

**ST. MARK'S
BISHOP'S COMMITTEE MINUTES
March 13, 2013**

Present: John Tennefoss, Lorraine Dierick, Jim Campbell (via telephone), Mary Venske, Kevin Varness, and Martha Krug.

John opened the meeting with a prayer.

The **Bishop's Committee Minutes: Jim moved to approve the minutes of February 20, 2013. The motion was seconded and carried.**

The **Treasurer's Report:** Jim presented the **Summary of St. Mark's Finances – 3/10/2013, and the 2013 Operating Bills and Outreach Summary.** Jim reviewed the Summary and reported that he distributed all actions (\$1,900) from the February Bishop's Committee meeting, including the \$542 gift from All Saints, Bellevue to the DIF (until use later this summer). Net Operating Year to Date is \$134.28. Expenses for utilities will improve with warmer weather. Plate and Pledge categories are fine, and all bills are paid current. A three-year supply of altar candles has been ordered for \$260. The DIF (Diocesan Investment Fund) at \$19,493 continues to increase. Jim expects a \$300 Operating surplus by the end of March.

Funds Summary—Total is \$23,798.67

- General/Designated Checking Account—\$1,587.34
- General/Designated Savings Account—\$518.46
- Operating Fund (General) - \$2,105.80
- History Book Fund (Designated) - \$653.98
- Seminary/Education Fund (Designated) - \$0.00
- Memorial Fund/Savings Account -\$985.91
- Diocesan Investment Fund--\$19,493.08
- Clergy Discretionary Fund/Checking Account -\$671.88

BUSINESS ITEMS

- **Special Topic – Discussion About Focus of our Worship, Preaching and Ministry.** Jim reported that the Diocesan Steering Committee, of which he is a member, is discussing the future of the Episcopal Church. The Committee would like to include those that attend church and also those that do not attend church in this discussion. **Postcards** were distributed requesting 6 words that come to mind when you hear the word "church."

Jim assembled a packet of articles about the United States and local church congregations addressing "the number of Americans with no religious affiliation which continues to rise." In **5 Hopeful Signs**, at St. Mark's, Montesano: we contribute to charitable groups, have a website, include female leadership, and the connectedness of our congregation. The article on "**Relevance is Not Enough**" suggests that young people want to be a part of something larger

than self, the young want to find their own meaning, and being welcome in church is important.

Jim said we need to find where we can put our energy in our community. We need to listen to what people are looking for. Lorraine noted that most people at St. Mark's are involved in the life of the church. A demographic statistical survey of Montesano, pulled from Census records, was provided. Out of a population of 72,000 people, 51,147 have "unclaimed" church affiliation in Grays Harbor County. In conclusion, Jim asked that we think about ideas, and select some of these ideas for St. Mark's congregation.

- **Priest Reports** – Lorraine conducted two funerals, one at graveside and one at St. Luke's. The census at Montesano Health and Rehabilitation is down – St. Marks continues to provide pastoral care there. The Worship Committee covered Palm Sunday and Easter week events. **Maundy Thursday** service will be at St. Mark's and St. Luke's is invited. St. Mark's **Good Friday** service will be held at noon. Lorraine reminded everyone to bring bells, cut flowers, and eggs for **Easter Sunday**.
- **Other** – Martha thanked Kevin and friends for graveling the front and rear parking areas of St. Marks.

The next Bishop's Committee meeting will be Wednesday, April 17, at 6:30 pm. John closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Krug,
Bishop's Committee Secretary