

St Nicholas Episcopal Church  
Vestry Meeting  
March 20, 2016

Those present: Katherine Johnson, Nick Simpson, Bill Caudill, Sheri Cody, Martha Dimon, Sue Halmrast, Dave Halmrast, Steve Morse, and Father Jeff.

Excused Absences: Bob and Patty Hamilton, Kin Brown were out of town. Rebecca Crowley and Phebe Robertson were ill.

Meeting opened with prayer by Steve Morse.

To begin the meeting the Vestry discussed pastoral concerns.

A review of Kanuga Leadership Conference followed. All who attended praised Barbara Crafton who delivered a most inspiring talk. Father Jeff has a tape of her talk and is going to make it available to all who missed out by not hearing her.

Evangelism: Much discussion followed about 'How to be a blessing to our community'. Sheri, Katherine and Phebe have a meeting scheduled for April 10 to further explore this topic. It was noted that we need a slogan, such as Welcome Home, Be a Blessing etc. Signage on the road leading to church (like in the Burma Shave signs in the 50's); Hours of services posted in front of church; and billboards were discussed. A two month posting of a large billboard was purchased at the Puttin' on the Dog silent auction by: Martha Dimon, Sue Halmrast, Katherine Johnson and Linda Sawyer. This billboard is to be used within one year. How we use it is to be decided.

Christian Valley and St Nicholas Game Day: Date is April 16 from 2 pm til 7 pm at St Nicholas. Christian Valley men are smoking ribs, chicken and hot dogs. St Nicholas will provide sides, salads, drinks and desserts. Need adults to supervise the kids. There will be games for kids and adults alike. A sign-up sheet is located in the Narthex.

Financial Updates: Dave and Nick passed out the Profit and Loss Budget Performance, and Balance Sheet. Treasurer's Report stated that we have \$37,000 in free cash. Pledge and Contribution revenue is \$14,000 behind budget and Total revenue is \$20,000 behind budget. Our total expense is \$3,100 over budget. Dave stated he would like for us to build up a reserve of 2 ½ % of our budget.

Dave and Nick are meeting with CB&T regarding our getting a mortgage loan.

Journey to Adulthood: Sheri presented information regarding this program. It was noted that at present, after children are confirmed, they seem to fall away from participating as they have reached their 'goal'. This would start as a two year program called Rite 13 (R13) for those at age 13. The second segment is Journey to Adulthood, called J2A, another two year program. The teens would learn and practice six basic skills of adulthood: active listening, negotiation, assertion, research & information management,

partnership and leadership. This two year period would end in the group designing and going on a Holy Pilgrimage. The last two years are referred to as YAC, (Young Adults in Church). This is where these students are encouraged to accept more adult responsibilities and help support the work of the church. Father Jeff asked the Vestry to spend the next month really praying and considering this program. Also he requested that we talk to the parents of the young people who might be in this program, as the success depends highly on their commitment. Sheri, Rebecca and Father Jeff are going to brainstorm potential group leaders.

Use of Prayer Book Feedback: Father Jeff has had both favorable and non-favorable comments. So far, only a few have said they did not like the use of the prayer books and only one person was adamantly opposed. We will continue using the prayer book at least until Pentecost. Father Jeff said he would set up some training classes for their use and he will follow up with a report to the congregation in the newsletter regarding the feedback he has received.

Steward of the Month: Kenny Hall was named Steward of the Month because of his hard work clearing out the overgrowth on our land.

Father Jeff asked the Vestry to attend the Holy Week Services. He will be on vacation starting the day after Easter and the April 3 services will be led by lay leaders.

Meeting closed with prayer by Steve Morse.

Respectfully submitted by  
Martha Dimon, Acting Secretary