

December 12, 2009
Meeting of the Vestry of Saint Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church
2:00 PM in Godly Play Room
Next meeting: January 19, 2010

Vestry members present:

Susan Abernethy, Jessica Anderson, Elizabeth Boileau, Dan Crisafulli, Brad Erickson, Paul Fromberg, AnnaMarie Hoos,

Absent: Rick Storrs

Guests: Brian Protheroe, Susan Sutton, Treasurer, Leesy Taggart,

Invocation

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The November 24, 2009 minutes were amended and approved.

II. FINANCIAL REPORT

Dan Crisafulli reported that the budget is still on track and in line with our year-end projections of income and spending.

Leesy Taggart reported that she had run the deficit projections for the end of the year and the results lay along a line of \$12,000 (worst case) to \$0 (best case). She is carefully optimistic about breaking even and will manage bills so that if we can we will break even. Leesy received applause for the yearlong effort of managing and reporting about our budget.

Up to the date of this meeting, the Fall Fundraising effort has raised \$30,000 of which \$2500 is designated for the Building Fund. Amounts raised by year end will be allocated \$20,000 to the General Fund and the remainder to the Building Fund. The entire Vestry has contributed to the Fall Appeal.

III. 2010 BUDGET: DISCUSSION & APPROVAL

Paul Fromberg handed out the 2010 budget. Discussion ensued regarding income sources, the lease for the Italian School concludes in July of 2010. Presently the Italian school is open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., has two programs morning and afternoon, with two major meals prepared everyday along with snacks in the kitchen. They are looking for another space. If the school moves then we will be able to rent the space to another group, it may be a school because the

space is school licensing compliant. If a school then perhaps time and facility use would be less intensive.

The proposed 2010 budget includes increased spending, funded by increased pledges as well as fundraising. Jessica Anderson proposed approval as presented, including health benefits for all salaried employees and a salary increase for the rector. She proposed making the hiring of a part time Youth & Family Minister subject to financial results through Easter that suggest giving has risen enough to support the increased cost. This would be communicated clearly to the membership at the Parish Meeting in January. If the decision to hire is made in the April Vestry meeting, it would allow us to interview and hire by July, allowing the new minister to program for the school year beginning September. If the Vestry does not approve hiring a new minister, we would have to do substantial volunteer recruiting and organization to build on the good work done over the past year.

In response to a question about members' giving, Leesy explained that growth in net giving in 2009 came almost entirely from new members. She expects that we will hit 2009 budget on pledge and plate giving.

Leesy gave a rough outline of 2010 stewardship plans: continuing to invite roughly 10 percent of the community to review their pledges each month, and encouraging increased giving as people are able. Stewardship communication will increase and will be more specific about church programs. We will begin acknowledging pledge renewals during the Sunday liturgy, with an opt-out for those who prefer anonymity. We will also reinstitute the education component, with a focus on gratitude and generosity. The Vestry asked her to make recruiting a Stewardship team an early priority.

Moved, Seconded and Approved: The 2010 Budget is adopted as presented with the caveat that the Vestry meet in April as soon as feasible after Easter to review finances before we give Paul Fromberg the final decision to hire a Youth and Family Minister.

Leesy Taggart introduced the following resolution regarding housing allowances for clergy that is in keeping with the provisions made in the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.. This has been a practice of the Vestry of St. Gregory's church since incorporation.

Moved, Seconded, and Approved:

Treasurer's Consent Agenda Resolution 1: Paul Fromberg Salary Resolution

WHEREAS the Reverend Paul Fromberg, an ordained minister, has accepted an appointment to serve at St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church; and

WHEREAS St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church does not provide a residence for its appointed ministers:

THE VESTRY HEREBY RESOLVES that the housing allowance paid to the Reverend Paul Fromberg for the period beginning January 1, 2010, and ending December 31, 2010, shall be set at an annual amount of \$42,000, and that it is designated as rental allowance within the meaning of that term as used in Section 107 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and,

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that, so long as the Reverend Paul Fromberg remains a minister of St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church, the housing allowance shall be paid in like amount each year after 2010 unless this resolution is superseded by a subsequent resolution of the Vestry; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED and affirmed by the Vestry that the Reverend Paul Fromberg is not being paid to be a member of St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church.

In order to confirm the signers on the church banking accounts Leesy introduced the following resolution:

Moved, Seconded, and Approved:

Treasurer's Consent Agenda Resolution 2: Bank Account Marking Authority

RESOLVED, that the Vestry affirms the status of the following individuals as duly elected officers and authorizes them to represent St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church to the extent allowed by the By-Laws of the Parish and the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of California: Brad Erickson, President; Jessica Anderson, Vice President; Elizabeth Boileau, Secretary; and Elizabeth Taggart, Treasurer.

For the purposes of Bank of America Account 23313-05095 in the name of St. Gregory Nyssen Episcopal Church Operating Account, the following individuals and only the following individuals shall have marking authority: Elizabeth Taggart, Treasurer; Brad Erickson, President; and Jessica Anderson, Vice President. Only one signature will be required on any transaction.

For the purposes of Wells Fargo Advisors Account 7697-1506 in the name of St Gregory's of Nyssa Episcopal Church, the follow individuals and on the following individuals shall have marking authority: Elizabeth Taggart, Treasurer; Brad Erickson, President; and Jessica Anderson, Vice President. Only one signature will be required on any transaction.

IV. VESTRY HANDBOOK

Paul Fromberg would like to have new Vestry members receive a binder with the budget and other Vestry information at the time they come on to the Vestry. The binder would have some basic information about Vestry functions and history and in particular those at St. Gregory. He has a copy of *The Vestry Handbook*, a generic guide approved by the Diocese to help vestries understand their functions. He will make it available to Brian Protheroe and Elizabeth Boileau who volunteered to put the binder together. Concurrent with new members on the Vestry

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP

Susan Abernethy reported that three members would join on December 13;
Patrick Boileau, sponsor Joe Cousart
Chris and Nick O' Riordon, sponsor Susan Abernethy
There will be a new Member's Lunch following the service at Paul & Grant's home.

Susan, as the Membership Commissioner felt that she should make sure that members should receive a notice as soon as possible about the Annual Parish meeting in January. Jessica and Brad are working on a letter that will go out next week announcing the meeting, introducing the present candidates for Vestry and encouraging members to serve as a member of the Deanery. The Annual Parish Meeting will be in two parts; a facilitated Parish Meeting about the 'State of the Parish' on Saturday and a Business Meeting led by Brad Erickson and Jessica Anderson to review the Budget, vote on the Vestry Slate on Sunday during the Adult Forum.

LIFELONG LEARNING REPORT

Rick Storrs was absent.

STRATEGIC PRESENCE

AnnaMarie Hoos had nothing to report.

VI. CLERGY REPORT

Paul Fromberg shared with the Vestry his plans for vacation January 3-22, which include a mayoral swearing-in in Houston and time spent in Paris, France, Europe and Venice, not California, Italy.

He reported that everything is going beautifully. The newly introduced Coffee Hour is going and will grow.

Jessica Anderson reported that the Choir sang at Genetech Hall; the event was well attended and when the Choir sang the Scientist songs composed by Scott King, using words by Darwin, Deming and Muir, the audience was enthused.

CLOSING PRAYER

With a recognition of jobs well done the

**** meeting adjourned ***