

July 27, 2010
Meeting of the Vestry of Saint Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church
7:00 in the Chapel
Next meeting: September 27, 2010

Vestry members present:

Jessica Anderson, Paul Fromberg, Cheryl Hendrickson, Susan Sutton, Rick Storrs, Dan Crisafulli, Brian Protheroe

Absent: Susan Abernethy, Elizabeth Boileau

Others Present: None

Invocation

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The May 2010 minutes need to be approved at the next vestry meeting in September. There will be no August vestry meeting.

II. FINANCIAL REPORT

Dan Crisafulli presented Year-to-date June 2010 financials and said we were pretty much on plan for the year.

A motion was made, seconded and approved with no dissent to allow our Treasurer to use up to 20% of the reserves (approximately \$10,000) to fund cash shortfall during August and September. We have not need to do this yet but she wanted the approval if she needed to. Electronic Vote: After the meeting, we found that we needed to vote again on this resolution. We changed it to: Moved, Seconded and Past: Treasurer can use up to \$25,000 of reserved funds during the months of August and September 2010 to fund cash flow shortfall for St. Gregory's.

III. CLERGY REPORT

Paul Fromberg is looking at three candidates for the YFM position. He is tending towards one candidate with an arts/dance background who is local. She is being interviewed by a group of members called together to help Paul with the decision. We are still hopeful this position will be filled before the beginning of September.

The Vestry also discussed a different format for its meetings that might allow us to involve more working groups of members in the church's work. The discussion will continue and a decision will be made on whether to make the change at the September meeting.

IV. CONVENOR'S REPORT

Jessica said that she was working on a simple disaster plan for the church in case of a community disaster. If San Francisco has a disaster, the staff of the Food Pantry has offered to start a Food Pantry for local residents at the church. In order to get the agreement in place with the Food Bank, the Food Pantry has to provide both their plans and the disaster plan for the church. She is working with Susan Sutton, Paul Fromberg and AnnaMarie Hoos. The plan will only cover community level disasters, and will not address attacks by Mothra or Godzilla.

Elizabeth Boileau has volunteered to go over the minutes and put together a list of decisions the vestry has made through vote since 2005. This will be part of the Vestry Handbook. In addition, the handbook should include. Contact information for the Vestry, last year's financials, this year's budget, the by-laws, calendar of meeting dates and retreats for Vestry, Vestry job descriptions and descriptions of any additional financial management procedures that Dan, Leesy and Paul feel are necessary.

Dan Crisifulli mentioned that Daniel Webster is very interested in working with us and we should begin to pull a working group together to: 1) buy books for the library, 2) provide English Tutoring or Reading support or 3) be a site for a house by house dinner with dessert at the church for the PTA.

V. SACRED SPACE REPORT

Susan Sutton presented a bid from a gate company to install a gate with an automatic opener for the parking lot. The vestry looked at the bid and decided to defer discussion on the possible expense until after the departure of LPSI. The Vestry wanted to be sure to be using the building funds for the highest priority needs.

VI. MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Susan Abernethy resigned from the Vestry this month. The Vestry noted that Susan has been a strong, thoughtful and energetic presence on the Vestry and with the Membership committee. She will be missed. The Vestry is reviewing names for a possible appointment for Membership Commissioner to fill out the rest of 2010. The Parish will elect a new Membership Commissioner in January 2011 to a full three-year term.

There was no additional Membership report.

VII. STRATEGIC PRESENCE REPORT

Brian Protheroe said that his Ning tutorial last Sunday between the services went well and he intends to give another at the Retreat in October.

He also noted that there will be a Potrero Hill Day on October 11, 2010. He suggested that we buy a booth for \$50 and that he would work out how to man it and what to offer.

VIII. LIFELONG LEARNING

Rick Storrs reported that Hillie Cousart and Elizabeth Boileau are taking the lead on this year's retreat on October 6,7 and 8 (are these the right dates?) They will have a sign-up table starting this Sunday, August 1 after both services.

Subsequent Event: On August 15, 2010, we had an electronic vote to give Paul the ok to hire a Youth and Family Minister. According to our by-laws, Vestry must confirm by a 2/3 majority, the selection by the Rector of any Assistant Clergy. Moved, Seconded and Passed unanimously:

That the Vestry approve the selection of Sylvia Miller-Mutia as the Youth and Family Minister for St. Gregory's of Nyssa.

Recommendations from Cheryl Hendrickson, Amy Baker, and Margaret Simpson:

I highly recommend Sylvia for the position of Youth and Family Minister. I feel she has the skills needed to fulfill the job description set out by the YFM Discernment Group.
- Cheryl Hendrickson

Cheryl has accurately summarized many of the points that were covered in my interview with her. I recommend her for the position of YFM at St. Gregory's. Cheryl thanks for your thorough summary.
- Judy Minton

I would like to offer my complete support to the hiring of Sylvia for the position of Youth and Families Ministries at St. Gregory's. Her varied and interesting background, her previous work with youth, her aspirations for her future work combine to make her perfectly poised to take on this challenge. And challenge it will be. Let's not kid ourselves, this will not be a cakewalk for her (or anyone else!). I trust Paul's instincts about her being someone he can work with and she will bring an intriguing balance to the leadership. I'm very excited about the youthful energy, brains and creativity being brought to this whole undertaking of Children at the Center.
- Margaret Simpson

Notes from Interviews:

- She served as YFM for 7 years at St. Stephen's in Belvedere. During that time, she

helped develop a successful family liturgy. Her points of reference for the success included attendance as well as the fact that many of the elementary students who attended the liturgy (intended for preschool-elementary aged students) grew to be great role models for the congregation.

- She feels kids need to experience church through liturgy and feel they understand liturgy in profound ways. She believes that kids are not on the bottom of a hierarchy and truly values their presence in church. She wants to get the kids moving around in order to help them experience God and help them connect to liturgy. She has a strong dance background.

- She is eager to work within the shared ministry model and if she became the YFM, she would need support in identifying people who will support her ministry. She feels her greatest strength is working as a leader in a group.

- She is aware of the differing needs of parents and the need for discernment. She does not believe this will be a quick process, we will need to prioritize needs. As a parent, she understands the desire to have sacred time at church and also wanting to provide spiritual direction for her kids. Based on her past experience, she can provide focused direction that people would want to invest in.

- She feels that while she can see the big picture, she is very action plan oriented. She does not like last minute overhauls, and works best when working as a team leader with a clear goal and ample time.

- She attended PSR (non-denominational) and CDSP (Episcopal) and was able to appreciate what each seminary provided, which allowed her not to have an exclusive view of liturgy.

She is not the person who will come in with a program that SGN needs to fit into. She made it clear that she was not going to take ministry away from people, but invite people in to share her ministry. She is not interested in developing programs that take kids away from liturgy and church.

Closing Prayer

With a recognition of jobs well done the

**** meeting adjourned ***