

Christ Church Cathedral Vestry Meeting Minutes  
August 27, 2012  
Nashville, TN

**Vestry Members Present:**

Steve Lasley (Senior Warden), Denise Bentley, Lawrence Blank-Cook, John Bridges, Susan Hudson, Kristine LaLonde, Paul Myers, Jo Dee Prichard, Susie Ries, Sandy Sanders, Dan Schafer, Ann Walker-King, Tyler Yarbrow, Marie Yeagle.

**Clergy Members Present:**

The Very Rev. Timothy Kimbrough, Dean and Rector; the Rev. Canon Gene Manning, Sub-Dean.

**Evening Prayer and Meditation**

Evening Prayer was led by John Bridges. Ann Walker-King provided the evening's meditation.

**Approval of Minutes from June 25, 2012 Meeting**

Minutes from the June 25, 2012 meeting were approved.

**Old Business:**

**Communication and the Tithing Statement**

Kristine LaLonde reported that the committee suggests a reading as part of the Tithing communications process. To that end, a memo to parishioners is being drafted recommending the book 'Being Consumed' by Walter T. Cavanaugh.

**"Mission Prayer"**

The Vestry endorsed using the following "Mission Prayer" in liturgies and other settings as deemed appropriate by the Dean:

*"Almighty God, you made us in your image and call us to share in the renewal of this world: Inspire us to seek and serve Christ in all persons, that the proclamation of your Good News in our worship, in our words, and in our work may lead us into the fullness of your love; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. AMEN."*

**Stewardship Committee Update**

Sam Bessey presented an update of stewardship activities. The theme of this year's canvass will be "By Word and Example" (from the new Mission Statement).

Dean Kimbrough asked Vestry members to reflect upon the concept of a 'public acknowledgement' of those who make contributions to the Cathedral. This topic will be part of an upcoming Vestry meeting agenda.

Following the meeting, Vestry and Stewardship Committee members signed acknowledgement notes to be sent to participants in the 2011 stewardship campaign.

Ad hoc Committee on Parish Administration

Tyler Yarbro reported that the Ad hoc Committee on Parish Administration is in the process of interviewing key committee chairpersons, designated staff members and parishioners who are actively involved in committee work. An effort is being made to identify common themes relating to the roles of clusters and committees and their relationships with the Vestry.

Ad hoc Committee on Charter Amendment and Bylaws

*Charter*

Sandy Sanders reported that significant progress has been made in the development of a Charter amendment. The amendment is intended to address potential liability issues and other concerns with the current version. A draft will be distributed to Vestry members for review.

He explained that Charter amendments must be approved by a plurality of members of the Cathedral. Accordingly, approval of the revised Charter will be on the agenda of the next Annual Parish meeting.

*Bylaws*

A draft of proposed Bylaws was distributed to Vestry members. The Bylaws are intended to provide a framework consistent with the outline of Canons of the Diocese of Tennessee and within which the Vestry of Christ Church and Annual Parish Meeting agree to operate.

The adoption of Bylaws requires approval by the Vestry. It is anticipated that the proposed Bylaws will be considered and voted upon over the course of the next two or three Vestry meetings.

Both Sandy Sanders and Steve Lasley expressed appreciation for the analysis, advice and support from Walter Crouch in addressing these matters.

**Standing Reports:**

Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee report was received by the Vestry. Mark McQueen indicated that there was a positive pledge variance in July primarily attributable to a “Five Sunday Month” and one annual pledge being paid in full.

Annual Audit

Mark also discussed the annual audit recently conducted by Crosslin and Associates (Certified Public Accountants). The audit report was received by the Vestry. It will be submitted to the Diocese of Tennessee.

Dean’s Report

Dean Kimbrough asked Vestry members to begin focusing on budget priorities for next year. He suggested that potential areas of our ministry in need of particular focus include fellowship, outreach, youth ministry and increased support of Christian education.

Senior Warden's Report

Dean Kimbrough yielded chairmanship of the meeting to the Senior Warden and left the room to enable Steve Lasley to describe the Dean's performance feedback process planned for the month of September. As part of this effort, input will be obtained from Vestry members, the Bishop, Canon for the Ordinary, clergy, key staff members and others. The wardens will then confer with the Dean regarding focus areas and goal setting.

There being no further business to consider, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Hoffman