

**ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
608 JEFFERSON STREET
TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI 38804**

MINUTES OF APRIL 12, 2010 VESTRY MEETING

PRESENT:

The Rev. Paul J. Stephens	Lynn Bryan	Joellen Murphree
Fred Page, Sr. Warden	Kaye Cannon	Peg Oakes
Cathy Fitzpatrick, Jr. Warden	Susan Hyatt	Fredda Robinson
Albert White, Treasurer	Stephen King	Rhonda Saunders
Mary Lou Parks, Ass't. Treasurer	Kevan Kirkpatrick	Ann Springfield
Tommie Moore, Clerk	Smokey Livingston	Vicky Vance

ABSENT: None

The Rev. Paul Stephens opened the Vestry meeting with a prayer at 6:32 p.m.

CHECK-IN

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

REVIEW OF MINUTES:

The March Vestry minutes were reviewed.

MOTION: (King/Kirkpatrick)

Approve March Vestry minutes as submitted.

APPROVED.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer, Albert White, reviewed our operating budget financial status for the month ending March 31, 2010. He reported that we received \$33,384 in pledges which is 78% of our budget. Albert noted that \$5,000 was transferred from Pre-Paid Pledges to cover part of the month-to-date deficit. He reported that our expenses are under budget year-to-date \$14,286.

Albert continued his report by reviewing the Capital Campaign financial status for the month ending March 31, 2010. He reported that the net income for the month was \$5,633. Expenses for the month totaled \$12,720 in interest.

MOTION: (Kirkpatrick/Saunders)

Approve Treasurer's report as submitted.

APPROVED.

CHRISTIAN GROWTH COMMISSION: No report

CHRISTIAN SERVICE COMMISSION: No report

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION: No report

JR. WARDEN REPORT:

Cathy Fitzpatrick reported that the washer is not working and a repairman will be coming within the next few days. She also reported that she and Albert White, Treasurer, attended the annual Wardens'/Treasurers' Conference. Cathy stated that it was a good conference and time well spent. She noted that it would be a nice addition to our building to have pictures of events/parishioners posted on a bulletin board.

SR. WARDEN REPORT:

Sr. Warden, Fred Page, reviewed the goals set by the Vestry at the 2009 Vestry Retreat:

1. Enhance community outreach in new facility
2. Increase giving by 45% / decrease debt by 33%
3. 250 Average Sunday Attendance by 2010 (2008 ASA 178)
4. Increase Sunday, weekday Christian Education programming and fellowship

The Vestry briefly discussed each goal. Fred also reminded the Vestry that if they are unable to serve as they are scheduled (lector, chalice bearer, acolyte, Vestry Person of the Day, etc.) it is their responsibility to secure their own substitute. In addition, he asked that they notify the office of the change.

RECTOR REPORT:

Paul began his report by advising the Vestry that the Greater Tupelo Ministerial Alliance met earlier in the day and heard a report from CASA (Church After School Association) director Suzy Sheffield and Board Chair Cathy Fitzpatrick. He stated that CASA is looking for an additional site to house approximately 30-35 children each afternoon after school. Currently, there are 65 children on site at First Presbyterian Church after school each day and CASA would like to have an additional site to ease the over crowded conditions. Paul reported that All Saints' meets all but one of the requirements to be a CASA site. He stated that we would need to have a fenced in area of at least 1,000 square feet in size, with two gates. Paul reported that he received an estimate from Ivy Fence Company to erect a fence, 1,000 square feet in size with two gates in the amount of \$1,018.23. During this discussion, Mary Lou Parks advised the Vestry that a master plan for landscaping the grounds and a playground were drawn by Pete Poland, III. She will bring the plan to the May meeting for the Vestry to review.

Paul reviewed the upcoming calendar of events noting that Senior Recognition Sunday is scheduled for May 16 and May 23 is Pentecost/Crawfish Boil. Our last Wednesday Night Dinner/Program will be held May 19. He stated that our summer schedule will begin Sunday May 30 with one service at 9:30 a.m. Summer breakfasts will begin June 6 and continue until August 22. Wednesday Night Dinner/Program will resume on September 8. We will return to two services at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. with Christian Formation at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, September 12. Paul reported that several special services are in the planning stages for the summer months.

BUSINESS

Update on fundraiser for Allison Holloway

Paul advised the Vestry that the plans for a fundraiser for a handicap van for Allison Holloway are being finalized. "Wheels for Allison" will be held Friday, April 30 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. A Draw Down and Silent Auction will be held. Posters have been distributed around Tupelo and

tickets are on sale in the church office, at Jody's, Creative Touch Spa, and Midnight Pottery. Tickets are \$50 per person.

Update on 140th Anniversary Celebration

Paul began the discussion by advising the Vestry that he is working with Choirmaster, Jessica Nelson, in planning several special events to celebrate All Saints' 140th anniversary. They are planning a special summer Evensong/Concert series in addition to several special evening worship services. Paul stated that he received permission from Bishop Gray to use Eucharistic prayers from the 1792, 1890, 1928 and current prayer books. He is also working on bringing a guest speaker to All Saints', but does not have one confirmed at this time. Paul advised the Vestry that All Saints' had been given \$5,000 designated to help pay for the cost of the 140th anniversary celebration. After a brief discussion, the following motion was made:

MOTION: (Bryan/Murphree)

Allow Paul Stephens and the All Saints' staff the authority to spend the \$5,000 designated gift as needed to cover costs of the 140th anniversary celebration.

APPROVED.

Holy Week wrap up

Paul advised the Vestry that All Saints' advertised our Holy Week services in a special worship tabloid in the Daily Journal and then again in the Wednesday edition of the paper. He stated that he was pleased with the coverage. He distributed a narrative report by Jessica Nelson which gave an overview of the music and Eucharistic prayers used during the special Sunday evening services that were offered during Lent. He also distributed a chart showing the attendance at Holy Week services this year with a comparison to attendance at Holy Week services in 2008 and 2009. Attendance was slightly down this year compared to 2009 for Palm Sunday, the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday Eucharists and the Good Friday services. However, attendance was up slightly over 2009 at the Maundy Thursday service, the Great Vigil and Easter Sunday services. Overall, he was pleased with the offerings and attendance during Holy Week. Paul stated that he may move the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday Eucharists to 5:30 p.m. or later in 2011 to encourage attendance. He also noted that he has received very positive feedback concerning the Maundy Thursday service and the Vigil.

Trends worthy of note

Paul distributed a graph showing updated giving and participation trends from 1997 – 2009. He stated that we saw a slight increase in 2009 in giving, in the number of baptized members and in ASA.

He also showed the Vestry enlarged versions of the January, February and March, 2010 church calendar. He noted that those events in red were meetings, and ministries of All Saints' that met in our facility; those in green were All Saints' outreach programs and those in blue were times the building was used by groups in the community. He asked the Vestry to think about whether we are using the facility to its full potential. Paul noted to the Vestry that most of the time our building is used, it is used for All Saints' purposes. He stated he would like to see us increase the use of our facilities by outside groups and for outreach purposes.

Paul then distributed a graph showing our average Sunday attendance in 2008, 2009, and 2010 (2010 through March). He noted that the graph showed that our Sunday worship attendance peaks around Easter, declines throughout the summer and begins to increase again in the fall. (Graphs detailing Sunday School attendance for the same time periods will be emailed to all vestry members.)

During the last rector's search process, Paul said that no one in the age range of 21-30 years responded to the Parish Survey, yet, a recent updating of "View 2010" prepared by the Percept Group, shows that 22% of the population within a five mile radius of All Saints' falls within that age range. He also noted that we really do not offer any programs geared toward that age range.

Paul then distributed an accounting comparison of some of our money market funds from December 2006 – March, 2010. He noted that several accounts have kept the same balance during that time period. These funds are available for worthwhile projects, programming and improvements to All Saints' and its ministries.

Paul said that several challenges and opportunities for ministry exist and that all of the information he distributed to the Vestry was designed to begin the conversation regarding trends and to look for solutions and ideas to keep All Saints' moving forward. He stated that the Vestry must be involved in a meaningful and significant way in the development of goals and objectives for All Saints' and in ensuring that resources are available to support programming and other efforts to meet such goals and objectives. Collaboration among the various committees, commissions, staff and vestry must occur for programming and other efforts to be successful. The Vestry needs to lead this process by asking questions such "What needs exist within the church and the surrounding community?" and "What can we do to use our facilities and other resources to meet those needs?" He noted that being a CASA site would be a good way to start using our facilities to meet some of the needs in the community. He also stated that in order to meet the identified needs and increase programming, etc. we will have to increase our staff. Paul stated he would like to see All Saints' hire one or two curates, who in addition to their continued general formation as priests for the church would have special areas of focus and responsibility such as outreach, youth, pastoral care and Christian formation. Paul asked the Vestry to study the information distributed as we continue the conversation over the next few months about how to take All Saints' to the next level. He asked them to give any ideas they have to their conveners.

CHECK-OUT

With no further business the Vestry meeting was adjourned and The Rev. Paul Stephens closed with a prayer at 8:02 p.m.

Submitted by Tommie Moore, Clerk of the Vestry

ATTACHMENTS TO MINUTES OF THE APRIL MEETING:

Operating Budget Financial Report 03/31/10

Capital Campaign Financial Report 03/31/10

Lenten Sunday evening services overview

Holy Week attendance chart

Average Sunday Attendance graph

Giving and Participation graph

Sunday School attendance chart

View 2010

Money Market funds accounting

January, February, March color coded calendars