

The April 14, 2009 Vestry Meeting was held at St. Francis' Parish Hall and called to order at 7:00 p.m., with Fr. Kelsey providing the opening prayer. Present: Sr. Warden: Brad Bode, presiding, Jr. Warden: Don Eigenberg, Vestry members: Darcy Haslam, Joyce Walsh, Chris Kelley, Pati McLellan. Guests: Priest Bob Manasek, co-treasurers Don Kepler and Kathy Yates, and Jane Sayre as secretary. Absent: Sheryl Spath. Excused absent: Gina Shedd, Julie Fancher, Don Gable, Karen Anderson, and Bob Brown.

- With no corrections noted, **Motion** to accept the **minutes** of the March 10, 2009 meeting was made by Chris, seconded by Darcy, and approved.
- **Financial Reports** were presented by Don Kepler, with Balance Sheet reflecting a drop in the General Fund, to 6.7K, as funds have not yet been transferred. Don reported a very good collection, however, at Easter services totaling 6K. Otherwise, no significant changes are reflected in the Balance Sheet. The P/L report reflects about a 3K shortfall yet, in pledges to date, but is also off-set by Total Expense account being about 3K under budget. Fr. Kelsey shared that with natural gas rates being low right now, he will submit a fixed rate to be locked in for the year. He also suggested that members seriously consider investing in some rewiring for the sanctuary, as the electrical issues are continuing to age, and present potential hazards. **Motion** to accept the financial report was made by Don E., seconded by Pati, and approved.
- **Foundation Report** was perused and explained in detail with members. The foundation board members elected to place some investments into bonds with various coupon rates, interest, and maturity dates. The advantage of the bond investments is that, purchased at a discount, when held to maturity, will potentially yield around a 6% rate of return, the target of the board. Fr. Kelsey and Brad explained the possible risks of the investment strategy: 1. Interest rates may go up, and these rates are locked in. 2. Default. 3. Liquidity risk – if the church needed the cash before the maturity date, the bonds would have to be sold at the locked in rate. After discussion, general agreement was that the strategy was a sound one in light of the present economy.
- **Feedback regarding Holy Week and Easter** was given by various members, with Fr. Kelsey asking vestry members to be solicitors of feedback from the congregation, asking what people like or dislike. How was the experience for them? The goal being to make sure people have a sense of presence of God in their lives. He shared that it is difficult for clergy to get that sense, and thus needs help from the vestry to ask people. Fr. Kelsey also presented several worship booklets and service bulletins that Rosemary has diligently created over the past few months for funerals, Holy Week, Lenten season, newsletter, etc. reflecting not only a very good job, but leaving the worshiper with a tangible reminder of (that) experience. Communion bread vs. wafers was then discussed, with Fr. Kelsey asking if people felt that this is something we would want to change to, noting that he had one person express that (they) preferred the wafer, not the bread. After discussion it was decided to alternate it with the seasons and also offer wafers to those who prefer them. Brad expressed that he feels there needs to be some type of training session for ushers. For example: making sure people can find a seat – not having everybody in the back rows. Also training the ushers regarding communion, and facilitating an easier passage to and from the altar. All agreed. Fr. Kelsey will start preparing the congregation during the announcement times at Sunday services, instructing people “how to line up”.
- **Hosting the St. Mary's Choir Concert** on Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> was discussed. Don Eigenberg volunteered to take care of the pre-concert meal for the choir, and will contact Marty Burnett to see what foods they will prefer. The undercroft will be used for the meal, and space for the choir members to prepare for the concert. Darcy will be organizing the reception that will follow the concert, in the Parish Hall.

- **Summer activities** will primarily be preparation time for fall. Fr. Kelsey expressed two main goals: finding a choir director, and creating fellowship time for families with babies. Don E. wants us to further explore having Saturday night non-traditional services. After discussion, vestry also agreed to change the summer vestry meetings to the third Sunday of each month following the 10 o'clock service: dates being – June 21<sup>st</sup>, July 19<sup>th</sup>, and August 16<sup>th</sup>, with the possibility of omitting the July meeting. That will be decided at a later time. Fr. Kelsey will be on vacation June 3 – 10, and August 4 – 11.
- **In Other Business** Darcy asked if Sandy Shedd is our only graduate this year, and will we be having a reception. She will check with Gina to confirm the date, and also if there is any other student besides Sandy that is graduating. Fr. Kelsey will order a James Avery silver cross to present to Sandy as a gift from the parish.

With no further business, the meeting was closed at 8:10 p.m., with Bob Manasek offering the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Sayre  
Secretary to the Vestry