

## **St. Aidan's Episcopal Church**

### **Vestry Minutes**

**Thursday, August 18, 2011**

#### **Present were:**

**Clergy:** Rob Wood, Rebekah Hatch

**Vestry:** Joey Sargent, Jane Simmons, Joe Rich, Andrea Manos, Don Frank, Carolyn Glaza, Cathy Biondi, and Harmony Kiser

**Also:** Bob Murphy, Joyce Tripp Miller, John Ray, Michelle Hutnik, and Tara McMurdy

**Absent:** Terry Ledford, David Ford, Linda Bowman and Vicki Scott

**Opening Prayer and Devotion:** Jane Simmons opened the meeting with opening prayer and devotion at 7:08

**Introduction:** All present introduced themselves to Tara.

**Sabbatical "Download":** The vestry told Rob a little about what they learned about during his absence. There was a lot of praise for Rebekah and how she handled things. Harmony talked about Pastoral Care and what she did so that she knew who was sick, etc. It was good to have this already in place. Rebekah said that the picnic was good and is good to know who the churches we share Thanksgiving with are. She said that the Mass on the Grass needs to be earlier in the morning so it isn't so hot. Finally she stated that the music camp was good and it went off well. Rob said it is nice to be reminded that things can continue and mentioned that the church also functioned well in the interim between Noel and him. Rob had to get used to the silence in communication while he was gone. He was only involved in the hiring of Tara. Cathy said that having Rebekah here before hand was a great help. Joey had a concern that people would not give Rob space and was glad people did what they were supposed to do. John said that Terry's leadership was great and had a renewed respect for him especially as he was going through tough personal times. Terry was the right person at the right time. Michelle said VBSs went great. The school board meeting went on as well.

Rob said he couldn't begin to tell us how grateful he was for the sabbatical and that he didn't realize how tired he was. It took some time to just get to a place of rest. It was good and timely for Linda and him. Planning in a year in advance and budgeting 6

years in advance for the next sabbatical is not too soon. It was good to have this all funded and have the gifts. He got to go to churches and got to renew. He also saw some practices he would like to try for instance, announcements at the beginning of the service and a chance to say hello to those next to you. He also wants to carve out more prayer time and space in church for some prayer services. Not a lot of music and fuss but just something simple. He liked New York monastery and the silence to reflect from 9:30 am to 9:30 pm. He felt it was important to take time a week before going anywhere to plan out some final details. He did not learn to play the guitar, but he did think that he found some unhelpful work habits that he can work on and maybe he can manage and prioritize better. He liked doing this during the summer. The Scotland piece, beach, lake, and Tennessee time was good. When it is time to work on the next Letter of Agreement, Terry, Joey and Rob can look at sabbatical. The sermon this week will be about Iona. Finally, Rob thanked the task force.

**Approval of Agenda and Minutes:** June correction in outreach. It is Joe, not Joey who will handle Miss Mary's Ice Cream. Joey motioned and Carolyn seconded approval of both sets of minutes and they passed unanimously.

**Jr. Warden's Report:** Joey thanked the team for Light the Fire. She mentioned the correction of the DOK officers. We now have a Face Book page. There are about 125 to attend the concert on Saturday. There are now 55 pledges for Light the Fire and \$42k in money pledged. There were about 35 brick level pledges so we still need to move it forward. They need one more wrap up meeting to discuss lessons learned and figure out what to do next time something like this comes up. Joey has heard some good things about Tara already.

**Senior Warden's Report:** Rob said we already have it and to please keep Terry and family in our prayers.

**Assistant to the Rector's Report:** Rebekah asked us to keep the confirmation class in our prayers as confirmation coming up. Susan Griffiths has resigned. She will probably stay on until the end of the year or until a replacement is found, hopefully by early October. Starting Monday, Rebekah will be the new Upper School Chaplain at Holy Innocents. This just came up in the past week. She will continue on Sundays just as before Rob left. After the Bishop's visit in October she will be here 2 or 3 Sundays a month. This is an interim position for one year. Holy Innocents is in the process of hiring a Head Chaplain. Rob said her role is just going to be like before however she probably won't do a Sunday school class. Rebekah said she had a good time this summer and everyone did a great job. The vestry did a great job of doing their parts.

**Rector's Report:** Rob said he is coming back slowly and meeting with people and groups to see what is going on and get back re-acclimate himself.

### **New Business:**

**Diocesan Assessment:** The Diocesan budget goes to a number of places including some seminary costs, the Bishop's salary, campus ministries, national church, etc. They calculate each church's share to be 10% based on past 3 years' income. Our average is \$502k, so our assessment is \$50,221, up about \$1,300 from last year. We can pay the 10% or say we are unable to meet 10% and appeal which is a lengthy process and needs to be complete by 8/15. Rob suggested that we can defray some of the income by placing it in restricted accounts leaving regular offerings. Our share is budgeted and paid monthly. Jane moved that the vestry act on Rob's suggestion. Joey seconded the motion. It was passed unanimously.

**Council Delegates:** This year we will have five delegates. The slate that Rob presented was Chuck Johnson, Bill Glidden, Joey Sargent, Bob Stetcher and Deb Stetcher with Linda Bowman being the first alternate. Jane moved to accept this slate. Harmony seconded. The vestry passed the slate unanimously. This is an important slate as this council will be electing the new bishop.

**Reallocation of Budgeted Funds:** This needs to be tabled so that Rob, Jim and Terry can talk first.

**Fall Festival Update:** Cathy says it is on for October 1. She is having a hard time getting volunteers. It is just a fun day for the community. There is a conflict with Prime Timers Octoberfest and that needs to be resolved. Cathy is looking for a dunker, mechanical bull, or a tethered balloon. She also wants to raffle off an Ipad. There was discussion about combining with another church. Rob said we should look at attendance and volunteers after this and then reassess to see if we need to next year. The time for this event will be noon to 5. Don said calling on people to do something specific would be a good thing to get the needed help.

**Fall Parish Meeting:** This is tentatively set for November 20 which is the Sunday before Thanksgiving. It is an important meeting as vestry elections will be held then. The approval for the date was motioned by Carolyn and seconded by Joe. It approved unanimously.

**Bishop's Visit:** Rob stated that we should have a breakfast and then a Q&A with the bishop. Maybe a small lunch with finger foods also. It also may be appropriate to present him with a thank you gift.

**The Boy Scouts** want to do a car wash on the Sunday before Labor Day. Rob will work with Richard Schmidt to coordinate this. The goal is to raise money to repair the roof of the trailers.

**October 15** will be doing Laughs for Lamb. There will be an improve group to help raise money for the Lamb Institute.

**Miss Mary's Ice Cream** is set for next weekend. Joe could use a volunteer to work the booth. All volunteers have to donate ice cream. He asked if perhaps the EYC could help.

**Wednesday Night Suppers** resume September 14. Programming will start after this initial week. We are still planning on a dollar a plate. Bob Stetcher wants to have teams to do clean up. Joe, Bob and Rob will work out clean up and programming.

#### **Old Business:**

**Newcomers Tail Gate Party** will be on the September 18<sup>th</sup>. Carolyn said sht would like to collect banners, pennants, flags, referee shirts, etc.

**Hopewell** We are waiting on the Outreach Committee to go to the parish to get people to volunteer to work with Hopewell

**Finally**, Christian will be accepting donations for cds to raise funds for the music program.

**Action Steps Review:** Rob asked the vestry to make every effort to be here on Saturday.

**Closing:** Rob closed the meeting with a prayer at 8:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Bob Murphy

Vestry Clerk