

**ST. MARK'S
BISHOP'S COMMITTEE MINUTES
November 18, 2009**

Present: Mary Venske, Jim Campbell, Rev. Bonnie Campbell, Martha Krug, John Tennefoss, and Rev. Lorraine Dierick.

John offered the opening prayer. Needs and concerns were shared.

The **Bishop's Committee Minutes:** The minutes of October 14, 2009, were approved as presented.

The **Treasurer's Report:** Jim presented and reviewed the **Summary of St. Mark's Finances – 11/17/2009, St. Mark's Montesano Finance Report 2009, 2009 Outreach Summary, and October and November 2009 Transaction Summaries.** The net operating surplus is \$1,740.52. Overall, 2009 pledge revenues are \$700-800 less than expected. \$1,000 more was spent on repairs than budgeted. \$1,172 remains unspent on 2009 Outreach. Everything is currently paid. DIF is up \$500 for the year. Sanctuary work is completed with the exception of finishing the new railing. Jim reported that he has been working with the Actionaire heat pump representative on repairs for the heat pump, and experimenting with maintaining a consistent temperature of 68 degrees. Still under warranty, several parts have been replaced and cleaned, ad a couple more are on order. Jim is still trying to clarify the optimum operating procedure for efficiency and lifetime operation of the heat pump.

2009 Outreach was reviewed and discussion centered on expending the remaining balance of \$1,172 in this calendar year. John suggested looking at local needs as the priority, and Mary emphasized the impact of unemployment on Grays Harbor. Jim noted that, to date, 90% of 2009 Outreach given has been local. It was agreed to donate \$600 to the Montesano Food Bowl and \$50 to the American Friends, Episcopal-Jerusalem. In December, the Bishop's Committee will look at the remaining balance of \$500 for local need. We will check with Corby on the Montesano After School Program's financial need.

Bonnie suggested that we make the 2009 Episcopal Charities Appeal available to the congregation to fund on a personal level. It was moved to delete this as a line item for 2010 and not donate for 2009. The motion was seconded and carried.

Martha noted that some church members would like funds invested in the DIF to build the reserve. Discussion followed. Jim suggested that we look at our projected surplus at the end of the calendar year for possible investing some in the DIF, and also build a line item for savings in the 2010 budget. St. Mark's is likely to have a surplus of at least \$1,500 at the end of the year. Ways to use the surplus will be reviewed at that time.

Funds Summary—Total is \$11,857.72

- Checking Account—\$3,078.47

- Savings Account--\$517.52
- Memorial Fund--\$976.38 (\$200 is for the Windows fund)
- Diocesan Investment Fund--\$6,137.88
- Clergy Discretionary Fund--\$1,147.47

The Finance Report was accepted as presented.

BUSINESS ITEMS

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

- **Diocesan Convention (October 15-17, Vancouver, WA)** – Next year's Convention may be reduced by one day to lessen expenses for the participants. Bonnie added that this year's was a great convention. It was suggested that eating at a less expensive restaurant on the Friday evening gathering could also cut expenses.
- **Halloween for the Kids (October 31)** – The event was well attended. Plenty of candy is left and could be added to the Angel Tree Ministry Christmas for Kids gifts.
- **Worship Space Updating (November 7-8)** – Jim sent an e-mail to the Bishop telling him about the success of the project. John will send a thank you note to Rev. Janet Campbell. Jim will research wireless microphones for the sound system.
- **Advent Season Planning (November 29-December 20)** – The Christmas Eve service was approved for 9:00 pm.
- **Decorating for Christmas** – Natalie and Bill will put up the sanctuary Christmas tree on December 20. The Festival of Lights parade will be December 12 and Jim said it would be nice to have outside decorations in place prior to the Festival. Lorraine suggested that St. Mark's look at providing a hospitality center for the Festival parade participants next year.
- **Discernment Class (weekly from November 8)** – Jim reported that the class met once and the next class is November 24. John questioned why St. Mark's is buying the books for this class. Discussion followed. It was agreed that Discernment for Total Common Ministry is a major benefit for the ministry of the church. All agreed that it is appropriate for St. Mark's to purchase the text for this class.

100th Anniversary Celebration (April 25, 2010) – Lorraine would like to look at publishing Jim's history of St. Mark's. Martha suggested checking printing costs locally. John suggested the scope of planning for the event needs to be

considered, so that the budget can be projected, noting for example that PR for the event needs to be handled. It was suggested that a committee be formed for the event. This item was tabled until the December Bishop's Committee meeting.

Stewardship Planning (Jim) – Jim said the Ingathering of Pledges will be November 29, and we will know the status then. Jim will send thank you notes for all pledges.

Vicar's Report –

Bonnie has two more Fresh Start program meetings to participate in. She is also doing two resurgent church groups and will need two projects for this. Possible projects will be the 100th Anniversary Celebration of St. Marks and planting a "cutting garden" adjacent to the church for greens.

Lorraine noted that Jail Ministry is scheduled for December 13. A Memorial Service was held at the nursing home. A prayer bead consultant visited today at St. Mark's and helped us in making the prayer beads the best way. This ministry will continue as it fits in, with needs and time to make the beads. Lorraine presented an \$81.49 bill for beading supplies and tools. She also gave the instructor \$20 for her fuel costs. The prayer beads will be sold to recover this expense. She also presented a Episcopal Emergency Preparedness for Congregations checklist.

Other Items – St. Mark's 2010 Budget will be presented at the December Bishop's Committee meeting. Martha suggested making the church handicap accessible by replacing part of the parking lot gravel with concrete. Jim said we need to look at the requirements and determine the best entrance for making the building accessible.

It was agreed to purchase a white pall from the Diocesan Altar Guild for \$50.

The next Bishop's Committee meeting will be Wednesday, December 16, at 6:30 pm.

The closing prayer was offered.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Krug,
Bishop's Committee Secretary