

**Hickory Neck Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes**

January 8, 2008

Present: The Very Reverend Michael Delk (Rector); The Reverend Ann Dieterle (Associate Rector); Bill Teale (Senior Warden/Personnel); Lauris Zeni (Junior Warden); Fred Boelt (Treasurer); Melissa Casheros (Stewardship); Gay Forloine (Pastoral Care); Lynn Geddy (Parish Life); Eve Butler-Gee (Register/Communications); Gary Harvey (Outreach); Chuck Jundt (Outreach); Ed Joyner (Newcomers); Don Seeterlin (Buildings & Grounds); Paula Simmons (Christian Formation); and Betty Somloi (Newcomers).

I. Vestry Check In: Vestry members shared personal news since the last meeting in December, 2007.

II. Opening Prayer and Meditation: The opening prayer and meditation were led by Chuck Jundt.

III. Approval of Vestry Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of December 11, 2007 were amended as follows: "**Absent:** Don Seeterlin (Buildings & Grounds)". On motion of Lauris Zeni and seconded by Chuck Jundt, the minutes, as amended, were approved.

[Item XI. A. Under New Business, taken out of order in Executive Session]

IV. Parishioner's Comments and Initiatives: There were no parishioner comments or initiatives.

Treasurer's Report: Fred Boelt, Treasurer, reported that the month of December 2007 income was up by \$9,000. The Christmas Offering totaled \$5,009, as compared with the Christmas offering in December 2006 which was \$ 3,200. Nevertheless, year-end income for 2007 was down by \$2,000, with expenses over budget by \$ 4800.68.

Meanwhile, \$13,535 has been received in the month of December in the form of pre-paid pledges to the Operating Fund for 2008. Additional contributions to the Mortgage Fund have provided in excess of \$30,000, which will cover those expenses through June. The Davenport Fund will have disbursed \$15,000 for the renovation of the Historic Chapel, which funds will be replaced from forthcoming contributions during the first part of 2008.

In accordance with the new 2008 pledge income, Fred distributed a revised detailed operating budget for 2008 to the Vestry, adjusted to reflect the new income to Operating Fund from these pledges. The non-pledging and loose plate estimates on the operating

budget have also been adjusted accordingly.

Fred reminded the Vestry that the net loss of 2007 income resulting from families moving from the parish totaled (-\$9,200) for the year.

On motion of Gay Forloine and seconded by Don Seeterlin, the Treasurer's report was approved.

VI. Junior Warden's Report: Lauris Zeni, the new Junior Warden, indicated that there was no official report to be made by the Junior Warden as yet.

VII. Senior Warden's Report: Bill Teale, the new Senior Warden, distributed a current list of all those members of the Parish who, by means of the Time and Talent survey, had indicated their interest in particular Parish ministries. He urged the Vestry liaisons to these various ministries to contact all those persons whose names appear, but who may not yet have been contacted by ministry heads. Bill urged that ministry newcomers be trained as soon as possible where appropriate.

He suggested that Newcomers Committee leaders especially contact new members and get them involved in Foyers and other community experiences in addition to ministry service. Bill urged all Vestry members to increase their efforts to invite visitors to come to HNC and to make sure that all new people feel welcomed.

Bill recognized Don Seeterlin and his Buildings and Grounds team for their superlative work on the restoration of the Historic Chapel, scheduled for its celebratory re-opening on Sunday, January 13.

VIII. Associate Rector's Report: The Reverend Ann Dieterle submitted the following report:

" Calendar Items

December 23, 2007- Christmas Pageant, 10:15 a.m. in the Nave

December 29, 2007 – Adsit/Baum Wedding

January 11, 2008 - Movie Night, 6 – 9ish

January 17 – 20, 2008 - Dieterle AWAY

January 25 – 26, 2008 - Vestry Retreat

February 1 – 3, 2008 - Diocesan Council

February 6, 2008 – Ash Wednesday

February 7, 2008 – Centering Prayer Group Begins, 10 a.m.

February 12, 2008 – STAR Training, Talbot Hall, Norfolk

February 14 – 19, 2008 – Dieterle AWAY

Christian Formation

The adult Christian Formation schedule was published in the January edition of the Nuggets and has also appeared in the E-pistle these last few weeks. Based on the time available and our response patterns for Sunday mornings, we are going to do a less formal, question and answer/presentation format for the month of January. We'll do some evaluation after a few weeks to see if this is an effective approach.

Last month I reported that I was considering moving the Lenten program to another night, specifically Sunday night. After giving it some additional thought, and looking at the Sunday schedule that would result in this move, I decided that this was not the way to go! The Wednesday night schedule will look quite similar, with a few activities flip-flopped in the schedule (see attached). The topic is "A Christian Citizen: The Gospel and Public Policy."

Of central issue behind my interest in moving to Sunday nights was the participation of families with young children. I have made contact with the family foyer group about a couple of possibilities during Lent which would coincide with their meeting.

Youth

We've been doing the 7 p.m. "Youthcarist" for 6 weeks now and as celebrants and 'preachers' have a good feel for the flow/mechanics of the service. The attendance has been: 22, 15, 19, 4, 6, and 26. The two low services were the Sundays before and after Christmas, Sundays when the youth group wouldn't normally meet. Other than this past Sunday, before the bonfire, the attendance has been mainly youth and adults connected to the youth program. The response of the kids seems good. The regulars remain regular, and one of the youth asked specifically for a Taize chant, which is part of that contemplative component of our service. We plan to go public by advertising with a banner shortly.

Pastoral Care

The Vestry liaison and I will be meeting shortly to talk about our goals for this ministry area in the 2008 calendar year.

Pastor Ann reported that the Lenten supper schedule would be rearranged: supper at 6 pm; program at 6:30 pm; and Evensong at 7:00 pm. The Lenten topic will be: 'Christian Citizen: Gospel and Public Policy'."

Pastor Ann also reported on the outcome of the first six weeks of the Sunday evening "Youthcharist". She indicated that she would be meeting with Gay Forloine, Vestry liaison to Pastoral care; and announced there would be STAR Training (in dealing with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder) at Eastern Mennonite University.

IX. Rector's Report: The Very Reverend Michael Delk submitted the following 2007 year-end report and his regular report for the month of December, 2007:

*Average overall Sunday attendance, 2007 – 212**

Average overall Sunday attendance, 2006 – 216

Average Sunday attendance by service (2006) – 8:00 = 34 / 9:00 = 112 / 11:15 = 70

Average Sunday attendance by service (2007) – 8:00 = 33 / 9:00 = 110 / 11:15 = 64

Easter attendance, including Sat. Vigil (2006) – 391

Easter attendance, including Sat. Vigil (2007) -- 425

Christmas attendance, including the 25th (2006) – 311

Christmas attendance, including the 25th (2007) – 371

**The average Sunday attendance for 2007 is higher than the sum of the breakdown by service time, because we consolidated the 9:00 and 11:15 twice.*

Baptisms:

Rowan William Henderson – 14 January

Maria Grace Seeterlin – 14 January

Grayson James Ryan – 7 April

Miles Mitchell Lampert – 29 April 2007

[2006 =4] / [2006 = 11]

Confirmations:

Youth

Karly Marie Casanave

Hannah Marie Coles

John Parker Kindley

Daniel Frederick Zoellner

Adult

Elaine Marie Brennan-Carlton

Dennis Lee Gardner

Daniel Stephen Swaney

Lisa Anne Swaney

[2006 = 8] / [2006 = 11]

New Members by Letter of Transfer:

Jane O'Neal

John and Lucy Rothnie

Dan Swaney and Lisa Ryan

Claudia Lawson

Ron, Shannon, and Allyson Houser

Jim and Joanne Izzo

Sarah Fertig

Michael, Cathleen, Madeleine, Laurlel, and Nicholas Hobert

Margene Hartsough

Charles and Theresa Hunter

Pam Stromberg

Nancy Keegan

[2007 = 22] / [2006 = 63]

Transfers Out of the Parish:

Christopher Russell [inactive roster] (moved to Richmond)

Ken, Anne Marie, Kimberly, and Jake Kelly (to King of Glory Lutheran)

Joe and Liz Hagy (moving to North Carolina)

Woody and Shirley Lake (St. Martin's, Williamsburg)

Mark and Barbara Paul (destination unknown)

Greg, Leslie, and Rowan Henderson (St. Martin's, Williamsburg)

[2007 = 14] / [2006 = 2]

Placed on Inactive Status:

Don Bartholomay

Prince & Erika Butler

Tony, Alona, Vlad, and Michael Anthony Casanave

Monique, Ron, Katie, and Jackson Condon

Kent and Donna Dodd

Darlene Dozier

Kelli Dugan

Mary Ware Ferguson

Robin Garfield

Lisa Gibson & Christopher and Adam Lemos

Keith & Elizabeth Grant and Zoe, Aidan, and Emma Grant-Wallace

Eleanor Heider

Jesse and Judith Hodges

Barbara Hood

Richard and Terri Keffert

JuJu McCabe

Andrea Sheffield

Robert Sipe and Jennifer Tingley

Sylvia Vaughan

Heather Wade

Christin Walsh

Martha Ware

Wade and Emily Wirt

[2007 = 41] / [2005 = 6]

Marriages:

Michele Passalacqua and Gavin Landry – 2 Junne

Nina Starkove and Jeffrey Olsen – 23 June [at William & Mary]

Lisa Ryan and Dan Swaney – 18 August

Kristen Adsit and David Baum – 29 December

[2007 = 4] / [2006 = 2]

Burials:

Claudia Mary Gardner – 14 April

Enoch Argyle Haley – 30 June

Bettie Jayne Guntherberg – 15 September

Ralph Winship Stone – 8 December

[2007 = 4] / [2006 = 6]

Gross Growth

26

Attrition by Transfer, Inactivity, or Death

59

Net Growth/Loss

-33

Fr. Michael reported on the forthcoming Pre-Council Convocation meeting and described for the Vestry two competing resolutions dealing with church pledges that were apt to come before Council. He also advised the Vestry that he was a candidate for deputy to General Convention.

Gay Forloine suggested that there might be further discussion about the content of the two resolutions to be presented at Council as part of Vestry discussion at the forthcoming Vestry Retreat on January 25 and 26.

Fr. Michael described the details of the Vestry Retreat schedule and accommodations. Fr. Michael also announced that the Convocation of which he is dean would be hosting a Stewardship event one weekend in May at which the speaker is anticipated to be Hugh Majers, former head of Stewardship for the National Church.

X. Team Ministry Reports: Fr. Michael distributed the Ministry Reports Calendar detailing when various reports would be scheduled to be made to the Vestry. There were no ministry reports expected at this meeting.

XI. New Business

B. Election of a Treasurer: Fr. Michael announced that, in accordance with the By-Laws, the Vestry was due to elect a Treasurer, the term for the current Treasurer having expired. On motion of Don Seeterlin and seconded by Gary Harvey, Fred Boelt was unanimously elected to a new term as Treasurer of Hickory Neck Church.

C. New Chapel Humidifier: Don Seeterlin announced that, after several months of searching and research by his team (especially Frank Somloi), a humidifier has been found which could be effectively used to assure the appropriate level of humidity around the organ to prevent any further degradation of its wooden parts and pipes. The cost of the humidifier is \$2,000 which is far less than those quotations received by various HVAC companies that had been requested to bid on the job. This humidifier will include a reverse osmosis filter, which will prevent minerals in the water feed to the humidifier from crystallizing and degrading the unit. In addition, Fred Boelt added that there was an extra \$1,000 in the organ fund to help defray this cost. Accordingly, on motion of Bill Teale and seconded by Eve Butler-Gee, the Vestry approved the purchase of the organ humidifier.

XII. Old Business: There was no old business to come before the Vestry.

XIII. Other Business: Fr. Michael commended Laurie Brown for many months of work to create a new Hickory Neck Church website which will be inaugurated on Saturday, January 12. The Vestry was urged to take a look at the big difference her design makes.

The next meeting of the Hickory Neck Vestry will be held on Tuesday, February 13, 2008 at 7 pm in the Wilkinson Center.

Father Michael concluded the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Eve Butler-Gee

Register