

Hickory Neck Episcopal Church

Vestry Minutes February 21, 2006

Present: Fred Boelt (Treasurer/Junior Warden), Donna Casanave (Parish Life), Michael Delk (Rector), Ann Dieterle (Associate Rector), De Fehrenbach (Formation), Nancy Geddes (Youth), Lynn Geddy (Parish Life), Connie Kendrick (Worship), Chuck Jundt (Outreach), Katrina Luksovsky (Newcomers), Brian Manning (Buildings and Grounds), Randy Tanner (Senior Warden) and Bill Teale (Outreach). Sue Dugan (Pastoral Care) was absent.

I. Vestry Check-In:

Vestry members shared personal news since our last meeting.

II. Opening Prayer and Meditation:

Chuck Jundt provided our prayer and meditation in the form of a poem.

III. Approval of January 2006 vestry minutes:

A motion was made to accept January minutes, seconded and passed unanimously.

IV. Parishioner Comments and Initiatives:

None.

V. New Chapel Report:

Father Michael reported that construction on our new chapel is proceeding according to schedule and only slightly over budget. Ductwork and electrical conduits and plumbing are roughed in. Brick samples are relatively close in appearance to the brick on our old chapel. Time lost due to required county inspections has been made up and modifications have been minor. During the month of March, a brochure will be sent out to parishioners that will show items needed such as chairs, altar linens and other needed items. Contributions will be tax deductible.

Aaron Small has been conducting weekly construction progress meetings and has said that we will know sometime in the middle of March a date that the new chapel can be consecrated. Bishop Vache as agreed to perform this ceremony which will involve baptisms, confirmations and the blessing of the building and its contents, thus this service will be quite lengthy. Our March Nuggets will contain a schematic of when and where events will occur. It is projected that in two months we will be able to get into the new building to set up and prepare for our first service there.

VI. Treasurer's Report:

Fred Boelt reported that our February statement will reflect potential pledge amounts and that as of February 1st, these amounts can be tracked. Capital fund

income is displayed in two columns – the right displaying figures that represent everything in the project. We haven't had to borrow as monies have come "out of pocket" but will probably need to borrow in March. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded and passed unanimously.

VII. Junior Warden's Report:

No report.

VIII. Senior Warden's Report:

Randy Tanner briefed the vestry on upcoming Bishop's Days happening on March 11th – registration deadline is March 3rd. The event will begin with a gathering service followed by a talk by the convocation speaker. The group will break up into workshops with a different category for each discussion. These workshops will occur in the morning and afternoon with a luncheon break. The vestry is not required to go but strongly encouraged to do so as much useful information can be acquired at this event.

IX. Associate Rector's Report:

Ann Dieterle+ reported that the Lenten Series which includes Evensong and meditations on the Prodigal Son will begin on Wednesday, March 8th and end on April the 5th. Our youth will prepare simple soup and bread suppers and proceeds (\$3.00 -\$10.00) will go to Lauren Stanley's mission in the Sudan.

Ann further stated that the next series of Sunday Morning Adult Formation Classes will be taught by Bob Gay on the Sermon on the Mount and the Beatitudes. She also said that next year, there are two classes planned on Sunday mornings.

X. Rector's Report:

Fr. Michael read a letter of thanks to the people of Hickory Neck Church from Lauren Stanley+ missionary in the Sudan, to the vestry.

Average Sunday attendance, since last vestry meeting ~ 197

Average Sunday attendance in the last period between meetings ~ 177

New members by letter of Transfer, since last vestry meeting ~ 8

No transfers out of the parish.

Deaths, since last vestry meeting ~ Charles "Chuck" T. deLormier ~ 2/18/2006

Burials, since last vestry meeting:

Mary Bannister Arendahl ~ 28th of January

Eva Tull ~ 28th of January

Calendar events, since last vestry meeting:

- 1/20 ~ 1/21... Vestry Retreat @ Chanco
- 2/10 ~ 2/12... Annual Diocesan Council, Hampton *

- 2/12 ... Joint Evensong with St. Peter's, New Kent, 5:00pm in which Hickory Neck Church was well-represented.
- 2/12 ... Pictorial Directory distributed
- 2/16 ... Outreach Council meeting
- 2/19 ... 50th Anniversary of Ron Molrine's Ordination to the Priesthood.

Upcoming Calendar Events:

- ❖ 2/26 ... Newcomer's Social at Somloi's, 3-5pm
- ❖ 2/28 ... Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at Toano Women's Club at 6:00pm
- ❖ 3/1 ... Ash Wednesday Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist, 7:00am, 12:00noon and 7:00pm
- ❖ 3/7 ... Clergy Day with Bishop Johnson @ Chanco, 10:00am – 3:00pm
- ❖ 3/8 ... Midweek Lenten Evensongs/Suppers begin 6:00pm
- ❖ 3/11 ... Bishop's Day with Vestry @ Emmanuel, VA Beach

A. Sequential Campaign and the Phase II Educational Wing

Howard Craig will visit this summer to meet with the vestry to map out a plan but said in the meantime, he will send information pertaining to our future discussion. Following a brief discussion, the vestry decided to defer any decision on the matter of another campaign.

De Fehrenbach supplied the following information on Sunday school attendance:

- ❖ Expressed concern that only 50% of our children attend Sunday school on any given Sunday and while this could be due to high cold and flu season, there are also a number of children who alternate Sundays with another parent.
- ❖ Children's Chapel space is crowded when numbers are over 12 remembering that 2 or 3 adults are in attendance as well however, the problem should be solved with the completion of new chapel.
- ❖ Upon completion of the new church, the nursery will be moved freeing up one room upstairs. As our numbers grow we will be able to add a third Godly Play class in order to keep classes at a reasonable size. Therefore, we would be able with the new classroom, to accommodate another 10 children (20 if the 50% rate is constant). If this room is needed for office space, then I would recommend the bean bag room be used once again for a Sunday school class.
- ❖ If our numbers go beyond another 20 children, we could use the current children's chapel area for the grades 3-5 class and use their current classroom for another Godly Play class for younger children. This would not be ideal, but it would be possible.
- ❖ I think the library can be left as it is or converted to office space or other use as needed, at least for the near future.
{De discussed her results with Ann+ and they determined that middle school might be combined with high school youth in order

to draw in more of middle school age. De further reported that out of 500 members we have approximately 50 children and youth registered for Church School or involved in the Youth Group.) Fr. Michael expressed concern that overcrowding in the future could cause people to go elsewhere but stated that we really won't know how much more space we'll need until October of 2006. The floor was opened for comments regarding a sequential campaign:

Fred said that we need to wait until the new building is up and running before starting another campaign. Randy expressed the need to be alert after completion of the new chapel as to Sunday school crowding. De offered to keep us updated monthly on attendance. Ann+ said that we need to grow accustomed to our new building before making any further decisions. Fr. Michael concluded the discussion by stating that we're in a "wait and see" mode at this point in time.

B. Report from Diocesan Annual Council:

Fr. Michael reported that Hickory Neck was well represented at the annual Diocesan Council meeting. Five resolutions and voting results will appear in the March issue of the Nuggets.*

C. Review of Outline for Parish Phone-A-Thon:

Call lists with scripts were distributed and Fr. Michael encouraged vestry members to make calls before the next meeting of the vestry.

XI. Outreach Council's Report:

Vestry Outreach Report, February 21, 2006

As we enter 2006, Hickory Neck has many areas of outreach. Our major outreach program has been and continues to be the Angels of Mercy Fall Festival. It has taken the dedication of Bill Forloine and the involvement of many members of the congregation to bring in over \$19,000 that has been given to the Angels of Mercy clinic over the past five years.

In addition, our youth are our rising stars as they are involved in multiple efforts. With car washes and spaghetti and soup dinners to raise money and hands on participation, they are involved in local, national and global efforts for Hickory Neck. Karen and John Dutro have put in countless hours and have done a wonderful job. The youth projects include:

Relay for Life – American Cancer Society
YES – Youth Empowered to Serve
St. Paul's Newport News
Faith in Action

Foreign Ministry

Our newest effort at outreach is the Foreign Ministry Team headed by Pete Haines that has raised funds to support The Reverend Lauren Stanley in the Sudan. Our efforts have been greatly appreciated. Rick Garfield is working to set up a mission trip to Belize.

The congregation has supported the Salvation Army Christmas Angel tree.

Fr. Michael has provided limited funds to those facing immediate financial problems.

What we have done since the vestry retreat

We have talked with the outreach chairs of Bruton and St. Martin's churches.

We have met or spoken with:

- Jeff and Jeanne Black of Angels of Mercy
- Brian Taber of James City County Social Services
- Ann Johansen of Faith in Action
- Patti McKenzie of Williamsburg's Homeless and Indigent
- Several people who know and support Grove.

We have conducted an outreach meeting for interested parties and invited guests to review outreach progress to date and identify new opportunities for the future.

Where we want to go

Our short-term objective is to continue our ongoing programs but to do them better and on a larger scale. To achieve this we must increase awareness of these programs and then increase involvement. At the same time we are becoming better informed about the many programs that serve the community. Although we are looking at a broad range of programs we are going to select only a few. We feel that it is better to provide meaningful support in money and/or hands on involvement to a few organizations than it is to spread ourselves too thin.

Fr. Michael has laid out the four levels of outreach to us:

- Giving money
- Hands-on work
- Development of new initiatives
- Becoming an advocate

To address all four levels and to create programs that do not depend solely on the vestry outreach liaison, we are developing an Outreach Council. At this time people are being recruited to lead work on ministries or to provide advice and council. The Council will meet on the first Tuesday of each month, and its initial goal will be to review the many

opportunities for outreach and to select those that we can successfully implement and sustain.

The first meeting will be on March 7 when we will begin the process that will enable us to continue the good work of the past and to identify initiatives for the future.

Chuck Jundt

Bill Teale

XII. New Business

A. Purchase of a portable automatic defibrillation unit

Following a brief discussion in which liability and insurance issues were covered, the vestry decided to defer any decision until looking into the matter more thoroughly.

XIII. Old Business:

None

XIV. Other Business:

None

XV. Concluding Prayer

The next regular meeting of the vestry will occur on Tuesday, March 14th at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish House.

Faithfully submitted,
Phyllis Faas, Registrar