

Hickory Neck Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes
June 9, 2009

Present: The Very Reverend Michael Delk (Rector); The Reverend Lauren McDonald (Associate Rector); Lauris Zeni (Senior Warden); Ann Bartholomay (Parish Life); Fred Boelt (Treasurer); Melissa Casheros (Communications); Gay Forloine (Pastoral Care); Eve Butler-Gee (Register); Jean Hancock (Newcomers); Ed Joyner (Stewardship); Don Seeterlin (Pastoral Care); Paula Simmons (Children and Youth); and Michael Smith (Outreach).

Absent: Gary Harvey (Junior Warden) and Brig Lampert (Children and Youth).

I. Vestry Check In: Vestry members shared personal news since the last meeting in May, 2009.

II. Opening Prayer and Meditation: The opening prayer and meditation were led by Lauris Zeni. August's prayer and meditation will be led by Gay Forloine.

III. Approval of Vestry Minutes: On motion of Lauris Zeni and seconded by Melissa Casheros, the minutes of the meeting of May 12, 2009 were approved.

IV. Parishioner's Comments and Initiatives: Fr. Michael welcomed members of the HNC confirmation class: Carrol Bailey, Marilyn Aungst, Roland Todd and Ned Pruitt, who were observing the Vestry meeting as part of their confirmation class requirements. Carrol Bailey commented that the confirmation classes had been very informative and ventured that a confirmation refresher course for parishioners might be useful.

Lauris Zeni reported that attendance at Christian Education Recognition Sunday was great. Paula Simmons reinforced Lauris' observation by commenting that there were many people present who habitually attend the 11:15 service and do not have children/grandchildren in Sunday School who enjoyed the presentation nevertheless. Melissa Casheros commented that having the recognition between the services was helping pull more people in.

Treasurer's Report: Fred Boelt, Treasurer, reported that we were in the black for the year-to-date and for the month of May. Loose plate and pledge income were well above expenses for the month of May and we were under budget by \$2,000. Expense numbers look high because of the need to pre-pay insurance and for the remainder of winter's utility bills. On motion of Gay Forloine and seconded by Paula Simmons, the Treasurer's report was approved.

VI. Junior Warden's Report: In Gary Harvey's absence, Lauris Zeni advised the Vestry that work on the crawl space underneath the Wilkinson Center will begin on June 22 and will last three days. Gary reports that he is contining to wrestle with the placement of the well for irrigation of the HNC community gardens.

VII. Senior Warden's Report: Lauris Zeni, the Senior Warden, reported that: She wrote a letter on May 20 to Art Spooner, Treasurer of the Diocese of Southern Virginia, advising that Hickory Neck Church was increasing its diocesan pledge by \$6,000; Fred Beal has begun the construction of a name tag display board which should be finished and hanging in the Narthex within the next few weeks; the new pictorial directory is about ready for the printer in layout and camera ready form; and that Mark Kintner has all committee chairs in place for the Fall Festival, but has no co-chair for himself, as yet.

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

"Christian Formation:

For the summer we will not be having regular Adult Forums on Sunday mornings, but we will have occasional presentations. On June 21 the director of Williamsburg Walks the Talk will be speaking about their work. WWTT helps people to make the transition from being in jail to getting back on their feet. They will be explaining their ministry and potentially asking for volunteers but will not be asking for money.

On Sunday, June 7 we had Children and Youth Recognition Sunday to recognize our young people and those who work with them. Our Sunday School program has been very successful this year. We have a wonderful leadership team in place along with dedicated teachers who are helping our children grow in their spiritual lives. Thanks to Paula Simmons for all of her work organizing Recognition Sunday.

Confirmation classes will end on June 14. Since we still don't know when we will have a bishop's visit, we are planning a second Confirmation class in the fall to pick up any folks who missed the first one.

I have been considering terminating the Online Discussion Group. We have had no participation, and I'm receiving about 50 spam emails a week from people pretending they want to join. However, a couple of Hickory Neckers have joined in the past few weeks and have asked me to extend it a little longer. I will do so into the summer and then terminate it if there continues to be no participation.

On Saturday, June 27, Maria Kane's book group will have its first meeting.

Although the Youth Group has expressed a desire to continue meeting through the summer, vacation schedules will make it difficult. We are thinking of having a few scheduled events when most of the youth are in town. Potentially on tap is a picnic with youth and their families at Upper County Park on June 28.

Outreach:

The next date for From His Hands is Thursday, June 18. We are in need of someone to head up the kitchen part of this ministry.

At the Outreach Committee meeting on June 16, I will be outlining a new plan for Outreach. It will essentially have 3 teams under the Outreach umbrella: Mission, Money, and Ministry. Of course all 3 are ministry, but the 3 M's help us remember. The Mission team will focus on a mission trip for next year, possibly to El Hogar in Honduras. Norm Cooper has agreed to lead this team. This team will also be our liaison to Lauren Stanley and her work. The Money team will focus on the distribution of grants from the Fall Festival. They will meet as needed to hear presentations and will be voting on how funds are distributed. Bill Teale will be leading this team, which will also consist of the vestry liaison, the Fall Festival chair, and two people from the Outreach Committee. The Ministry team will coordinate our hands on ministry in the community including From His Hands, Angel Tree/Apple Tree projects, communicating with local charities about volunteer needs, and possibly putting together a day of ministry project for the whole parish for next Pentecost. We have not identified a leader for this team. In the meantime Michael Smith and I will facilitate their meetings. I am still fleshing out the details of this new model but wanted to give you an overview of what I'm proposing to the committee.

Pastoral Care:

Our Pastoral Care teams are continuing their ministries. The Prayer Shawl Knitters will continue knitting over the summer but will take a break from their Wednesday meetings until the fall.

Eve Gee will be stepping down from her position as team leader of the Eucharistic Visitors in the fall when she begins her OEP internship at another parish. Betty Somloi has agreed to take on the oversight of this ministry. We will also need to recruit a few more people for this ministry."

IX. Rector's Report: The Very Reverend Michael Delk submitted the following report:

"New Member by Letter of Transfer:

Bruce Hill and Claire Sink

Bob and Chris Zoglman

Martha Connolly

Baptisms, since last Vestry meeting:

Joseph Carter Pruitt – 24 May

Eleanore Lee Pruitt – 24 May

Burials, since last Vestry meeting

Kathryn Edwards Benner – 17 May at St. John's, Hampton [non-member]

NO Marriage or Transfers Out of the Parish, since last Vestry meeting:

Calendar Events, since last Vestry meeting:

- *5/13 – 5/26 ... McDONALD AWAY*
- *5/14 ... Bob Gay's Candidacy Interview with COM, 3pm @ Chanco*
- *5/17 ... Newcomer Social, 4:30p*
- *5/21 ... Ascension Day Eucharist, 7pm in the Historic Chapel*
- *5/24 ... Baptism of the Pruitt Children, 9a*
- *5/25 ... OFFICES CLOSED in observance of Memorial Day*
- *5/30 ... Men's Breakfast, 8:30a*
- *5/31 ... The Great Feast of Pentecost*
- *6/7 ... Children, Youth, Teacher, and Leader Recognition, 10:30a in Nave*

Upcoming Calendar Events:

- *6/16 – 6/22 ... DELK AWAY*
- *6/21 ... Father's Day*
- *6/23 ... Lauren McDonald's Mutual Ministry Review*
- *6/23 ... Ed Godshall's Mutual Ministry Review*
- *6/27 ... Vestry Mid-Year Day Retreat, 9a – 3p at Boelt Residence*
- *6/28 ... Kendrick 50th Anniversary Vow Renewal*
- *7/5 ... Independence Day [observed]*
- *7/6 – 7/18 ... DELK at The General Convention in Anaheim, California*
- *8/3 – 8/7 ... HNC hosts VBS".*

Fr. Michael reminded the Vestry of the mid-year Vestry Retreat on Saturday, June 27 at Fred Boelt's from 9 am to 3 pm. Fr. Michael also reported that: The Bishop's chair being made by Paul Casanave would be finished by the end of the month; that Gini Campbell, formerly HNC Parish Administrator and newly ordained a minister in the Presbyterian Church, would be preaching at all three services on August 9; a mutual ministry review will be conducted by the Personnel Committee with Lauren McDonald and Ed Godshall; Eve Gee and Don Seeterlin will be stepping down from the HNC parish responsibilities in order to fulfill their Phase II Ordination Exploration Process requirements to intern respectively at a parish in the Diocese. Eve Gee will also be stepping down from her duties as parish register; and the Youth Group does

not want to give up meeting over the summer so, although they will not meet every week, there will be meetings and events with them throughout the summer months.

X. Team Ministry Report: Melissa Casheros, Vestry Liaison to the Communications Committee, submitted the following report:

"Internal Communications -

Regular weekly and monthly communications continue to be developed and published by the following people:

The Nuggets - Steve & Nancy Snyder

- *Staff writer, Jim Izzo*
- *Contributing writer, Doug Smith*

Steve has asked me to remind the Vestry to provide him with any upcoming news that could be published as an article in the Nuggets, or simply as a reminder. Articles and information for the Nuggets need to be provided to Steve by the 15th of each month for the following months edition.

HNC website – Laurie Brown

Hope Brans – Coordination of ministry schedules for the Nuggets and E-pistle, and weekly bulletin inserts.

The E-pistle – Melissa Casheros

External Communications -

Additional communications, articles, and PR are produced and coordinated by Martha McCartney and Jim Izzo.

Martha McCartney –

- *PR for the Evensong services were published in the Daily Press, VA Gazette, and Toano Norge Times, and were also added to the electronic calendars for the Daily Press and Williamsburg York Daily.*

Jim Izzo –

- *Jim is Communications Chair for the Fall Festival and will begin ramping up various PR and communications for that soon, similar to last year.*

Things to Come -

I attended a session on church communications at the Bishop's Day for Vestries in March. Based on what I heard we seem to be doing the same types of communications as most churches, although we're doing more external communications than many. As a result of what we learned about church websites, I plan to talk with Laurie Brown and our clergy about possible tweaks to our already wonderful website. The two main topics that were shared in the session that we aren't doing currently are blogging and web security for certain information that could be considered private. We've talked in the past of putting information such as our directory on the website, but haven't moved forward with that due to privacy concerns.

I continue to get ideas from others on various publications that we can use to let Williamsburg and surrounding areas know what's going on at HNC. As we get closer to the Fall Festival you'll begin seeing and hearing about this more. Some examples of this will be:

- *Air1 radio station – a national Christian station that broadcasts locally*
- *Diocese of Southern Virginia Newsletter*

These are just ideas at this point, but other ideas are welcome."

XI. New Business—Facility Use Request: On motion of Don Seeterlin and seconded by Michael Smith, the Vestry voted to approve the temporary use of the Narthex by the Tai Chi group which had been meeting at Sacred Grounds and may require a temporary location until a new permanent location is found.

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

XIII. Other Business: Jean Hancock thanked Ann Bartholomay and Ann Lipp for filling in with the Newcomer's Reception while Jean was out of town and advised the next Newcomers' Reception would be in November.

The next meeting of the Hickory Neck Vestry will be held on Tuesday, August 11, 2009 at 7 pm in the Wilkinson Center. Father Michael concluded the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Eve Butler-Gee