

St. Mary's Vestry Meeting
March 15, 2012

The meeting was opened at 6:30 p.m. by Fr. Reid with bible study and prayers.

Present: Fr. Reid Morgan, Lola Cureton, Victor Reed, Sue Faulkner, Bill Adams, Judy Hetherly, Tulisha Carson, Robert Oliver & Brian Williams.

Absent: Tom Hart, Jan Denson, Tami Martin.

Judy Hetherly moved to accept the minutes of the February 8, 2012 meeting as presented. Victor Reed seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report – (Tulisha Carson)

- Presented the financial statements for the period ending 2/29/12. Discussion was held. Victor Reed moved that the report be accepted as presented. Sue Faulkner seconded. Motion passed.
- Reported that there had been a service charge on the operating checking account in the amount of \$11.60. The service charge was caused by the average daily balance dropping below \$1,000.00 which incurred at \$10.00 service charge and .10 cents per debit for the month. She reported that the account is a NOW account and accrues interest. The interest for February was .15 cents. The treasurer suggested that the account be changed to a commercial checking account which would not incur a service charge or accrue interest. Robert Oliver moved that the treasurer be authorized to change the operating account from a NOW account to a Commercial Checking account. Judith Hetherly seconded. Motion passed.
- Presented the report from the Audit Committee (copy attached)
- Reported that a representative from the Church Insurance Agency did a risk loss analysis on March 7th and determined that the treasurer should not sign the checks and reconcile the checking account and that we need an additional signer on the checking account to sign the checks and a non-signer to come in and oversee the bank reconciliation. It was the consensus of the vestry that Sue Zane M. Faulkner will come by the church office and sign checks and that Judy Hetherly will come by the church office and oversee the bank reconciliation. Judy Hetherly moved that we add Sue Zane M. Faulkner to the signature card of the operating account at the bank. Robert Oliver seconded. Motion passed.
- Reported that the Lampasas Dispatch Record is publishing their 2012-2013 Visitors Guide which will include a church page. Last year we had a listing on the church page. The cost is \$30 for up to 7 lines and an additional \$5 per line for each line over 7. It was the consensus of the vestry that we need to have a listing and 9 lines were agreed on (see below). Judith Hetherly volunteered to cover the cost of the listing.

Listing:

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
501 S. Chestnut St. * Lampasas, TX
512-556-5433
R. Reid Morgan III
www.ourstmarys.org
Sunday School: 9:00 am
Sunday Morning Worship: 8:00am & 10:00am
Sunday Evening Worship: 6:30 pm
Tuesday Service & Lunch: 10:30am

Rector's Report

- There is now a Sunday Evening service at 6:30 p.m. each Sunday. During Lent the service is Contemplative Eucharist, but after Lent it will change. This will include various types of services.
- Holy Week & Easter Day Schedule:
 - Palm Sunday
 - Liturgy of the Palms & Eucharist.... 8am, 10am*
 - Contemplative Eucharist 6:30pm*
 - Holy Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday
 - Morning Praying 9:00am*
 - Contemplative Eucharist 6:30pm*
 - Maundy Thursday
 - Morning Prayer 9:00am*
 - Foot Washing, Eucharist*
 - & Stripping of Altar..... 6:30pm*
 - Good Friday
 - Morning Prayer 9:00am*
 - Stations of the Cross..... 5:30pm*
 - Good Friday Service Noon & 6:30pm*
 - Holy Saturday
 - Holy Saturday Service..... 9:00am*
 - Great Vigil of Easter 8:00pm*
 - Easter Sunday
 - Holy Eucharist 8:00am, 10am*
 - (no Sunday School on Easter Day)
- The Rector will take off on Monday, April 9th and Thursday, April 12th during Easter Week.
- The next Vestry meeting will be on Wednesday, April 11 at 6:30 p.m.
- Mary Parmer, coordinator of the Diocesan Newcomer Ministry, will visit and preach at our 10am service on Sunday, April 15th. There will be a called meeting of the vestry at 1:00 p.m. that day to meet with Mary Parmer concerning her ideas for St. Mary's on newcomer ministry.

- Jeff Davis will visit and preach at both services on Sunday, March 25th. Jeff will soon be entering the Iona School. He has visited St. Mary's one time earlier this year and was well received.
- Reported that 8 parishioners and the Rector attended the Wardens & Vestry Conference on March 3rd at St. David's in Austin. Asked for members that had been to share one idea that they got from the conference that St. Mary's could implement:

Judy Hetherly – was impressed with Mary Parmer and suggests that we should invite her to share her ideas (she had already been invited by the Rector).

Bill Adams – we should split up the list of parishioners that are currently inactive and send them a personal note to tell them they are missed and is there anything they need. Suggested that we should possibly increase the rental fee on the parish hall use. Discussion concerning this followed after which Bill Adams moved that we increase the rental fees across the board by \$10. Sue Faulkner seconded. Motion passed. The vestry discussed whether we are in line with other local churches and Sue Faulkner agreed to call the Presbyterian Church and inquire about their fees.

Lola Cureton – Attended the session on Green Field Ministry. Feels that we should try to have Bible Studies off premises at local places such as restaurants or coffee bars. There was also discussion about having a Blessing of the Animals at the outdoor theatre in the WM Brook Park and inviting the local Animal Shelter and veterinarians to participate.

Sue Faulkner – Was impressed with the Bishop's address where he spoke of the Episcopal Church being Unique and our need to capitalize on that. She felt that we needed to discern what was unique and how we might go about capitalizing on that.

Victor Reed – Felt that we needed to try to get our "Episcopal Church Welcomes You" signs erected in town again. They had been removed by TXDOT years ago. He will contact a representative with TXDOT to find out how we might go about this. He feels that we need to have the prayer cards back on the table in the Nave again, where people can pickup a card to send someone if they have been prayed for during a service.

Tulisha Carson – Attended the session on Stewardship & Giving Campaigns. Feels that we need to restructure our stewardship campaign. Feels that there are many aspects to stewardship that we fail to get across with our current method of writing a letter and sending a pledge card in the mail. Has many ideas from the session including one titled "In His Steps".

Senior Warden's Report

- Thanked everyone who attended the Warden's & Vestry Conference on March 3rd.

Junior Warden's Report

- Has been out-of-town and has not yet coordinated with Mike Hail about cleaning up the lot next to the playground, but he will try to get with him as soon as possible. There was discussion about the flag poles and the memorial stones in front of them. The consensus of the vestry was to have the flag poles removed and offered for sale – first to parishioners; and to save the stones to possibly be included in the landscaped area by the Columbarium.
- Mike Hail is working on a long range maintenance plan for the church.
- Found someone that can give us a bid to cut down the pews that are in the Choir loft, will pursue getting the bid.

Other Discussion Items

Victor reported that the next trash pickup will be on this Saturday, March 17th, at 9:00 a.m. The April trash pickup will be in conjunction with the Texas Trash-off on Saturday, April 14th. He also reported that he will be out-of-town from May until August and someone else will have to coordinate bringing the supplies. Tom Hart has done this in the past and Victor will contact him to see if he can do this again. Brian Williams volunteered if Tom is not available.

Robert Oliver asked Fr. Reid if we could have an Usher Training soon as a refresher for usher duties.

Sue Faulkner brought up an item of discussion in February about the decline in church attendance. She and several other vestry members met and drafted a letter to be sent to parishioners asking for recommendations on energizing our parish life. It was the consensus of the vestry that the letter was a good idea and should be sent. She and the other members will coordinate the logistics of getting the letter in the mail as soon as possible. The letter asks parishioners to reply within 2 weeks of receipt and will include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Vestry members are making cash donations to offset the postage for this project.

There being no further items to be brought before the Vestry, the meeting was closed in prayer.

Adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectively,

Tulisha Carson
Appointed Clerk in the Absence of Tami Martin