

St. Stephens's Episcopal Church November 6, 2011 Vestry Meeting

In attendance: Lisa, Don, Chuck, Rick, Piet, David, Lois, Bill and Nancy.

1. The October Vestry minutes were electronically approved on 10/22/11 and posted on 10/23.
2. October Treasurers report – net negative of -\$2,322 for the month. Discussion around options to show the cash flow differently in the future, will consider for 2012.
3. Finance Committee
 - a. 2012 pledges – only written pledges will be recorded as part of the 2012 budget.
 - b. **Piet & Chuck** will figure out the people who are far behind their estimate of giving for 2011 and speak to them to determine what they plan to give for the rest of 2011. If there appears to be a pastoral issue, they will ask permission to give their name to David to follow up on.
 - c. David McCarthy will analyze the past five years' data to model the future financial outlook given declining pledges and steady expenses. Goal is to be ready to have a conversation with the diocese the first quarter of 2012.
 - d. Stewardship Sunday - 11/13/11: two services with brunch in-between.
 - i. **David** will give a sermon on the spiritual aspects of Stewardship, **Piet** will share the financial realities right afterwards. More information and discussion from **Chuck**, **Piet** and **David** during the brunch.
 - ii. Estimate of giving cards will go into personal envelopes, and put in the plate. Estimate of giving cards will be mailed to those who do not attend either service on 11/13.
4. Common Ministry report – in the 11/5 meeting at Procter there was training on congregational life cycles and the community needs assessment process. Success will be dependant on the buy in from the congregation. We will need a parish wide meeting to update everyone on that. **Lisa** will give a report during the brunch on 11/13. In the next vestry meeting we should talk about what effort it will take to accomplish the mission. The committee needs to meet to outline the next steps before the next meeting with our consultant on 11/28.
5. Speak the Truth in Love Feedback – David handed out a summary of the comments we got and his follow up responses. **David** will post the report after taking the names out.
6. Rector's report - David had a written report. Follow ups on that report are:
 - a. Saving Grace's request to have the Vestry meeting move. After spirited discussion, we decided to try meeting at Panera for the December Vestry. After further email discussion, we decided to stay in our usual time and location.
 - b. New pulpit – Gerry will have a model for next week's brunch.
 - c. There will be a special in gathering for the Food Pantry next week, and a Sunday in December too. **David** will let people know in the Shooting Star and the phone tree.
 - d. **David** will have a one on one discussion with the Bishop in early 2012 and get direction as to which Cannon he, the Vestry and Finance Committee should be talking to about the future.
7. Sunday School – Kyle wants to be an acolyte and also have Sunday School, so he will alternate weeks, starting with being an acolyte next Sunday. Don needs to have a substitute once a month.
 - a. Need Safe Church training for teachers who are alternating. (Nancy, Rick, Elizabeth). **David** will send out the timing for the Glendale training. **Lisa** will follow up with Elizabeth on the curriculum.
8. Communication – draft Vestry documents and discussion via email should just include the Vestry, need to be thoughtful about the distribution list until the information is finalized.
9. The next Vestry meeting is December 11, 2012.

Nancy McCarthy for the Vestry