

Vestry Meeting Minutes  
October 20, 2015  
Calvary Episcopal Church – Crook Auditorium

**Vestry Present:** Julie Bethell, Alison Boeving, James Dowd, Jan Gwin, Nicky Hitchings, David Leigh, Fred Piper, Donovan Smith, Leslie Atwood Smith, Raymond Spence, Terre Sullivant

**Others Present:** Rev. Chris Girata, Rev. Paul McLain, Katie Owen, Hall Gardner

**Call to Order:** Rev. Chris Girata called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., and Rev. Paul McLain opened with a prayer.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the August and September Vestry meetings were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Katie Owen presented the financial report, which she described as “good news.” The income statement shows us ahead of plan on revenue. \$27,000 is still owed to the Endowment for the bell tower, along with \$120,000 for physical improvements. There is currently underway a discernment process for a potential capital campaign. The discernment committee is reviewing potential projects, which was compiled by the buildings and grounds committee. These projects will also be presented to the entire parish for review and suggestions. After the discernment process, a feasibility study may be conducted.

**Working Group Reports:**

**Administration**

Jan Gwin and Donovan Smith are researching ways to market Calvary and how we can reach out, present ourselves and attract people to the church. They are looking into the use of social media, the internet and radio to promote growth.

**Formation**

Julie Bethell reported that the adult Christian formation committee will make recommendations for the structure of adult education. The committee is also meeting with Rev. Paul McLain regarding education for next year. The ACF committee is considering an emphasis on global issues, as well as the formation of affinity groups.

**Ministry**

Nicky Hitchings reported that the ministry grid is finalized and now posted on basecamp.

## **Clergy Reports:**

**Eyleen Farmer:** Eyleen was not present but submitted a written report:

- Lenten Preaching Series schedule is complete.
- Friends of Thistle Farms' progress was updated, including a new name, Thistle & Bee Enterprises, Inc., and a collaboration with St. Columba. The second annual Scarborough Fair raised over \$3000 and increased awareness of human trafficking.
- Lives Worth Saving will complete one year of classes in December. Two more orientation sessions are scheduled.

**Paul McLain:** Paul reported on his meeting with the adult formation committee and discussed efforts to encourage lay persons to become involved in children and youth ministries. Kathryn Jasper is helping with this endeavor.

## **Chris Girata:**

Chris reported on the following:

1. Vestry elections and annual meeting will be held this Sunday, October 25.
2. Property update:  
An appraisal of Columbus Park will be done to determine a price for Calvary to purchase it. It is expected to be lower than an earlier \$62,000 appraisal.  
The "restaurant building" on Calvary's block is for sale, and it is hoped that it can be purchased for approximately \$150,000. The endowment committee is willing to loan Calvary the funds for purchase.
3. Lobsterpalooza is October 24, and 250 people are expected at two seatings. The proceeds this year will go to Room in the Inn.
4. Buddy Stallings will join Bill Kolb and Mimsy Jones as assisting clergy.
5. It is expected that a 2016 budget draft will be presented at the November vestry meeting and will be officially approved by the new vestry in January. Hall Gardner discussed our annual financial commitment to the Diocese and requested that the vestry approve our current assessment of \$183,000. A motion to that effect was approved.
6. The Barrister's Breakfast, hosted by Baker Donelson, was held at Calvary and raised more than \$10,000 for cancer research.

The next Warden's meeting will be November 10 at 12:00 at Panera Bread, Laurelwood  
The next Vestry meeting will be November 17 at 6:00 p.m. in Crook Auditorium.

**Adjournment:** Rev. Chris Girata adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Terre Sullivant (for Catie Thacker)