

Hickory Neck Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes
August 14, 2007

Present: Fred Boelt (Treasurer/Senior Warden), Bill Teale (Junior Warden/Stewardship) [*by teleconference*]; Michael Delk (Rector); Ann Dieterle (Associate Rector); Melissa Casheros (Stewardship); Sue Dugan (Pastoral Care); Nancy Geddes (Youth); Lynn Geddy (Parish Life); Chuck Jundt (Outreach); Connie Kendrick (Worship); Mayes Mathews (Strategic Planning); Don Seeterlin (Buildings & Grounds); and Paula Simmons (Christian Formation). **Also Present:** Dr. H. Edwin Godshall, Jr., Organist/Choirmaster.

Absent: Lauris Zeni (Newcomers).

I. Vestry Check In:

Fr. Michael reported that he had had a good first week re-entry following his sabbatical and that Lauris Zeni was absent because she is at her son's wedding. Nancy Geddes reported to the Register that she might be late to the September Vestry meeting due to a 3 pm meeting in Richmond. Other Vestry members shared personal news since the last meeting in July.

II. Opening Prayer and Meditation: Mayes Matthews lead the opening prayer and meditation.

III. Approval of Vestry Minutes: On motion of Fred Boelt and seconded by Chuck Jundt, the minutes of the Vestry meeting of July 10 were approved.

IV. Parishioner's Comments and Initiatives: There were no parishioner comments and initiatives to be reported.

V. Treasurer's Report: Fred Boelt reported that the year-to-date Operating Fund income is down by \$5,900 and expenses are over budget by \$1,500. Expenses over budget were tied to items such as HVAC and Buildings and Grounds items, for which there is no baseline since this is the first full year in operation with the expanded campus, including the additional property and the new chapel. In addition, income over summer months is traditionally lower, but should pick up in September.

The Organ Donation Fund lacks \$2,300 to achieve its goal of both Phases I and II. The Davenport Fund can be used to cover the remaining amount, if needed, until remaining donations come in.

The Demand Note balance is down to \$120,000. There was a substantial contribution made this week. However, Fred believes it is possible that we may be short

on the demand note payoff in December. He cautioned the Vestry to initiate discussions with the bank well in advance of the note payoff due date if the note needs to be extended.

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

Fred Boelt then submitted Steve Barnes' 2006 Financial Review to the Vestry for its approval before it is sent along to the Diocese. On motion of Paula Simmons and seconded by Nancy Geddes, the 2006 Financial Review was approved. The Vestry will send a letter of appreciation to Steve Barnes.

VI. Junior Warden's Report: Bill Teale reported (via teleconference) that the Hickory Neck "business cards" have been received (final cost of \$55). These cards will be utilized by HNC members to give to those in the surrounding community who may be interested in attending HNC. The cards were then distributed to the Vestry. Bill reported that the cost was \$55.

Bill reported that Vibrant Life was attempting to acquire 3 or 4 homes in James City County, since the Charles City County Board of Supervisors has required them to remove their clients from Camp Miracle by the end of the month.

James City County Administrator Sandy Warner has called Dennis and is helping Vibrant Life find the homes. If a JCC location(s) can be found, it would be actually more geographically desirable for workers and volunteers than Charles City County, which is some distance away.

Chuck Jundt indicated he had talked with Bob Gay, who had cautioned Dennis re Dennis' original idea of acquiring 5 or 6 homes. Bob suggested the acquisition of 3 or 4 houses at first to be sure that Vibrant Life can handle the mortgage payments. Apparently, there also may be a possibility of tapping \$100,000,000 in federally-supervised money for this type of project and this is being explored. Vibrant Life reported housing 81 people as of last Saturday.

Sue Dugan asked whether names gleaned from the new incoming Time and Talent form can somehow be differentiated from the names of those who indicated an interest on the previous T & T form. Bill Teale responded that Hope Brans is entering the information from the new Time and Talent forms and will then incorporate new and previous names. Bill has talked with Hope and it appears that 60 Time and Talent sheets have come in from people who have not heretofore filled one out. Bill will be checking in with Hope on Friday.

VII. Senior Warden's Report: Fred Boelt thanked Vestry members for advising Hope of their regular ministry meetings so they can be placed on the Parish calendar and urged those who had not yet done so to be in touch with Hope. This reporting helps Hope allocate meeting space.

VIII. Associate Rector's Report: Pastor Ann Dieterle submitted her report as follows:

"Calendar Items

"July 26, 2007 – Ministering to Ministers Retreat (1st of 3 identical sessions)

August 15 – 16 – Dieterle Away (Retreat)

August 19, 2007 – Diocesan Youth Mission Trip Planning Meeting

August 22, 2007 – Prayer Shawl Ministries Kick-Off,

August 26, 2007 – Youth Advisor's Meeting, St. Martin's (2-5)

September 2, 2007 – Dieterle AWAY

September 6 & 8, 2007 – Ministering to Ministers Retreat (2nd and 3rd of identical sessions)

September 10, 2007 – Confirmation Classes Begin [Monday evenings 6:45 pm to 8 pm thru November 4]

September 15, 2007 – HNC Youth Leaders Planning Retreat (location TBD)

"Christian Formation

The adult schedule for the fall is attached.

"Youth

The Youth Kick-Off is September 9th. I am holding a Fellowship, Training and Planning Retreat on September 15th for youth leaders.

"Pastoral Care

The LEMs and Lay Pastoral Visitors have been very active recently. There are several persons who we are visiting on a long term or permanent basis at this time. The ministry team coordinators and I will meet periodically to ensure we remain well-equipped for this activity.

"The first of three identical retreat sessions on personal prayer was held on July 26th for the Pastoral Care teams and Sunday School teachers. There were 8 total in attendance, and I expect similar attendance at the subsequent two sessions on September 6th and September 8th.

"Other

My sincerest thank you for the gift certificate for new running shoes. I purchased them

along with a fuel belt (to store water for longer runs) and some energy gels (they taste disgusting but they're also convenient and necessary on longer runs) last week, and broke them in gently with a 13 mile run Friday morning."

Pastor Ann added that she had been asked and had agreed to join the Diocesan Youth Advisory Council.

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

Average Sunday attendance, since last meeting –185

Average Sunday attendance in the last period between meetings –213

Transfers out of the Parish since last Vestry meeting:

Woody and Shirley Lake (to St. Martin's, Williamsburg); and Mark and Barbara Paul

No burials, marriages or transfers out of the Parish since last Vestry meeting.

Calendar events, since last Vestry Meeting:

7/12—Vibrant Life Ministries Banquet

7/16—VAST meeting

7/26—Ministering the Ministers Retreat (1st of Phase II meetings)

8/1—VAST meeting

8/5—Blessing of the Clowns

8/12—Parish Picnic

8/13—"Re-Entry receptions" commence

Upcoming Calendar Events:

8/17 to 8/18—Delk at Bishop Search Committee Retreat, Chanco

8/18—Ryan/Swaney Wedding, 6 pm

8/19—Youth Mission Trip Planning Meeting

8/26—Church School Registration & Orientation

9/3—Labor Day, offices closed

9/6 & 9/8—Ministering to Ministers Retreat

9/10—1st Day of Church School classes

9/10—Confirmation Classes begin

Fr. Michael reported that he had reviewed the draft VAST report and hopes to meet with the committee sometime early next week. He is reflecting on the report and will be prepared to share his thoughts about the draft report at that meeting. A completed VAST committee document should be available for transmittal to Vestry members for their consideration in advance of the September Vestry. Fr. Michael hopes to be able to present an end of the year wrap up report to the congregation.

Mayes Mathews reminded the Vestry that the process of distilling and evaluating the broad range of input from the small groups has been made immeasurably easier by the efforts of Cleve Corlett who continues to work with the VAST committee. Mayes reports that there is a high level of excitement and sense of purpose in the committee.

Fr. Michael added that the overall flavor of small group input is one of yearning—(1) a tremendous desire to offer up Hickory Neck Church to the community and (2) in order to do that well, a need to deepen the spiritual experience and level of faith of the congregation.

Fr. Michael reported that, during the time of his sabbatical, the Jamestown convocation (of which he is Dean) was charged with electing one member of the clergy and one lay person to represent the convocation on the search committee for the election of the new Bishop. He allowed his name to be provisionally submitted as a clergy delegate and, absent other volunteers, was elected to be a delegate. Consequently, he will be attending the Bishop Search Committee Retreat at Chanco on August 17 and 18. Although Fr. Michael does not anticipate that service on this committee will be too disruptive, he may need to do some travelling in the first or second quarter of 2008.

Fr. Michael announced the celebration of the two-year anniversary on the staff of Ed Godshall and the one-year anniversary of Hope Brans' joining the staff. The Vestry congratulated Ed Godshall, who was present at the meeting.

Fr. Michael reminded the Vestry that Interim Bishop John Buchanan would be visiting Hickory Neck on November 4 and planned to be at the 9 am Eucharist. Fr. Michael will be in touch with Bishop Buchanan after Labor Day to ask if the Bishop would consent to also attend the 11:15 am service and be present between services. Fr. Michael also mentioned the idea of combining the 9 am and 11:15 services on that Sunday to facilitate the Bishop's contact with a larger segment of the congregation.

Fr. Michael reported that he had received a letter from the Reverend Shirley Smith-Graham, the new rector of St. Martin's, Williamsburg, indicating that the service of her installation will take place on Sunday, September 30 at 5 pm at St. Martin's.

Fr. Michael spent 8 days with Reverend Smith-Graham in a small group at the CREDO meeting. She spent 4 years on the clergy staff of Christ Church, Alexandria and he feels she is an excellent choice for St. Martin's.

X. Team Ministry Reports:

A. Christian Formation Report—Paula Simmons submitted the following report:

"Attached are the attendance numbers for the Nursery, Children's Chapel, and children's Sunday school classes (Attachments A and B).

"Vacation Bible School

The joint Episcopal Vacation Bible School for Hickory Neck, St. Martin's, and Bruton Parish was held at St. Martin's the week of August 6-10, 9:00 a.m. to Noon. Approximately 75 children, ages 3-years-old through rising 5th graders, attended and over 60 youth and adults helped. Six adults, 6 youth, and 23 children participated from the HNC family and extended family.

*"The Western theme **Avalanche Ranch: A Wild Ride through God's Word** was enjoyed by everyone. Some aspects were organized differently this year – mixed-aged 'families' groups, chow time (snack) in the middle of the morning with everyone together. Paula is waiting for an expense request from St. Martin's.*

"Ministers' Mini-Retreat

The Sunday school teachers were invited to participate in the 'Personal Prayer' Ministering to Ministers mini-retreat with Pastoral Care ministers. One session was held July 26th. Two other sessions are on September 6th and 8th.

"Christian Formation

The Christian Formation Committee members met Sunday, August 5, and will meet again on Friday, August 24, to plan for the coming Sunday school year.

"On Saturday, August 11, Toni Small, Stephanie Delk and De Fehrenbach worked hard to prepare the classrooms. De and Toni worked on the 3rd-5th classroom, and it is much better. A second workday will be scheduled in about 2 weeks.

"Sunday school registration will be Sunday, August 26 after the 9:00 a.m. service. Ann provided the year's schedule so plans have been based on that. This year, volunteers will be asked to provide the snacks to save the church money. There will be a schedule for volunteers to sign-up.

"2007-2008 Sunday School Teachers

Godly Play Preschool: Carol Shutt & Christine Hanlon

Godly Play Kindergarten: Second - Alan Zoellner, Shannon Houser, & Lucy Purse

Godly Play Mixed Ages: Melissa Casheros, Jennifer Lampert, Linda Matthews

Grades 3-5: Denise Deal, Pam Chambers

Subs: Paula Simmons, Terri Lensenmayer, Suzi Blanchard, Karen Dutro

"Godly Play

Christine Hanlon, Linda Matthews, Carol Shutt, Paula Simmons, and Alan Zoellner attended a Godly Play training sponsored by the diocese on Saturday, June 30. Everyone thought the workshop was extremely helpful and came away with great ideas.

"There will be three Godly Play classes this year - preschool, mixed ages, and K-2. We are experimenting with one mixed-age group for the first time this year. The collection of lessons is being expanded to include stories we have not used before. Thanks goes to Stephanie for the huge amount of work she is doing to get the materials

together for the additional classroom and the additional stories. The first few lessons are ready, and most will be finished by the first Sunday school date. The calendars are almost finalized; a few dates need verifying with Michael.

"Grades 3-5

The third, fourth, and fifth graders Sunday school class is using Episcopal Children's Curriculum.

"Nursery

Since most children are taken to Communion by their parents, the nursery workers have been able to go to Communion. This works fine on most Sundays. We will plan, though, for Michael or Ann will take Communion to the workers in the nursery when we have busy services, i.e. Easter.

"We are looking to hire a second paid worker, so that the two can alternate Sundays and be backup for each other. We still will use an additional volunteer in the nursery each service.

"Healthy Churches Training

A Healthy Churches Training (Youth version) session will be led by De Farhenbach and Bob Gay on September 22, 9:00 a.m. – noon in the Parish House. Ann Dieterle is the contact for registration. Vestry members are invited.

"All paid staff and volunteers who work with children and/or youth (Nursery, Children's Chapel, Sunday School, Acolytes, Youth Group, Choir, etc.) must have this training. Each group leader will be asked to contact anyone in their group that needs to attend this training. Paula is still working to be sure all Christian Formation paid and volunteer workers have completed Healthy Churches (youth) training and that their certificates are on file with the HNC office.

"Children's Choir

Ed Godshall and Ann Dieterle both met with Terry Lensenmeyer about beginning a children's choir. Ann will have more information as things progress."

B. Stewardship Report: Melissa Casheros submitted the following report:

"We will kick off our Stewardship Campaign on Sunday, October 7, 2007. In preparation I will meet with Fred Boelt and Bill Teale to discuss the Stewardship needs and direction for the campaign this year. We've decided to use our newly developed HNC vision statement as our theme for the campaign as opposed to using a 'package' from an outside source. This should save us a bit of money, as well as give the Stewardship Campaign a focus that the congregation will embrace.

"I've asked Dave Simmons and Brian Hanlon to assist me on a small Stewardship committee to brainstorm ideas we can use in implementing the campaign this year. One change we'd like to implement is to utilize email and possibly the HNC website (e.g. a

writable PDF of the pledge form that could [be] downloaded, filled in and emailed to Hope) to assist us in getting a quicker and possibly better response rate for the pledge cards. We'll have our first official planning meeting the end of August."

XI. New Business:

Certification of Delegates to Diocesan Council:

On motion of Paula Simmons and seconded by Sue Dugan, the Vestry approved the appointment of the following individuals as delegates and alternates to Diocesan Council:

Delegates: Fred Boelt, Gay Forloine, Betty Somloi, and Rick Garfield; and
Alternates: Dave Simmons, Bob Williams, and George Loving.

Choral Scholars: Ed Godshall presented the Fall 2007 Semester proposal for the Choral Scholars program. The semester encompasses 10 Sundays. Ed will appoint a Student Leader this year, whose responsibilities will include rehearsing scholars, getting the scholars to HNC on time Sundays, being responsible for time sheets and tax forms, collaborating with Ed in the selection of music, and providing for the overall flow and continuity of the scholars participation at HNC.

On motion of Mayes Mathews and seconded by Lynn Geddy, the Vestry approved the compensation and organizational proposal for the Choral Scholars for the Fall Semester.

"From His Hands" Ministry—Chuck Jundt reported that he had had a conversation with Skip Floyd from St. Martin's inviting him to attend a meeting at the Salvation Army regarding HNC's possible participation in the "From His Hand's" ministry.

This ministry provides meals at the Grove Christian Center, dispensed from an old Salvation Army disaster relief canteen truck. There is a driver, food handlers and young people to distribute food. Once a month (Thursdays) the food is prepared at St. Martin's Church or the Presbyterian churches and the food is distributed at 5 pm, 5:15 pm, and 5:30 pm. The truck then returns to the church kitchen at which the food was prepared for clean up. Chuck will present the information on this ministry to the Outreach Council. There is very little cost and the benefits are considerable to the community.

XII. Old Business:

Sue Dugan showed the Vestry the Hickory Neck pillows that had come in for sale at the Fall Festival. Wholesale price is \$11.50 and they will be sold for \$30.

Paula Simmons reported that the Cookbook Committee meeting will take place on Thursday night and they are about ready to begin receiving recipes.

Don Seeterlin reported that the Zion Baptist Church was the recipient of our old wall panels from the Parish House and that the drainage problem in front of the New Chapel is being attended to.

Connie Kendrick reported that the glass in the Book of Remembrance box will be safety glass and that the box will be stained to match the woodwork in the New Chapel.

XIII. Other Business: There was no other business to come before the Vestry.

The next meeting of the Hickory Neck Vestry will be held on Tuesday, September 11 at 7 pm.

Father Michael concluded the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Eve Butler-Gee, Register