

## **St. Francis in the Fields Episcopal Church Vestry Minutes for August 25, 2009**

A quorum was present: The Rev. Robert T. Jennings, The Senior Warden Terry Strange, Junior Warden Sloane Graff, Treasurer Tom Kelley, Anne McMillin, Bob Bortner, Ray Pierce, Hugh Hill, David Welsh, Shelley Laventis, Phylis Semple, Bill Receveur, Bob Quaife, Fiona Starks and Tom Brown, Clerk.

- I. Robin opened the meeting with prayer.
  
- II. Rector's Report
  - a. Robin presented each vestry member a copy of The Journey, a daily Bible reading program.
  - b. Robin's review of the Henri Nouwen book Home Tonight in the Courier-Journal was discussed.
  - c. Tuesday Bible Study will begin September 15, with 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians being offered for study this year.
  - d. Wednesday evening offerings begin with "How a Man Prays for His Family" on September 16.
  - e. A 10 day trip to Israel is being offered for March, with space available for 20 people.
  - f. Parish picnic is planned for September 6.
  - g. Sundays return to normal as we return to the four Sunday Services beginning September 13.
  
- III. Senior Warden's Report
  - a. At Terry's request, the vestry conducted an exercise as to what led them to St. Francis.
  - b. We have been approached by the Cub Scouts to start a Pack here at St. Francis. The visibility of scouting at this location should be heightened, as a Boy Scout Troop is already here.
  - c. Next year marks Robin's 30 year Anniversary at St. Francis. He will be writing for The Journey and the two events might be celebrated in some fashion.
  - d. Parent 2 Parent, a program dealing with toxic substances and our children will be offered Monday nights this fall.
  - e. Safeguarding God's Children, a program dealing with child abuse, will be presented next month for anyone having contact with our youth in the church-sponsored activities.
  - f. The recent General Convention was discussed. Of particular interest is the direction our new Bishop will follow with our Diocese.
  - g. The vestry chose not to pursue purchase of the house across the street on Wolf Pen Branch Road.
  
- IV. Committee Reports
  - a. Hugh Hill updated that all is going well with planning the 2010 Every Member Canvass. He hopes to increase participation of households by 15% and to embrace the giving principle of generosity.
  - b. A conference on Christian Healing is scheduled for the weekend of September 25-27. This event, made possible through the generosity of the Charles and Betty Anne Allen Fund for Pastoral Care, brings renowned Canon Mark Pearson to St.

Francis. Christ's mission was to preach, teach, and heal. We pray St. Francis is a healing place.

- c. Saturday, the 29<sup>th</sup> of August is the dedication of this year's Habitat House and once again our volunteers will join our co-hosts from other Louisville churches in raising the roof for a deserving family.
  - d. The adult education hour on Sunday morning boasts a strong slate of presentations as we explore the Power of Faith to Heal.
  - e. Bill reported that our properties have been refurbished over the summer. The Bishop's Study, our windows and the floor in the handicapped entrance to the Church have all had renovations.
- V. Approval of Minutes
- a. The minutes from the June 30, 2009 meeting were approved.
- VI. Treasurer's Report
- a. Tom reported that July was a very expensive month as we incurred lightning damage, huge utility bills and maintenance costs above budget. This, combined with the slow cash in-put that is traditional in the summer isn't the best of news. Tom did say that he hopes to develop a plan to restructure our finances to make cash more readily available to cover our expenses.
  - b. Bill pointed out that we are dealing with a physical plant that is at least 15 years old and these repairs are common given the age of our building.
- VII. The Rule
- a. Fiona read James 1:17-27. We are called to be doers of the Word of God and not just listeners.
- VIII. New Business
- a. Next Vestry Meeting is Tuesday, September 22, 2009.
- IX. Devotion for the Evening
- a. Fiona led us in the collect for the Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Tom Brown, Clerk

The Rev. Robert T. Jennings  
Rector

Approved signatures on original document.