

**St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Charlotte, North Carolina
Vestry Minutes
September 12, 2011**

Quorum: The vestry of St. Peter's met on September 12, 2011, with the following members present: John Arrowood, William Bellamy, Steve Bentley, Ellison Clary, Harris Holt, John Hurst, Bill Krewson, Maria Long, Kathleen Mundle; and Interim Rector, Tim Raasch.

Gene Humphreys, Deacon, also attended.

The meeting began with the service of Daily Devotions for Early Evening.

Minutes: The minutes for the August 8th meeting were accepted as presented.

New Business: Gene Humphreys presented a proposal for the St. Francis Fund, a newly created fund to provide unemployment assistance. The fund presently has \$2,000 in donations. A detailed motion, Attachment A, was proposed and passed unanimously. See Attachment A.

Reports of Officers and Interim Rector:

Treasurer: David Lavoie submitted a written report. Revenues, especially pledge offerings, continued to be favorable to plan, and every expense category was favorable to plan for the month. We are \$36,881 favorable to budget through the end of August 2011.

Total revenues were \$3,136 for August and are a healthy \$66,584 ahead for the year.

Total expenses were \$2,982 favorable for August and \$20,462 favorable for the year.

The Capital Campaign received \$14,095 in pledge payments in August. We have now collected \$2,257,362, or 78% of the \$4,164,629 in total pledges. The BB&T loan balance was \$478,511.

The treasurer's report was accepted and approved.

In a second order of business under the Treasurer's Report, Dave recommended that \$1,000 for estimated expenses for the Search Committee be allocated. The following motion was made and accepted: A line item shall be created in the

budget in the amount of \$1,000 to cover Search Committee expenses for the remainder of 2011. This amount will come from general administration funds. This motion was seconded and passed.

Senior Warden: Kathleen Mundle reported that the discernment committee for Stephen McQueen, with Stephen's agreement, decided that another year of discernment is appropriate.

Junior Warden: Bill Krewson reported that the HVAC system in the parish hall needs repair. It is insufficient to provide air conditioning to the parish hall, especially when there is an event. An estimate of \$5,386 has been received for the repair and to provide for an additional a/c unit and ducting into the parish hall. This will be paid from the Parish Maintenance line item.

Interim Rector: Fr. Raasch reported that there were 241 people attending the 10:30 service on Rally Day, September 11.

Inquirers' Classes will be held September 18, 25 and October 9 in preparation for Bishop Curry's parochial visit.

Canon Hunn will preach at both services on September 25.

Father Charlie Foss will celebrate and officiate on October 2. Fr. Raasch will be away because he is participating with the Youth Ministry Convocation on that day.

Ben Outen, Organist and Choirmaster, has approached Fr. Raasch and Senior Warden Kathleen Mundle concerning a three-month sabbatical in 2012. This would run for April 23 (after Easter) until July 23. Since there would be minimal impact on the budget, it was agreed that this issue should be referred to the Personnel Committee.

Names of the 2012 Diocesan Convention delegates must be provided to the Diocese by October 1. John Hurst and Josephine Hicks are in the middle of their terms. By e-mail vote after the vestry meeting, it was agreed that the other two delegates would be Doug Hutto and a Dave Lavoie would be the other two delegates, and John Arrowood

Commission Reports: Ellison Clary reported on behalf of **Stewardship** that Linda Raiford will co-chair the fall annual giving campaign with Jim Shannonhouse. On **October 16, 2011**, there will be a parish luncheon after the 10:30 service.

The **Search Committee** reported that they are in the planning stage. There will be

an adult forum September 18 to talk about the search process. In addition, there will be information-gathering sessions on Saturday, October 1 at 9:30 a.m. and on Tuesday, October 11 at 6:30 p.m. Parishioners will be asked to talk about what they love about St. Peter's, what they see for the future of St. Peter's, and how to fulfill that vision. The Search Committee will hold an adult forum on Sunday, October 30 to report their findings.

Maria Long reported that the **Worship Commission** met on August 24 and had a very productive meeting. The next commission meeting is October 18.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Long, Secretary

Attachment A

Proposal to the Vestry for the Acceptance of the St. Francis Fund as a Standing Fund and Suggestions for Administration

The St. Francis Fund is a separate fund from all other discretionary funds and Mission and Outreach funds to be used solely for the purpose of aiding members of St. Peter's who are underemployed, in transition or unemployed.

There has been a demonstrated need, by my ministry to seven parishioners in the past year, of a separate and funded ministry for members who are struggling with the economic travails of our time. Requests from these individuals have included assistance with prescriptions, utilities, food and rent. Such needs can sometimes be for funds in excess of several hundred dollars. These requests quickly drain discretionary funds of the clergy.

The proposition of such a fund was suggested to several anonymous members of the congregation on August 21, and, as a result, over \$2000.00 is now set aside in a separate line item solely for the above expressed purposes.

Several proposals for use and distribution of the funds:

- Because of the highly confidential nature of such a request, it is recommended that disbursement of funds be made solely by clergy.

- Sometimes, requests may be of a large nature. It is recommended, unless there is approval by both clergy

members, or one clergy member and the senior warden, that disbursements not exceed \$400.00. If such disbursements or those of a larger amount are approved, it is highly suggested that an intention to repay the St. Francis Fund be discussed, and even an intentional plan for repayment be written.

-Donations to the fund can come from members of the congregation at any time, it is also suggested that both the loose offering from the Sunday nearest the Feast of St. Francis be dedicated to the Fund, and also that the offering from the Blessing of the Animals be designated for the Fund.

Respectfully submitted, September 12, 2011
The Reverend Gene Humphreys