

## **St. Francis in the Fields Episcopal Church Vestry Minutes for February 24, 2009**

A quorum was present: The Reverend Robert T. Jennings, Senior Warden Terry Strange, Junior Warden Sloan Graff, Treasurer Tom Dieruf, Tom Kelley, David Welsh, Ray Pierce, Bob Quaife, Fiona Starks, Shelley Laventis, Hugh Hill, Bob Bortner, Chris Zimmerman and Tom Brown, Clerk.

- I. Robin opened the meeting with prayer.
- II. Rector's Report:
  - a. Robin outlined his vision of a continuance of family ministry for St. Francis in '09.
  - b. With the elimination of Adrienne's position, other members of the staff will assume those duties, many of which over-lap with their existing responsibilities.
  - c. Our "Reaching Out" to Cable Baptist remains in the formulative stages as we determine how to best serve our youth as we bridge the urban-suburban gap.
  - d. Adult confirmation begins March 4.
  - e. In an effort to attract a larger group of worshippers, particularly those in their 20's, Catch the Spirit will move to noon on March 8.
- III. Senior Warden's Report
  - a. Terry presented the New Vestry Committee for 2009.
  - b. We will send our representatives to the abbreviated Diocesan Convention on
  - c. Saturday, February 28, Terry has asked the Vestry to read Simple Church. He foresees a need to empower Leaders in the Church and this book will be our beginning as we initiate this effort.
- IV. Committee Reports
  - a. Attendance has been down so far this year, but 59% of the 261 registered children have been attending Sunday school.
  - b. Raleigh has asked for our prayers for his youth, and with their busy schedule, it becomes apparent that we should comply. They will return to David, KY, travel to Mexico to work with a poor community and go on a retreat to All Saints.
  - c. Jim Rightmyer presents an extremely active musical schedule beginning Sunday, March 1 with an organ recital by Neil Larson.
  - d. Our Every Member Canvass was down slightly, but given present market conditions, the results were quite good.
- V. Approved Minutes
  - a. Minutes from the January 24, 2009 Vestry Meeting were approved.
- VI. Treasurer's Report
  - a. Tom Dieruf presented an overview on our finances and educated new Vestry members in the process. He cautioned about our early excesses, particularly in printing and supplies and bemoaned our ever-rising utilities.

- b. Tom also called for a vote on the “Maintenance Endowment Fund”. The Vote to eliminate this passed and should it pass one more year, these funds, approximately \$700,000, will be moved to a Designated Fund titled “Maintenance Funds” and be utilized at the discretion of any future vestry.
- c. Also, the Vestry voted to eliminate the “St. Francis General Purpose Fund” and move it to the “St. Francis Scholarship Fund”. This would increase that fund by approximately \$100,000.

VII. The Rule

- a. Terry Strange read from Genesis 9:8-17 about the covenant God made with his people never again to destroy them by water, with the protective rainbow the sign of this covenant.

VIII. New Business

- a. The Brotherhood of St. Andrew is preparing a pancake supper for this evening, February 24. As a note, at the time of this writing, namely Wednesday morning, February 25, the following was consumed at this supper:
  - 40 lbs. pancake flour
  - 288 sausage patties
  - 2 gals. milk
  - 4 gals. orange juice
  - 10 dozen cookies
- b. Next Vestry meeting, Tuesday, March 24, 2009

IX. Devotion for the Evening.

- a. Robin led us from the Book of Common Prayer in closing.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Tom Brown, Clerk

The Rev. Robert T. Jennings  
Rector

Approved signatures on original document.

