

St. Johns Episcopal Church

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH VESTRY MEETING MAY 20, 2008

The meeting began at 6:05 PM with devotions led by Fr. John. Present were Kathy Davis, Mildred Kirby, Carol Hawley, Joyce Renucci, Cindy Cotter, Kaye Lepien, Betsy Hawken, Deacon Dave and Justin Gregory. Absent was Chris Travis. Guests were Wes Hackett and Sue Carter.

CLERK'S REPORT

The clerk's report was read and accepted. Cindy moved and Kathy seconded the motion to approve.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Henceforth, the Rector's Discretionary Fund will be administered directly by Fr John. All loose Sunday donations will be handed directly to him as well as the \$100 per month from the general fund.

The motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Carol and supported by Cindy. Carried. Scott Miller of Edw. Jones will be asked to meet with us next month.

RECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Fr. John stated that he is more and more comfortable in his position here, but would like to be able to spend more time here.
- B. Fr. proposed having a second Sunday Eucharist with a more modern presentation. He would like to purchase for the church a digital piano for a "renewal ensemble" which is "Episcopal Speak" for a praise band. He has proper music for this and would recruit young people to play. Possible service times might be 9 AM and 11 AM. Pews in the choir loft would need to be removed to make room for musicians and instruments. Cindy offered to move and store the pews. Kaye made a motion, seconded by Joyce to move the pews. Carried. Kaye and Justin will work with Fr. to accomplish this addition to our present worship schedule. David stated that Portage St. Barnabas has a "renewal service" and that a visit there might be worthwhile. Fr John has had prior experience with these groups. A sound system will be necessary.
- C. Fr Kirkman of St. Paul's Greenville, has issued an invitation, which has been accepted, to an outdoor service to be held at the home of Sue and Paul Hoeflinger on July 27 at 10:30 AM. There will be no service here that day.
- D. The Ionia Ministerial Group plans to have a booth at the Fair with prayer and healing available to fairgoers.
An ecumenical outdoor service is planned for August 5 at the First Methodist Church at 7 PM.
- E. Recently, it was discovered by Wes Hackett that, since it's inception, our church has been legally known as "St. John's Church, City of Ionia" with no mention in any church legal documents of the word "Episcopal ". Therefore RESTATED ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION must be filed with the State to change the name of the church corporation to a more unique identifier, such as: St. John the Apostle Episcopal Church. Parish members must approve the change.
Four warranty deeds were found.

1. The original deed from Samuel and Anna Dexter conveying the land on which the church and parish house sit.
2. A warranty deed describing the property on which the church's original rectory sat.
3. A warranty deed conveying the above property to Ionia Public Schools for \$13,000.
4. A warranty deed from Abner and Marjorie Bricton conveying the property at 404 Rich St. (the present rectory) to " St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church of Ionia, Michigan. Purchase price for said property was \$15,750.

Also distributed were copies of the present by-laws of the church and a draft of restated bylaws of St. John the Apostle Episcopal Church.

All vestry members are to read and digest both copies and submit in writing, any suggested changes to Wes. About an hour will be devoted to this subject.

DEACON'S REPORT

- A. We need an answer from Alvin Hawley as to whether any of his children want to attend camp.
- B. Dave stated that 3 cinctures are needed for celebrants. Two should be 12 ft. long and one should be 9 ft. long. Mildred moved that payment be made from altar guild funds. Justin seconded. Motion carried.
- C. Better communication methods directed toward new members is needed. A Calendar of Events page could be printed in the bulletin and a larger wall calendar are possibilities.
- D. Dave proposed 3 evening meetings for *ministry groups* for June 12:
 - 5-6PM Building and Grounds
 - 6-7PM Outreach
 - 7-8PM InreachThe word "COMMITTEE" is henceforth *verboten*!

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Kaye and John Lepien will present a report in church about their recent trip to New Orleans to work on "Katrina" houses with other diocesan members.

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Employment of sexton—no interview as yet. Joyce has a prospect and will set up an interview.

Kronewitter report—A sump pump is unnecessary and would mean that a new drain system would have to be installed. He suggested a water sensor with a phone connection which would alert when water collects on the floor. Cindy will get the information.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT

Children's education is in summer recess, while adult Christian education, i.e. adult book study continues for the present.

VBS- Joyce attended a joint meeting of churches regarding VBS. Sessions will be held evenings beginning Sunday Aug. 10 at the Methodist Church yard. Joyce is in charge of games. Sue Carter has volunteered to help, but Joyce needs a few more. \$200 is asked of each participating church.

Betsy moved, seconded by Kaye that St John's donate the \$200 to VBS. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Betsy withdrew from the committee to find 3 realtors to furnish us with asking

prices for the sale of the rectory “as is”.
Kaye will take her place.

NEW BUSINESS

Wes has been elected to the Executive Council of the Diocese.
Deacon Dave has been appointed to the Diocesan Standing Committee.
Sue Carter will administer Project Care for our parish, which asks all of us to donate items to be sent to our troops overseas. A list of items will appear in the Sunday bulletin.

Motion for adjournment made by Mildred, seconded by Justin.

Adjourned at 8:05. Closing prayers.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Hawley, clerk

Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan
The Right Reverend Robert R. Gepert, D.D., Bishop
107 West Washington Street
Ionia, Michigan 48846
616-527-2290 (parish phone/fax)
616-540-4566 (rector's cell)

stjohnsionia@att.net
<http://stjohnsionia.org>