

The June 14, 2009 Vestry Meeting was held at St. Francis' Parish Hall and called to order at 11:30 a.m., with Fr. Kelsey providing the opening prayer. Present: Sr. Warden: Brad Bode, presiding, Jr. Warden: Don Eigenberg, Vestry members: Darcy Haslam, Pati McLellan, Sheryl Spath, Julie Fancher, Gina Shedd, Joyce Walsh, Don Gable, and Chris Kelley. Guests: Priest Bob Manasek, Deacon Robert Brown, treasurer Don Kepler, and Jane Sayre as secretary. Excused absent: Priest Karen Anderson.

With no corrections noted, **Motion** to accept the **minutes** of the April 14, 2009 meeting was made by Don Gable, seconded by Chris, and approved.

Financial Reports were presented by Don Kepler, with this month showing cash increase in balance due to a transfer of funds from the Foundation Fund. The P/L report showing less of a deficit in the pledges account, and is near budget. Under Utilities, the fixed rate for natural gas was set, at about one-half of what the rate was for 2008. With no further notable changes, **Motion** to accept the Financial Report was made by Chris, seconded by Pati, and approved.

Feedback – parish life was discussed. Fr. Kelsey has added and trained three new servers: John Haslam, Jane Sayre, and Santana Tamarak. In an effort to draw in younger members, Karin Shedd has agreed to be added to the lectorate. Don Gable shared that people had enjoyed Bob Brown's (short) sermon last week. No one has expressed any complaints to members, other than one comment to Darcy that the (unnamed) person didn't think John was old enough to be a server.

Foundation Report was given by Don, with Kelsey noting that the church has received a \$10,000 "Legacy Society" gift from Georgine Diers. The Foundation's end of May statement shows gains in the bonds of \$3K. Kelsey reviewed, for the newer members, that the accounts are being held to maturity as to net an average of 6.7% on the investments at maturity, so, fluxuations in the markets should not be of affect. The May over April stock portion of the portfolio presents a \$14.9K increase.

Brad reported that John Selzer has asked him about the status of interest in the small, pie-shaped parcel of land adjacent to the future building site north of highway 26. Brad updated the new members on that process, and added that he will speak to Tim Anderson this week to discuss options, and perhaps the Clarkson Foundation purchasing the parcel. Darcy asked if there is a time-line for a new building. Don Eigenberg noted that he has had several people asking why we are not doing some projects to raise funds for a new facility. Kelsey noted that there is not a set time line at this point. Brad asked if we need to raise awareness with the congregation. Bob Brown said we need to start talking about a building fund. After discussion, it was agreed to meet with Tim Anderson when he comes to visit at the end of July, seek his council, and ideas as to how best to approach the entire process.

Summer activities will include the Golf tournament August 1st, in Gering. Debbie and Kelsey are going to invite the young couples of the church to get together for an informal (possibly) picnic, to discuss if they wish to start some activities & programs just for these couples. Fr. Kelsey has started up the summer Bible study on Sundays between services, and Wednesday evenings at 5:30.

Fall Program Planning will include planning for a Christmas pageant, complete with script & full costumes; and decorating the church. Katy Hawkins has agreed to help with the project. Kelsey expressed two main goals he is working on: Finding a Choir Director, and getting a Photo Directory put together. Richard Schaneman has offered use of a backdrop for the photographs. Gina volunteered to help get the people in & out of the photo shoot etc. Brad reminded members that the building updates that were discussed in February need to be done. Jane will re-send the minutes of that meeting so those who volunteered to head up that project can move forward on the various projects.

In **Other Business**, Brad brought up the \$2 bill that he'd received regarding the "Sower's Fund" and asked what the vestry would like to do this year. The projects for the fund begin now and continue until Annual Council. After discussion it was agreed to use the \$2 for the E-bay listing fee, have a designated item (or items) to be sold by the Prairied Treasures project offered for auction, and designate the proceeds to the Sower's Fund. In addition, Gina suggested proceeds from the golf tournament also be designated for the fund. Bob B. added that the tournament is not just for St. Francis members, it is open to anyone, and encouraged members to bring fellow golfer friends to participate. Members then discussed various ideas to raise money during that tournament, which will be fun, such as a "Rattle snake hole", and "Jar of tees".

With no further business, the meeting was closed at 12:20 p.m., with Bob Manasek offering the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Sayre
Secretary to the Vestry