

April 28 2009
Meeting of the Vestry of Saint Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church
7:00 PM in the Chapel
Next meeting: May 26, 2009

Vestry members present:

Elizabeth Boileau Brad Erickson, AnnaMarie Hoos, David Kincaid, Rick Storrs, Susan Abernethy, Paul Fromberg.

Absent: Jessica Anderson,

Also Attending: Leesy Taggart, Treasurer

Attachments:

Year to Date 3/09 Financials

I. APPROVAL OF March, 2009 MINUTES

March, 2009 minutes approved.

II. FINANCIAL REPORT

See YTD financials attached.

Leesy Taggart noted that this year's financials when compared to last year reflected the calendar difference of Easter in March (last year) and Easter in April (this year). With that noted that the church spending is on track for the quarter in relation to the budget.

The fundraising effort at Christmas by greenery sales raised \$1000.

The church may realize a rebate from the Worker's Compensation Fund as the Fund balances the premiums and payments for the year. The church also may realize other savings this year as the office evaluates contracts and suppliers for the telephone and copier service.

In celebration of Paul's New Ministry donations were made to the Rector's Discretionary Fund of \$2800.

Presently the Building fund has \$3000: the treasurer repeated her request to the Vestry to fundraise for the Building Fund. Building Loan is presently being paid as interest only and payments to principal should be paid.

Presently our fundraising activities seem to be positioned at the yearend. The suggestion was made for a discussion of Fundraising at St Gregory's to be placed on the Agenda for April.

III. RECTOR'S REPORT

Paul stated the Letter of agreement needs to be signed by Convenors and Michael Barlowe – the terms are agreeable to Paul –agreement concerns condition of work at St. Gregory, it is standard for the Diocese.

St. Gregory is going to be signing a contract with an AA group; it will be meeting in the Schell Library on Saturday mornings. There was a discussion of how we will resolve any conflicts with

a group. The annual contract provides for meeting downstairs \$15/meeting and if the group grows \$25/meeting upstairs.

In two weeks time (5/11-18) Paul will be attending a program, CREDO sponsored by the Church Pension Fund. Credo is a group program for clergy wellness using tools to prevent burnout, to be effective and to maintain physical, emotional, financial, vocational and spiritual health. He will be setting goals for himself there, and thinking of the question: What the Rector is of Saint Gregory, is for himself and his people.

Paul mentioned that the school, La Piccola Scuola Italiana, is looking for a larger space for their program next year. Finding another space is going to be hard for the school because of the licensing requirements, so their move may not be as early as next year.

The Easter Week unpacking meeting hasn't been scheduled, however it was recognized that all the services were had greater attendance, the organizing model of czarlettes, one person in charge of logistics, one a deacon per event was successful, the addition of the Sunday afternoon Easter Egg Hunt and Vesper service was an event that could be "grown" and planned. There was some discussion of the Palm Sunday Brunch growing by 50%. Paul asked that all suggestions regarding Easter be mailed to him.

IV. MEMBERSHIP

Susan Abernethy reported there was the Rector's Quarterly Luncheon for new members and their sponsors. The next one will be on June 14." the Rector's Quarterly Luncheon for new members and their sponsors. The next one will be on June 14. Four new members have joined: Bobby Sanchez and Justin Morgan, sponsored by Will Hocker; Penny Cariffe, sponsored by Susan Kellerman; and Cynthia Gralla, sponsored by Sara Miles.

The next meeting of the Membership Committee will be May 17 and there will be a discussion of the vision of sponsorship.

The new Welcoming Coordinator will be Bruce Bramlett. Susan asked Paul to refresh the program and meet with Bruce as he takes over Welcoming.

V. COMMUNICATIONS

AnnaMarie Hoos reported There would be one or two new bike racks installed at the church to accommodate all the bicyclers on Sunday morning.

One or two Saint Gregory folk are needed to be administrators of Facebook. Vik Slen started the Facebook page. Currently AnnaMarie and Paul Fromberg are the go to people on the page.

AnnaMarie is still trying to locate the graphics file for the brochure.

V. LEARNING AND SERVICE REPORT

Rick Storrs has made some progress on the moving of the Community Service table items to a dedicated space in the closet. He is organizing the move with a couple of buddies of his.

Concerning learning side of his portfolio he read the Vestry minutes about the Vestry Workday goal of life long learning. His question to Paul was 'What needs doing?'

Paul replied that he had a meeting with a consultant and Sunday School stakeholders about life long learning and finds the idea of cradle to grave learning in the church really exciting. He has

meetings scheduled to continue the conversations and will report back at the next Vestry meeting. The St. Gregory Center on Faith & Mystery, our Sunday School will roll out a new program in the fall. Rick continues to check in with Will and Margaret about what is needed. Fall Retreat discussion - the suggested theme is Renaissance, an astronomer may be our guest. Rick will have a conversation with Linda James about the Retreat and registration. At Spring Chapter there will be an announcement about the Fall retreat so that deposits can be taken. Two parts of the Fall Retreat would be Renaissance and Relaxation.
Spring Chapter dates are June 5-6, 2009.
Fall retreat dates are October 9-11, 2009.

VI. VESTRY ORGANIZATION DISCUSSION (cont'd from March)

The discussion about Vestry organization started in March was to continue but was tabled at Paul's suggestion until May. Discussion followed regarding the minutes of the last meeting, Leesy provided great clarity in her notes. The idea of the role of Vestry is to hold church's vision and to take care of the financial resources of the church. The discussion regarding the resources of the church turned to the role of the Junior Warden. Questions surrounding the position of Junior warden are whether to add it as a discrete position, what is the job of the junior warden and does the function of junior warden include physical space and operations. The Junior Warden would have/see the job as a ministry and vision. Paul remarked that the building won't make it unless there is a feeling of stewardship, joy and interest in the physical plant – The church needs someone who would take on the responsibility, someone who is particularly qualified and interested. Two names were mentioned as coordinators of the physical space of the church. At present Coordinator(s) would not be a Vestry position but would report to the Vestry. There could be a trial run not to last longer than six months, to build a job description and to see if the position would be actually a Vestry position or a report to the Vestry. The Coordinator would preserve the present space and consider future space and needs to order inform a possible capital campaign. Paul will talk with both individuals mentioned about their ideas about the position and whether it could be shared or done as one individual. Starting in May the Vestry will be considering a pilot program, adding an individual to the Vestry, evaluate the program in the fall and vote on the position in 2010. Considering the possibility of adding one person to the Vestry raised the question of Vestry restructuring, possibly adding the position of Treasurer and another person for Membership who would be addressing the pastoral needs of the community. These possible additions would add a new level of complexity to the Vestry meetings. Also discussed was the possibility that the work in Membership and Finance could be done in committee and a report prepared for Vestry. Paul introduced that one aspect of Saint Gregory that has no visibility is the Sunday School program - except to the parents. Giving Learning and Service a committee structure, designing working groups to spread the word, knowledge of activities would help with visibility. The Vestry is entering a period of recalibration, titles and job descriptions may change. The documents based on the discussions at the Vestry Workday in March will be circulated before the next Vestry meeting. The Workday conversation coupled with the work the Vestry did on the Retreat are the springboard for discussions of what the Vestry working with Paul will be doing in the future.

Paul would love to see work at St. Gregory's organized in a rational system of tasks and be meaningful for all members new and old.

IX. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Spring Chapter Dinners – organizing will be between Learning and Service and Membership so that there will be effective coordination between dinner sites and membership. El Jefe for dinners is AnnaMarie Hoos.

Under New Business was a Thank You from Paul for the Renewal/Celebration of New Ministry- the service was lovely.

X. CLOSING PRAYER

With a recognition of jobs well done the

**** meeting adjourned ****