

July 22, 2008
Meeting of the Vestry of Saint Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church
7:00 PM in the Chapel
Next meeting: August 26, 2008

Vestry members present:

Jessica Anderson, Susan Abernethy, Elizabeth Boileau, Brad Erickson, Paul Fromberg, AnneMarie Hoos, David Kincaid,

Invocation

I. APPROVAL OF June 22, 2008 MINUTES

June 22, 2008 minutes approved.

II. VESTRY RETREAT RECAP

Everyone agreed that the Vestry Retreat was great. Many thanks to Susan Abernethy for hosting the retreat. There was also general agreement that retreats should happen at each Vestry juncture. Notes from the retreat will kept by the Vestry Secretary. There will be feedback about resources available to enable committee formation by each Vestry member. Two items that emerged from the retreat that were acted on immediately were 1) Vestry meetings will start at 7o'clock; and 2) on the fourth Sunday of each month (the Sunday before Vestry meets) there will Transition Meetings; Vestry will be meeting with church members to talk about the transition. Two Vestry members and one church member attended the first meeting on July 20.

III. FINANCE REPORT

David Kincaid introduced a resolution that would create a Finance Committee and discussion followed.

Moved, Seconded and Passed: Resolved that a Finance Committee is created pursuant to Article VII ("Committees") of the Bylaws. The Committee shall consist of the Rector, the Finance Commissioner and the Treasurer. The Committee shall serve at the pleasure of the Vestry, and its official actions shall be reported to the Vestry.

The Committee shall have authority to make decisions concerning the budget and finances of the Church that, in the judgment of the Committee, are routine in nature or otherwise do not merit the attention of the full Vestry. By way of example such actions include, but are not limited to: (a) adjusting budget line items and making transfers between funds without materially increasing the aggregate budget; and (b) approving expenditures for events against expected revenues to be received from such events. In the event of disagreement among the members of the Committee, any one member of the Committee may refer the relevant issue to the Vestry.

David introduced two reports from Treasurer Leesy Taggart; the financial summary for the year ending June 2008 and a report comparing 2006-2007 income and expenses with 2007-2008 income and expenses. There was a general discussion of the two reports and members of the

Vestry were invited to send questions to Leesy. David also introduced a 12-month comparison of Unrestricted Giving, excluding Cash collected from the Plate. The numbers showed that giving has held steady for the two years and in 2008 has actually risen 8%, compared to 2007, excluding special gifts in either year.

We discussed the fact that the church's outstanding loan, which financed the costs of our building, is maturing August 31. As of June 30, the principal balance is \$262,507. We voted to accept the offer of the loan holder to renew the loan, on unchanged terms, for another five years. The loan requires only monthly interest payments at the Prime Rate, but by prior Vestry decision we are making monthly payments of \$2,500 towards combined principal and interest.

IV. FACILITIES UPDATE

Jessica Anderson as the Junior Warden reported that process of replacing the administration building roof requires another roofing bid. She also reported that Andy Jaszewski will renovate the church front doors and there is still another bid required for the sprinklers. She announced there is a special gift by a member for a building project that promotes water conservation by the church.

V. COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

AnneMarie Hoos reported that Deb Williams, Dave Cowen and she are working on the new and improved Nyssa News.

VI. MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Susan Abernethy announced that two new members have joined St. Gregory's; Thomas Jackson and Gran Coffee and she anticipates that there will be six others joining over time.

There will no more delays in getting a name button. Madeline, one of most energetic Sunday School members has the button kit and is taking over the responsibility.

Susan has two church members writing to new visitors to the church every week.

The revised *Joining St. Gregory's* brochure is finished and available. The *New Members Packet* is under revision. Also being revised is *Everything You Need To Know: Get Involved in St. Gregory's*.

VII. CLERGY REPORT

Carolyn Feuille asked Paul Fromberg for the support of the Vestry for Faith in Action, a lobbying group that meets at the church. AnneMarie H will contact Carolyn about specifics so that Vestry support is not something in name only.

More technology advances are on the way; St Gregory will have a separate server from All Saints Company and *iCal* will be used to do the church yearly calendaring.

In September the Fall program of classes/groups will be rolled out. Amber Stancliffe-Evans, Daniel Simons, Nancy Milholland are all on board as teacher/leaders.

The new church secretary, Sheri Woods is great.

Paul asked for and received the approval to obtain/build a functioning coat closet from IKEA for the Fabian Lounge. The cost should be \$650. The Vestry approved an expense up to \$1000.

On August 10 at the 10:30 service Daniel Simon and Javier Galito-Cava will be celebrating their marriage. This celebration is a first because it is being done within the liturgy rather than having a separate liturgy.

If folks are interested in the Lambeth Conference and proceedings outside of official pronouncements they can click to websites *Episcopal Café* or *Thinking Anglican*.

Paul Fromberg left the meeting at this point

VIII. TRANSITION

The Conveners reported about their meeting with Michael Barlowe; when told the Profile is 99.9% done, he responded he would like to see the profile before publication. He was informed about the retreat and the number of volunteers for the Discernment Committee. One thing that Michael Barlowe wanted make clear was there would be a dialogue with the new rector about St. Gregory practices.

There was a wide-ranging discussion of the rector's job description. How does the new rector spend his/her time (4.5) days given the requirements of being a priest at St Gregory in addition to being a pastor (pastoral care)? What does a day of prayer and reflection look like? The job description will take shape from the Book of Common Prayer and the Profile.

The Discernment Committee will be blessed at both services shortly.

IX. CLOSING PRAYER

With a recognition of jobs well done the

**** meeting adjourned ****