

**ST. MARK'S
BISHOP'S COMMITTEE MINUTES
February 23, 2011**

Present: Rev. Lorraine Dierick, Jim Campbell, Kevin Varness, and John Tennefoss.
(Weather was iffy, with snow falling as we met.)

Lorraine opened the meeting with prayer, and needs were shared.

The **Bishop's Committee Minutes:** Hearing no changes or additions needed, the minutes of January 12, 2011 were approved as written.

The **Treasurer's Report:** Jim presented the **Summary of St. Mark's Finances – 2/22/2011, St. Mark's Montesano Finance Report 2011, Transaction Summary January 2011 and February 2011, and the 2011 Operating Bills and Outreach Summary.** Currently there is about a \$1300 deficit at this early time in the year. Several large one time expense items have been paid, including the annual property/liability insurance premium (\$1161), and clergy conference registrations for Lorraine, Bonnie and Joyce (\$750). Also, a \$500 deductible on the bell tower repairs was paid as part of the first repair bill to Lupo Construction. All expenses are paid current, and all revenues sources to date are doing well. It is expected to make up this deficit by the early summer, when the normal expenses are reduced.

Kevin moved to accept the Financial Report which was seconded and carried.

Funds Summary—Total is \$20,055.77 (last month--\$17,432.87)

- Checking Account—\$5,861.22 (last month--\$3,409.64)
- Savings Account--\$617.97 (last month--\$617.97)
- Memorial Fund--\$982.53 (last month--\$982.11)
- Diocesan Investment Fund--\$12,200.71 (last month--12,029.81)
- Clergy Discretionary Fund--\$393.34 (last month--\$393.34)

Jim explained that the repairs on the bell tower structure have begun, as we have received the funds from Church Insurance to meet the estimate of costs from Lupo. Kevin said he is monitoring activities and has asked for this work to be done well before Easter.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Last Month's Activities/Plans for Next Two Months:

Annual Meeting (January 16)--Jim provided the summary of the meeting for review. Jim said he would talk with Mary Linth about being a delegate for Convention this year, and Kevin and Corby Varness were both discussed as future delegates.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Day (March 8)—It was agreed that the work by Corby and Lorraine had gathered up a full staff of people to help with this event, and Kevin has the list for the food items needed. Publicity is in work, too.

Ash Wednesday Service (March 9)—will be held at 6:30PM, with a soup meal after. St. Luke, Elma, and Montesano Church of God and Methodist Church folks are invited specifically to attend.

Lenten Season Plans—Lorraine is meeting with Pastor Marc Rice on February 24 to plan some Friday Noon events with prayer/study that our 3 churches can participate in (St. Mark's, Church of God, and the Methodist church).

Vicar's Report – Lorraine reported on the latest visits to the County jail inmates with Bonnie and the Methodist pastor previously. Lorraine also talked about a visit to a dying person and her family at Monte Health & Rehab, how the need to minister was there and she responded, and how much of an honor it was to do this for them. Kevin thanked her for doing this, and also sharing the experience with us.

Other Items – A request from St. Luke's, Elma for a priest to conduct Sunday communion once per month for some unknown timeframe was discussed. It was agreed Lorraine will respond that the Bishop's Committee approved of this activity, her and Bonnie only conducting services (less a sermon), for up to 6 months.

Jim provided an article and some information concerning church budgets—looking at them in a different way. He also provided an article detailing the average salary for all ministers in the United States in mid 2009 (almost \$47,000), and some local information from a couple of nearby churches about pledges and budgets, to show how much it can cost to run a full church program.

Jim brought up the opportunity for St. Mark's to sell our history books for no cost at the upcoming National Episcopal Historians and Archivists Conference in Portland in June 2011, which was approved to participate in.

Jim and John will attend the Diocesan Wardens Conference at Immanuel, Mercer Island on March 5, 2011.

It was agreed that the pre-and post-music at our worship services is very important to help set the tone for worship and our attitudes after worship. John and Corby are both working on improving this part of our worship experience.

Jim will work with Lorraine to decide which brochures to purchase that can help church members (new and old) with their education and understanding of the church—worship, the Bible, and what we believe as Episcopalians.

The next Bishop's Committee meeting will be Wednesday, March 20, at 6:30 pm. Jim closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Campbell for Martha Krug,
Bishop's Committee Secretary