

St. Thomas Episcopal Church Bishop's Committee Minutes March 27, 2007

Meeting began after a prayer and dinner, in the Parish Hall, at 6:10 p.m. Committee members Terry Milsom, Nancy Nash, and Katherine Benke were present, the Rev. Dawn Simpson and Trish Brown were also present.

Post agendas and minutes, and email them to Erin, Dawn, Terry, Katherine Benke, Julie, Pat and Bob,

Minutes approved

Financial Report:

Dawn presented financial report for September 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006. Total income was \$17,368.53, total expenses were \$11,173.73. Overage was 6194.80. She'll enter 2007 information in the next 2 weeks.

Old Business:

Budget: Nancy and Dawn will work on a more inclusive budget for the remainder of the year.

We need a high-interest, high-liquidity savings account for the building maintenance fund. The deposit will include \$7200 from the Quick Foundation, \$2500 from LD Cavanaugh, \$400 from Audrey Guyer.

Action: Katherine will call to research

Congregational Enrichment:

Dawn Simpson is drafting a plan for stewardship. Bob and Pat Ashley will spearhead the activities.

Spaghetti Dinner April 25:

Action: Terry will talk with Safeway, City Market, Wal Mart, Valley Meat for salad donations.

Katherine will do PSAs for Courier and radio stations.

Trish reported on the Sunday School training. There is a 4 hour training that the diocese recommends for all congregation members. The training is scheduled for May 19, 9 a.m. to noon.

Sexual background checks must be done and filed on all Sunday School volunteers, criminal background checks are required for nursery workers. There are other safeguards required to prevent sexual misconduct. There is a booklet of diocesan policies and procedures for parishes with children.

Dawn recommended that parents sign permission slips for teaching kids about sexual protection.

Nancy will make copies for all committee members to review by the next meeting.

Dawn will email Megan to order 15 packets and training materials.

Dawn completed the calling tree.

Katherine will check in with OMS about a spring concert – maybe for spaghetti dinner.

The March 31 tea party is cancelled – we'll try again when Libby is back.

Community Outreach:

--We need to form an outreach committee that can write grants and meet needs in the community and state.

Ongoing events calendar:

Sundays: 9 a.m. Morning Prayer or Holy Eucharist

Mondays: 7 p.m. Open AA meeting

Wednesdays: 12 noon Brown bag lunch

3 p.m. Home schooling group

8 p.m. Closed AA meeting

Thursdays: 6:30 a.m. Open AA meeting

6:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist service with twice a month prayer and healing

Saturdays: 1 p.m. Study, *Living The Questions* at Sarah Rierson's home

6 p.m. Open AA meeting

New Business:

Congregational Enrichment

Empowered leadership workshop, Apr 21, Pagosa Springs

Community Outreach

Website: Dawn will relink with state and national church.

The committee meeting will begin meeting every second Tuesday.

Nancy moved, Terry seconded that we change the authorized names on the Qwest account from Kathy Glenn to Nancy Nash, Terry Milsom, and Katherine Benke.

Action: Katherine will write letter to Qwest billing department.

Meeting adjourned 7:50 pm with prayer

Next meeting Tuesday, April 10 at 6 pm

Respectfully submitted by,

Katherine Benke, Clerk

Vision and mission: Terry is excited about more attendance – his vision is to fill the church every Sunday. Nancy talked about reaching out to children and families – Sunday School and Summer Bible School. Katherine envisions a church that feels inclusive and welcoming to both conservative and liberal members – possibly with different services to accommodate both styles. We want to be stable, with a full-time priest. We also talked about outreach to our elderly members – offering assistance for home maintenance, rides, etc, and checking in on their needs every 6 months or so. Creating a forum to call members after they've missed two services. Nancy will maintain a checklist, and divide calls among the bishop's committee. Katherine suggested talking with Teri Ebel at Tu Casa about a monthly girls' slumber party, ages 12-16ish...

Action: Nancy will assemble a checklist for attendance, Katherine will call Teri.

We talked about mission: “We are here to help people find their purpose, and to support them in fulfilling their purpose.” (peace, social justice, outreach)