

Hickory Neck Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes
February 9, 2010

Present: The Very Reverend Michael Delk (Rector); The Reverend Lauren McDonald (Associate Rector); Gary Harvey (Senior Warden); Ann Cooper (Junior Warden and Parish Life); Carrol Bailey (Newcomers); Fred Boelt (Treasurer); Melissa Casheros (Communications); Gay Forloine (Pastoral Care); Jean Hancock (Newcomers); Margene Hartsough (Children and Youth); Brig Lampert (Children and Youth); Lucy Rothnie (Outreach); Michael Smith (Outreach); Pam Stromberg (Pastoral Care); and Mary Teale (Register).

Absent: Ed Joyner (Stewardship)

Also Present: Bill Teale

Vestry Check-In: Vestry members shared personal news since the last meeting in January 2010.

Opening Prayer and Meditation: The opening prayer and meditation were led by Michael Smith. March's meditation will be led by Fr. Michael.

Approval of Minutes: On a motion by Melissa Casheros and a second by Margene Hartsough, the minutes of the January Vestry meeting were approved.

Parishioners' Comments and Initiatives: Bill Teale, Chairman of the Endowment Board, distributed copies of a proposed letter and flyer, printed on different papers, using different sources of printing. The costs for color printing a flyer on both sides ranged from \$.25, using the Hickory Neck color copier, to \$1.35, using an outside printing company. The Hickory Neck copier seemed the obvious choice for printing the flyers. The Vestry endorsed these efforts by the Endowment Board to encourage gifts to the Endowment Fund.

Treasurer's Report: Fred Boelt, Treasurer, said that the five Sundays in January produced slightly less income than was expected since snow greatly restricted attendance on one Sunday. However, pledges to date amount to \$44,531, nearly \$10,000 over budget due to the pre-paid pledges from 2009. While January expenses were \$111 over budget because of an up-front payment of 30% of the annual insurance premium, higher winter utility bills and a funeral service payment to the organist, the month still finished in the black by \$9,600. He praised the congregation for its gifts for Haitian relief totaling \$13,427.

Junior Warden's Report: None

Senior Warden's Report: None

Associate Rector's Report: The Reverend Lauren McDonald submitted the following report:

“Christian Formation

Children: Sunday School and Children’s Chapel are going strong – at least when there’s not snow.

Youth: On Feb. 7 we’re having our Super Bowl party at SpiritWorks. Jan Brown has graciously allowed us to view it there on the big screen. As of this writing it looks like we won’t have ice and snow, so I predict that we will have had a good time. Karen Dutro and Maria Kane will be working together to plan the youth participation in Relay for Life later in the spring.

Adults: The Women’s Spirituality Group met for the first time on January 16. We had 22 women in attendance. We will continue to meet on the 3rd Saturday of the month through June. If attendance continues to be good, then we will continue indefinitely. Jan Brown, Eve Gee, and Joan Forrest are helping me to plan and facilitate the group.

Several members of our healing team are attending a class on healing led by Sandi Kerner at Richmond Hill. They are enjoying the class and will bring back some of their learnings to share with the whole team.

Newcomers

We are planning a mailing to new homeowners in the neighborhoods close to Hickory Neck. It will include a letter from Michael and a copy of our updated “brochure,” that Laurie Brown designed. We will get these letters out the week before Shrove Tuesday to let our neighbors know about our various Lenten opportunities. When the weather gets nicer, hopefully early March, Michael and I will head out to knock on doors of these same neighbors and welcome them to the neighborhood. We hope to test the waters and then be able to train up a couple of people who could go out with us.

Jean Hancock is making sure that Hickory Neck is included in the church section of the book that is placed in rooms of Colonial Williamsburg hotels to tell them about local attractions, restaurants, etc.

Outreach

The Outreach Committee had its first meeting of 2010. Several new people attended. We had a few people step up to be back-ups for Chuck and Jean Jundt in their meal delivery ministry with Grove. If Chuck and Jean have to be out of town we will now have replacements for them instead of Grove having to scramble. We also will be updating the Outreach section of the kiosk with more up to date information on the featured charity each month. This month is Angels of Mercy. The Outreach Committee will no longer have monthly meetings but instead will meet as needed to plan activities and will have periodic “celebrations” in which we invite all who participate in outreach activities for some refreshments and opportunities to share about their outreach experiences. Our first celebration will be Tuesday, April 13.

On March 24th from 4-8 Williamsburg United Methodist will be hosting a community wide event in

conjunction with the organization Stop Hunger Now to package meals for disaster relief. We are planning to advertise the event for people who would like to participate in this hands-on ecumenical project.

In April we will be having a collection of items needed by troops serving Afghanistan (like Kleenex, baby wipes, q-tips, chapstick, etc), which Ken Parsons will be sending to a member of a troop located there.

Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care team leaders met last Wednesday to check in and share ideas. We had a good meeting.

The Health Team is hoping to have a blood pressure screening in February for heart month. We're looking at Feb. 21 between all services. Carolyn Gaylord will also be providing some health issue related articles for the Nuggets during the year.

The prayer shawl ministry is having over 16 shawls blessed on Sunday. “

Pastor Lauren amended her report, saying that the Youth Super Bowl Party was canceled due to snow.

She reminded the Vestry that Outreach is holding the first of its informational Sundays this week, featuring the Angels of Mercy Clinic. Jeanne Black, the clinic's Executive Director, and her son, Jeff Black, the clinic's Program Director, will be in the Narthex during the 10:15 coffee hour to answer any questions about the clinic.

Rector's Report: Fr. Michael submitted the following report:

“No New Member by Letter of Transfer, Burials, Baptisms, Transfers out of the Parish, or Marriages, since last Vestry meeting:

Calendar Events, since last Vestry meeting:

- *1/16 ... Requiem for Haiti with Mother Lauren Stanley*
- *1/21 ... H1N1 Vaccination*
- *1/25 ... Pre-Council Convocational Meeting at HNC, 7p*
- *1/29 – 1/30 ... Vestry Retreat at Boelt's CANCELLED DUE TO SNOW*
- *2/5 – 2/6 ... Vestry Retreat at Boelt's RESCHEDULED*

Upcoming Calendar Events:

- *2/10 ... HNC Staff Retreat*
- *2/12 – 2/13 ... Diocesan Council at Williamsburg Lodge*
- *2/15 ... Hope's Hip Replacement Surgery*
- *2/16 ... Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, 6 – 8p*
- *2/17 ... Ash Wednesday – 7a, 12p, & 7p*
- *2/24 ... Wednesday Lenten Evensongs Commence, 6p [Historic Chapel]*
- *2/25 ... Eve Gee & Don Seeterlin Interview with Commission on Ministry*
- *2/28 ... Jim Fitzler from Chanco Visits*
- *3/6 ... Bishop's Day with Clergy and Vestry [West], Powhatan H.S.*
- *3/13 ... Bishop's Day with Clergy and Vestry [East], Emmanuel, VA Beach”*

Fr. Michael related the information contained in a letter from Bishop Hollerith, explaining his decision “not to consent to the election of the Rev'd Mary Glasspool as suffragan bishop of Los Angeles”, believing “that the ordination of an openly Gay woman to the episcopate will - at this time - have a serious negative impact on our relationship with the wider Anglican Communion, and that it may very well strain... those bonds of affection which we have come to value with others, even those who may agree with us”. The decision on the election of the Reverend Mary Glasspool will be made in early March.

Fr. Michael encouraged Vestry members to attend the upcoming Bishop's Days on March 6 and March 13. He said that Hickory Neck members usually attend the Emmanuel Virginia Beach Day since the other churches in attendance that day are the same size as Hickory Neck. He asked for Vestry responses to the Bishop's questions : “What questions do you have for the Bishop? What are some priority needs you see in today's church and/or within our Diocese? Where would you like to see this Diocese in five years?” Vestry members submitted the following:

What has been your biggest challenge in starting your episcopacy and what is it now at the end of your first year?

How can convocations work more effectively in ministry?

Compensation packages for clergy are out of line with the rest of society and need to be revised.

What has the Diocese done for Haitian relief?

Fr. Michael asked Vestry members to send any additional questions to Melissa Casheros by 2/15, telling her which Bishop's Day and which workshops they wish to attend.

Fr. Michael announced that Bob Gay has been assigned as vocational deacon at St. Johns Hampton.

Fr. Michael said that he has submitted a Memorial Resolution for Norman Forde to the Diocesan Council for endorsement, adding that Norman had been a great friend and support to him.

Fr. Michael suggested alternatives to the weekend Vestry Retreat which has had to be canceled twice because of snow. It was decided to hold the Friday night session on March 12. The Saturday session when the Vestry was going to consider the responses to the questions asked at the 2009 Annual Meeting will be held during several successive regular Vestry meetings. Fr. Michael distributed his survey of the categorizations turned in by Vestry members of those questions. The first review of such questions will be at the next regular Vestry meeting.

Ministry Reports: Ann Cooper, Parish Life, presented the following Annual Parish Life report:

“Introduction

The number of members of Parish Life is now forty (40) men and women responsible for providing for coffee hours, kitchen maintenance, and special events. Nine (9) new members of the committee began working in January.

Mission of Parish Life

The mission of the Parish Life Committee is to contribute to the vitality and growth of the church community through caring attention to social events and

parishioners who attend the events.

Coffee Hour

Each Sunday, two members of the committee provide coffee, tea, cold drinks, and snacks for parishioners who attend both the 9:00 AM and 11:15 AM services. We emphasize special snacks on Celebration Sundays but offer some on all Sundays. The committee began serving both services when we noticed a need for it. Soon after it began, one member of the committee and one fellow vestry member who attend the 11:15 service volunteered to do the final straightening after the 11:15 service. Parishioners expressed appreciation for the change. Especially grateful are the choir members from William and Mary. As college students, they make certain that leftovers are not a problem for us. Their comments of appreciation are nice to hear.

Kitchen

Each week, a member of the Kitchen Sub-Committee cleans the kitchen. The suggested schedule is to clean on a day when we can empty the dishwasher before the week-end and have the kitchen straightened from the week's use. The persons often notice needs for repair or special cleaning. They even check carefully for food that is out of date in the refrigerator. This ministry is a very important behind-the-scenes one.

Shared Leadership in Committee

This year, several members of the committee have consented to sharing leadership responsibilities. Sandy Harvey is now the leader in the Kitchen Sub-committee. Shirley Forde will take over the coffee hour schedule before the next quarter. Pam Maloof is co-chairing the Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras evening planned in February. I will report other leadership responsibilities in future reports.

New Members

The committee has nine (9) new members this year. Training for kitchen maintenance and coffee hour set up is continuing.

Special Events

December 6 – Bishop's Visit and Confirmation

Bishop Hollerith's visit was a colorful and meaningful day. The committee contributed numerous dishes for a large reception. We had two large cakes, one to welcome the Bishop and one to congratulate the Confirmands.

January 6 – Epiphany and Burning of the Greens

The evening was cold and rainy. The committee set up coffee and tea. We also served hot apple cider. Members of the committee helped set up and brought snacks to accompany the beverages.

January 12 – Dean's Meeting

The Deans met in the Narthex on January 12. We provided the coffee, tea, and water set-up, as well as box lunches. One committee member helped by picking

up the box lunches for the lunch. Others set up and cleaned after the meeting.

January 16 – Requiem Eucharist for Haiti

Coffee and tea were available for parishioners who attended.

January 26 – Pre-Council Meeting

One hundred (100) members of the Pre-Council attended a meeting on the evening of January 26. Two members of the committee set up coffee and tea, as well a large tray of cookies for the event.

Meetings

November 11, 2009

The meeting scheduled to plan for the Bishop's visit was canceled because of weather. Email served as the vehicle for planning.

January 13, 2010

The Parish Life Committee met. The group developed creative ideas for Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras evening to take place on February 16. Committee members and other helpers are scheduled as cooks, servers, decorators, set-up persons, and clean-up persons. Pancakes will be served between 6 PM and 7 PM, and Mardi Gras fun will take place from 7 PM to 8 PM. The fun includes recognition of the current King and Prince and passing the crowns to the new King and Queen during the evening. Also planned are a parade of decorated hats and masks, performances by parishioners, a name the clown contest, and a guess "who the clown is" contest. King Cake and Ice Cream sundaes will top off the evening, followed by the new King and Queen crowning."

New Business:

A. Rector's 2009 Year End Report:

*"Average overall Sunday attendance, 2009 – 2010**

Average overall Sunday attendance, 2008 – 2009

Average Sunday attendance by service (2008) – 8:00 = 34 / 9:00 = 114 / 11:15 = 58

Average Sunday attendance by service (2009) – 8:00 = 31 / 9:00 = 122 / 11:15 = 54

**Average overall Sunday attendance for 2009 is slightly higher than the aggregate of the Sunday morning breakdown by hour, because the youth celebrated Eucharist Sunday evening 8 times with an average attendance of 12, and we combined 9 and 11:15 twice..*

Easter attendance, including Sat. Vigil (2008) – 477

Easter attendance, including Sat. Vigil (2009) – 417

Christmas attendance, including the 25th (2008) – 324

Christmas attendance, including the 25th (2009) – 366

Baptisms:

Luke Aubrey William Barnes
Alexandra Beisch – 11 January
Kendall Nicole Swaney – 1 February
Gavin Steven Kingsley – 22 February
Elenor J. “Bunkie” Righter – 11 April
Paul Olsen III – 19 April
Joseph Carter Pruitt – 24 May
Eleanore Lee Pruitt – 24 May
David Kenton Fisher -- 1 November
Abigail Helen Snyder – 1 November

[2009 =9] / [2008 = 7]

Confirmations:

Jan Michelle Brown
Joshua Webster Dutro
Neal Lensenmayer
Brigette Nicole Miller
Ned Carter Pruitt, Jr.
Elenor J. “Bunkie” Righter
Abigail Helen Snyder

[2009 =7] / [2008 = 0]

Received into the Episcopal Church:

David Leroy Hartsough
Bella Jane O’Neal
Roland Michael Todd

[2009 =3] / [2008 = 0]

Reaffirmation of Faith:

Carrol Ann Bailey

[2009 =1] / [2008 = 0]

New Members by Letter of Transfer:

Jan Brown
Patti McSherry
Frederick and Susan Biel
Chad Biel
Jennifer Biel Hartman
Maggie Newsome
Doug Mistler
Gerry Baker
Bruce Hill and Claire Sink
Bob and Chris Zoglman
Martha Connolly
Sadie Hunt
Bonnie Mershon

[2009=16] / [2007 = 31]

Transfers Out of the Parish:

Martha and Ward Burian (moved to New England)
Nicoleen Dodd

[2009=3] / [2008 = 7]

Placed on Inactive Status:

Wayne and Melody Ashmore
Rich and Anne Chlebos
Linda and Jim Christensen
Michael and Terry Christin
Tony and Brenda Cicero
Jim and Ann Dickey
Sarah Fertig
Nancy Keegan
Michele and Gavin Landry
Christin Walsh
Tracy Molnar
Richard and Carol Lowell
Richard and Claudia Lawson
Robert and Beth Kleine
Bob and Cathy Hinson
Barbara Fowler
David and Rebekah Brewster
Bob and Nancy Wilhelm
Alan Brittle

[2009 =32] / [2008 = 0]

Marriages:

Katrina Marie Buckley and James Daniel Bragg – 17 January
Jeffrey and Erika Davis (Blessing of a Civil Marriage) – 17 January

[2009 =2] / [2008 = 6]

Burials:

Margaret Wilkinson – 10 January
The Reverend Norman Peter Forde – 24 January [Burial 5 May at Arlington]
James Edward Tull – 18 April
Kathryn Edwards Benner – 17 May at St. John's, Hampton [non-member]
Katherine Magness Ramsaur – 24 October [internment to follow in NC]

[2009 =5] / [2008 = 5]

Gross Growth	25**
Attrition by Transfer, Inactivity, or Death	39***
Net Growth/Loss	(-14)

**The Gross Growth figure is less than the aggregate of baptism, confirmation, reception, and transfer by letter of membership, because some of those confirmed and received were already members by

baptism or transfer by letter of membership.

****The Attrition figure is one less than the aggregate of burials, transfers out, and placed on inactive status, because Kathryn Edwards Benner (Burials) was never a member of this parish, although we carry her Burial on our Register.****

B. Executive Session: Staff Issue

Old Business:

Gay Forloine said that, after consultation with Ted Ramsaur, the Prayer Shawl Ministry would like to be called the Kathy Ramsaur Memorial Prayer Shawl Ministry. The Vestry endorsed and approved the renaming of the ministry.

Adjournment: The next regular meeting of the Vestry will be March 9 in the Wilkinson Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Teale, Register