

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
Vestry Meeting Agenda
November 18, 2008 7:00 p.m.

Call To Order

Opening Prayer

Approval of October 21, 2008 Minutes

Treasurer's Report:

Questions and Approval

Rector's Report

Senior Warden's Report

Old Business:

Nominating Committee

Committee Reports:

Building and Grounds

Finance

Stewardship

ECW & Men's Club

Hospitality and Concierge

Missions and Outreach

Worship

Christian Formation

Parish Life

Pastoral Care Committee

Lake Wylie

New Business:

Church Windows Update – Purchased, Installed and Ready for Libby

Next Regular Meeting: December 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the parlor.

Adjournment

Closing Prayer

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
VESTRY MINUTES
OCTOBER 21, 2008

The vestry met in the Ladies Parlor on Tuesday, October 21, 2008 at 7 PM.

Present at the meeting were Father Robert Kirkland, Chuck Henry, John Shiflet, John Ness, Sue Nance, Randy Neff, Kaye McMaster, David Sims, Carolyn Amer and Jeanne Ferguson.

Also present were members of the Finance committee: Tracy Ferguson and Libby Bradford. Chuck Henry, Debbie Shiflet and Randy Neff are also members of that committee.

The meeting was called to order and opened with a prayer by Father Kirkland. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved with the following correction: In Finance, Diocesan budget should be changed to Diocesan pledge. The amended minutes were approved with a motion by Kaye McMaster and second by Randy Neff. Randy presented the Treasurer's report as follows:

Expenses	\$16,302.37
Income	\$13,462.52
Expense over income	(\$2,839.85)

With the current state of the market, our Endowment Fund is down to the limit of no withdrawals because of no accumulated earnings. It is actually down to \$133,790 which is slightly below the \$135,000 minimum we must keep in that account.

There is \$5125.98 in the WTW Fund and approximately \$25,000 in unpaid pledges for that fund. We voted at our September meeting to pay off the Bank of York mortgage but still should encourage those pledges to come in in order to repay the Dalton bequest. He handed out a draft budget for 2009 which will be used in the Stewardship presentations. The budget for the coming year should be presented as being "pro-active" rather than "re-active" to our needs as a parish. This may prove to be difficult as Randy reported that we have lost 3 pledges recently. He said that his most recent statistics indicate that 42 pledges have paid 75% or more, 22 % have paid 50%. Some have paid in full and a few overpaid. Another 14 units could be lost or will be underpaid.

The Treasurer's report was approved with a motion by Chuck and 2nd by Sue. Father Kirkland asked for brief comments from the committee reports as there were major financial discussions to follow.

Nominating Committee:	Jeanne and Randy will appoint this week.
Building and Grounds:	No report
Stewardship:	Proposed budget will be ready for campaign
ECW and Men's Club:	No Report
Hospitality and Concierge:	No report
Missions and Outreach:	No Report

Worship:

The committee met and plans are underway for a church supper and Christmas play the week before Christmas. Discussions are ongoing about a Children's choir. Steven Aycock, parish organist has found a baby grand piano for the choir room. With a motion by Jeanne and second by John Shiflet funds will be withdrawn from the Piano Fund in the amount of \$5,778.48 to pay

for this. It will cost \$6,300 including moving and tuning and Steven has raised the \$700 difference to pay for it.

The suggestion to pray for Officials by name (Presiding Bishop, President, etc.) was done this past Sunday.

Christian Formation: No report

Parish Life: Chuck Henry noted that the annual oyster roast was to be held at the parish house this year. There was some discussion about the fire and refreshments. Chuck said that Duane Penson would have it at his house and the Fergusons offered their cabin. Chuck will look into this.

Pastoral Care: No report

Lake Wylie: No report

William O. Fulmer, the restoration architect for Good Shepherd several years ago has given Jeanne the original plans for that project. She suggested that these plans be stored at the Historical Center of York County at the McCelvey Center in York. The archives there would catalog them and they would be preserved. The vestry concurred.

Finance:

Chuck Henry reported that Randy Neff said he would welcome help with the books as discussed at our last meeting, and Libby Bradford has agreed to do so. Libby said she and Sherry were looking at some updated programs for the computer, probably Church Windows.

Chuck Henry reported for the Finance Committee that the outlook at present was indeed very dire. They feel that we can no longer adopt a deficit budget or adopt one that is 15% higher than last years which will end in the red, given the current state of the financial market and the effect of it on our investments. The committee recommends paying off the mortgage as planned and then holding the rest of the Dalton bequest until the dust clears. They further recommended not to hire a Christian Formation Director at this time.

Father Kirkland (after reading Matthew 6:9) said we should act on "faith", and that the purpose of the church was not to make money, rather it was to make disciples. Father Kirkland reminded the vestry that although it had authorized the church to take funds from the Endowment to pay for operating expenses not covered in the deficit budget, the necessity to do so had yet to arise in the past 3 years.

Father Kirkland reminded the Vestry of how hard it was trying to recruit Sunday School teachers for this year and the difficulties of finding qualified candidates for the Christian Formation position. He recommended that we hire one of our applicants for the position, Doug Clark. There were 2 applicants for the job.

Jeanne asked if he was an Episcopalian. He attends a Non-denominational Seminary with an Anglican Studies program in Charlotte (Gordon Cornwell). Given the "troubles" within the greater Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion at present, it was suggested that it might cause concern within our own congregation to hire one with ties to the "Anglican" Church.

John Shiflet, Sr. Warden, suggested that the Christian Formation program come under the direction of a committee where Mr. Clark would be interviewed by those persons chosen by Carolyn Amer, Christian Formation Chair. Father Kirkland said that the Vestry could then vote on whether to approve funding for the Christian Formation Directorship, not on whether to hire the candidate, as the staff is under the direction of the Rector. It was agreed to do so reluctantly by the vestry.

The general consensus was to investigate two issues with this applicant: church affiliation and the Anglican/Episcopal question. It was agreed that these issues also need to be addressed in our congregation.

The recommendation by the Finance committee died without a second as none was asked for.

Father Kirkland said that with common vision we should, as Christians, work together to resolve our differences.

John Shiflet gave out copies of letters he had mailed to two parishioners who had not been attending services regularly, He did this on his own, feeling it was part of his duties as Senior Warden.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. The next vestry meeting is November 18, 2008

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeanne Ferguson, Clerk of the Vestry

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee members: Jeanne Ferguson, chair, Randy Neff, Don Kidwell, Andy Lowry, Cynthia Edson

The Committee submits the following slate for Vestry 2009:

Andy Lowry
Libby Bradford
Cynthia Edson