoping that the congregation will take a leaf and replace the toys and books for the nursery. For the older students there is a new curriculum taken from the Episcopal Leaders' Guide. It coincides with what Fr. David will be teaching on Sunday. The Youth Sundays for the year are October 17, January 16, and April 17. Halloween will be called Hallelujah Day

Deb said that the sink in the nursery needs fixing and Claire Turner's room needs a cabinet with a lock. Deb also mentioned that Room No. 4 needs a cupboard above the sink. Discussion followed regarding the teachers needing Sexual Misconduct Training. It was mentioned that the students would like to purchase a school bus to take on field trips so that parents would not have to car pool. The bus could also be used for special events. The purchase of a bus will be brought up at a later date. It was also mentioned that we could possibly buy a van. The next teachers' meeting will be October 10.

Youth

John Runcie said that there was nothing to report.

Worship

Dave Byers said that he has been keeping in touch with the various groups and things are going fine. Work on the organ is being scheduled and it should be done by Christmas. Fr. David said that he will be changing the time of the Friday Eucharist from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., and it will start the first Friday in October. Jerri Hoffman said that she will run an ad in the paper with the new change.

Lay Ministry

Dawn Sonnenberg said that now that Father David is back, he will be visiting the shutins as well as the Lay Eucharist Ministers and members of the Order of St. Luke.

Old Business

Constituency List

Father David talked to the vestry about their Constituency List where they are assigned to 12 people in the parish to pray for and to contact in case the person has stopped coming to church. Parishioners are to receive a card, a call, or a visit to find out why their attendance has stopped. Discussion followed.

Pew Cushions

Jerri Hoffman discussed raising money for pew cushions. She mentioned donations, as well as raising money, with a lunch and style show in December. She has talked to several companies about the type of cushions available. It is planned that the lunch in December will be the fund raiser to raise money for the cushions. Jane Aldrich from WLNS will be the MC, and there will be 18 models modeling clothes from different area stores. Jerri said that she expects to raise around \$500 from the lunch/style show and \$500 to \$800 on the raffle. She also mentioned that she was hoping money would be given in the form of a sponsorship, like the bricks in the garth. The question came up as to whether we should raise money first. Donations should be made out to St. Davids with a notation somewhere on the check that mentions Pew Cushion Fund. Motion was made by Jerri Hoffman and seconded by Dave Byers that the fund should start out at \$15 a foot for the pew cushions. Motion carried.

Sabbatical Report

Tom George is proposing that Father David be responsible for paying 1/3 of the cost of the sabbatical and the church pay the remaining 2/3's. Motion was made by Tom George and seconded by Dave Byers. Motion carried.

Letter to Father Ben

Discussion followed that a letter should be written to Father Ben thanking him for his service to St. Davids during Father David's sabbatical. It was decided that various members of the vestry should submit to Carolyn Jacobs their ideas to be put into a letter to Fr. Ben. A letter should be composed hopefully in the next few weeks.

New Business

Father David said that he had been in contact with Terminix as there are mealy moths in the rectory, and they have the first bid. This item will be discussed later.

Father David showed a large bell that could be used in a bell tower, that was several hundred years old, given to Eileen Newhouse from relatives in upstate New York. She is asking \$500 for it. Motion was made by Jerry Williams and seconded by Bill Paff to purchase the bell for St. Davids. Funds will be taken out of the Memorial Fund to pay for the bell. The bell's use will be discussed at a later date. Motion carried.

Diocesan Pledge Request

Father David discussed the pledge request and discussion followed about the diocese being in deep financial trouble. The question came up as to whether we should go back to an assessment. At this point we are listed at 7.8%. Next year the diocese wants parishes to go up to 12%. We will be assessed by the diocese if need be. Do we want to give a one time gift? Jerry Williams moved that we tell the delegates to the convention not to vote for an assessment and Tom George seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tom George moved and Bill Paff seconded the motion that the diocesan pledge remain the same. Motion carried.

Bill Paff moved and Jerry Williams seconded that we prepay our pledge for the remainder of the year. Motion carried.

Jerry Williams wants to get plans out on hiring an assistant for Father David.

Father David will report on the decision by the diocese regarding pledging versus an assessment to fund diocesan programs.

The bishop will be at St. David's on the fourth Sunday of Advent, December 19. The bishop will be visiting every three years.

The vestry meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Carolyn Jacobs, Vestry Clerk

Approved Vestry Minutes