

## **Parish Council Meeting January 11, 2005**

**Present:** Rev. Dr. John Stephenson, Bruce Neville, Jim Cassell, Cobina Price-Jones, Jennifer & Alan Whike, Mary Judge, Ruth Sowrey, Carl Kinzinger, Karen Carley.

The meeting was opened with prayer by John Stephenson.

### **Minutes of December 7, 2004**

- Mary moved the adoption of the minutes and Cobina seconded. All were in favour

### **Business Arising**

- Youth Group has decided to meet Wednesday night with adult education to coincide.
- John Stephenson is meeting next week with Geoff Sangwine to discuss a trip to New York. A feasibility study will be done.
- John reported that a week doesn't go by without a comment on the web site. All comments are favorable due to Cobina's hard work.

### **Incumbents Report**

- A series of Wednesday night Advent Eucharists took place. This reinforced how beautiful the church is in the evening in candlelight, and will be used more. We had a confirmation group from the United Church attend one evening.
- A concerted effort was made to take Christmas communion to all shut-ins. All were contacted and some were not interested but some new connections were made.
- The week between Christmas and New Year's was arduous. There were two funerals and one baptism in the hospital just before a woman died.
- One day a month John is on call at Headwaters. This is for a twenty-four hour period with a response time within ½ hour. This is an important contact with the hospital.
- Christmas Eve, 7:30 pm. was a good crowd. The service needs to made more child friendly.
- The 11:00 pm. Service was attended by 138.
- Sunday, December 26 was a low crowd.
- All in all this was a fulfilling and exiting Christmas.
- We had the first 9:30 Contemporary Service. Eleven people attended. An email was received from a couple who intend to come in the future.
- The Tsunami relief appeal raised \$2285.00. This seemed to affect regular givings which were low.
- We managed to fund one stable for World Vision for \$1200.00.

### **Warden's Report**

- Regrets were sent by David who is ill.
- Karen reported that both Wardens have been screened.
- Many hours have been spent on the budget.
- The building inspection report is being revised.
- Diana Trainor has been hired as Sexton. She will also be the liaison for hall rentals. She is not responsible for our own use of the hall.

- Keegan Carmichael has been hired again for snow removal on the steps and walkways.
- The gathering space downstairs will be cleaned and set up for Sunday School by Diana. This will be taken up with Daycare.

### **Treasurer's Report**

- In 2004 we received \$32,000 that we won't receive in 2005. \$10,000 of this went to the mortgage, leaving a shortfall of \$22,000 for operating expenses.
- We need an increase in envelope givings.
- We don't want to curb programs. We need to increase revenue.
- Last year we paid \$29,000 against the principal of the mortgage and \$23,000 in interest.
- A stewardship campaign needs to be addressed.
- The final budget will be out for Sunday the 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Possibly next year the council meeting can be set later in January to have the budget ready. It is difficult to have it ready early in January.
- The budget will be available to Parish Council members for comments before the release to the parish.

### **Youth**

- Jonathan sends his regrets.
- The Friday night program was moved to mid week at the request of many of the youth. Now many are saying they have other obligations. They will be served dinner at 6:00 on Wednesdays.
- Once a month on a Friday night there will be a social.
- A flyer drop was done in town for the 9:30 service. The kids had a lot of fun doing it.
- Jonathan is working very hard.

### **Upcoming Events**

- January 15 – Robbie Burns. Fifty tickets have been sold. There will probably be more sold this week.
- January 23 – Week of Christian Unity. John will be preaching at St. John's Roman Catholic Church.
- January 23-30 – John will be away.
- February 2 – Adult Education "The Anglican Vision"- What does it mean to be an Anglican? This will take place over 6 weeks, excluding the 9<sup>th</sup> which is Ash Wednesday.
- February 6 – Vestry. Lunch will be served again from Subway. Reports are due the 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- February 9 – Ash Wednesday. The service will be at 7:30 pm. There will be a children's service and dinner at 5:30 pm.
- February 12 – Mystery Dinner. Tickets will be on sale this Sunday for \$35 each. Bruce Cunningham will be catering.
- February 13 – Choral Evensong at 4:30 pm.
- March 4 – World Day of Prayer. This year is our turn to host this event.

### **Worship**

- Thanks were expressed to John for leading us through a wonderful, meaningful Christmas.

- The next meeting will be Tuesday, the 18<sup>th</sup>, to review Christmas and prepare for Easter.
- Our new Bishop, Philip Poole does not take his new position until September. It will be very difficult to see him any time soon. There may be regional services in the New Year.
- Jim expressed his appreciation for John's organization of our services.

### **Outreach**

- As previously mentioned, generous donations were sent to the Red Cross and World Vision.

### **Sunday School**

- The Pageant at the Service of Lessons and Carols was well received. Presentations are planned for Lent and Easter.

### **Property**

- The lights in the parking lot do not seem to be working properly. Gordon should be advised of any lights around the grounds that are not working.

### **Communication**

- We are meeting tomorrow night about the Photo Directory. It seems possible to make \$3000 from selling ads. We will include coupons if an advertiser desires. A date for publishing is not known. Hopefully it will be by Easter.
- Bruce should review bills from the newspapers to give approval, since he knows whether they have been printed correctly.
- The web site figures were down in December.

### **Congregational Care**

- A \$200 gift was made to a member who was in difficulty over Christmas.
- In future we plan to have grocery coupons available.

### **New Business**

- John can see a need in the area of Pastoral Care for a ministry for grief. On March 5 and 12 two councilors will run programs for loss of a loved one through death and divorce.
- The sexton has bought a set of tools for use here.
- Jim gave notice of a need for sidespeople.

The meeting closed with the grace.

**Next meeting  
Tuesday, February 1, 7:30 p.m.**