

Church of St. Benedict

Minutes

of a meeting of the Bishop's Committee
held at the Church of St. Benedict on
Monday, September 11, 2006

Present: Reverend Catharine Phillips; Sr. Warden Roger Ostrovecky; Jr. Warden Mark Wright; BC members Christine Billone, Barry Conlin, Theresa O'Neil, Lilaine Valero; Treasurer Peg Bauman; Guest Clerk Laura Ostrovecky; Guests Leticia Hillesheim, Dave Smith.

Absent: Phil Bauman, John Gush, Fran Wright

Opening: The meeting opened at 7:10pm with a prayer from Daily Devotions by Catharine.

Review of Previous Meeting: Catherine reviewed last months' BC meeting regarding the concern of the money issues facing the Church. Roger proposed a letter be sent to the congregation to determine their needs and concerns. Theresa and Christine both agreed that it not be anonymous, as it would be better to have the Capital Campaign Committee get feedback as they met privately with the congregation. Peg suggested another all-congregational meeting between the Capital Campaign and the Stewardship Campaign a mid-year review could be discussed. Catharine asked if Roger and Christine would be willing to put together another small group discussion held October 1, 2006. Theresa suggested that an update be given on what's been addressed since the January year-end meeting. Peg mentioned that the Capital Campaign private meetings are a way to develop relationships with the congregation. Roger stated that Fran Wright had just resigned from the BC and her family would no longer be attending St. Benedict.

Team Reports: Dave & Leticia reviewed the progress of the Capital Campaign, with 2 congregational meetings held so far, reaching ½ the congregation. Visitor training has been held for the Capital Campaign. 2 congregational e-mails have been sent, one a review and one an invitation. A letter was mailed on September 11, 2006 regarding the campaign. There was an article in the Abbey and extensive web site coverage and will be in all the upcoming September bulletins. 9 pledges have been received so far, totaling \$62,800.00, all from leadership and BC members. An alphabetical list of those pledge families will be listed in the September bulletins. Mark asked if anyone was going back to visit those that pledged during the first Capital Campaign but didn't finish their pledge and Dave answered that it was not in the plan at this time. Christine asked if we are depending on the first campaign money and Dave said no.

Review of the Treasurers Report: There was no final treasurer's report as of this meeting, due to the Labor Day holiday. Peg reported that there is \$7,500.00 in the checking account. This week, Peg and Roger will close the US Bank accounts and deposit everything into Harris Bank.

A motion was made by Mark Wright to put all of the US Bank monies into the interest-bearing savings account in Harris Bank. Roger and Christine seconded the motion, all agreed.

Review of the Last Meeting notes: The meeting notes were reviewed from the August 14, 2006 meeting and Catharine noted that her name was spelled wrong and John Gush was present. It was also noted that the final plan for the Capital Campaign is \$250,000.00 and not \$150,000.00. The final paragraph needs to be deleted. Christine noted that the clerk should have all the e-mail addresses and correct name spellings. It was suggested that the following should be added: "Some ideas were presented about combining the vespers with other outreach activities for next year." Roger noted that if Fran was heading up the blood drive, then someone else needs to take over. Catharine suggested that the time that meeting closed is not necessary and that the part, "Clerk in Training" be omitted.

A motion was made by Mark Wright to approve the minutes with corrections noted. Seconded by Barry Conlin, accepted by all.

Team Reports:

Finance Committee Report: John, Roger, Mark, Catharine and Peg were present at the September 7, 2006 meeting. John asked for some corrections be made to the report. After the Capital Campaign has ended, there will be a meeting with the B & T to let them know our status. Need to fill out a Mission Survey in order to get Diocesan support. They also discussed that budget guidelines need to be established and how to cut the budget and increase revenue. The 4 Finance Committee members will meet on September 26, 2006 so if anyone has ideas, please e-mail Mark, Roger, John or Catharine. Other income alternatives need to be considered. Theresa offered opening up our rooms to run a licensed daycare in the afternoon to generate income. Another suggestion was to utilize our church grounds to house a cell tower. Mark stated that the more we can increase our income the easier it would be to cut the budget. Barry asked if there are any fundraisers like the schools do. Mark said we need to maximize the use of our space to offset our monetary needs. Could Bolingbrook High School use our rooms after school for choir practice, debate teams, etc. Theresa mentioned the possibility of elder day care or the Y or Park District needs for their programs. Catharine noted that when talking about the Diocese, the issues are the B & T are concerned about the building, (John, Dave, Mark & Catharine to talk to the B & T) the Congregational Development is where all missions apply to get money, along with filling out the Mission Survey and that these 2 groups do not talk to each other. They must be treated separately. There is one more group that is concerned about what we're pledging and when we communicate, we need to do so with all 3 groups.

Sign Update: Mark stated that the brickwork for the sign will wait until Spring 2007.

Theresa mentioned that the trees have overgrown and you can't see the sign when heading east.

Other issues: Sometime this fall, the Cupola needs to be painted on the outside and if anyone is interested in helping, contact Mark. It will take about 2 gallons. Roger stated the need to talk about snow plowing and would it be the same person as last year. Roger to follow up with Courtenay to contact the snow plow company and discuss the contract.

Membership: Theresa reviewed the current membership welcome packet. The team is putting together a booklet about outreach and all our ministries. Theresa stated that she went to a Chamber of Commerce New Member meeting and received the New Member Map and we'll have an ad in the map. Mark asked when will they come out and what is the cost. Theresa responded that it will come out within the next month and Catharine stated that it cost \$250.00 for 2 years. The second map that goes to all businesses will cost \$155.00 for an ad. The team is working on developing a Shepherding Program draft and need someone to lead this program. The Shepherd program is where a current member is matched to a new member for 3 months. The next Membership meeting is September 17, 2006 to discuss the upcoming Ministry Fair on October 15, 2006. Bill Sheets is organizing the Ministry Fair.

Regarding the Nursery, Courtenay is scheduling people weekly.

Coffee Hour will be discussed at the membership meeting. Christine asked if the coffee Hour host is doing both services now that we're back to 2 services and Theresa responded yes.

Theresa noted that the Membership Committee is not going to define or develop programs but direct ideas to the right place.

Other issues: Mark asked if Phil Bauman going to be on the BC and Catharine stated that she will have a conversation with him and that he is keeping up the Web page.

Spiritual Life: Christine reviewed that Healing Prayer was offered 2 Sundays a month during the summer months and would like to continue that schedule, with Healing Prayer being offered the 2nd and last Sundays of each month and anointing offered on the last Sunday.

Catharine noted that Fran Wright had begun work on the Blood Drive and had determined that the 5pm-7pm weekday time frame would not work. Roger and Laura offered to get information from the Blood Bank. Mark suggested that we get information to the groups that use our facility, involving them in the church community. Mark asked if Catharine meets with Pastor Davis regularly to share information and Catharine stated that she did not. Christine offered to write a note for Catharine to review regarding the upcoming Pet Blessing that could be shared with these groups.

The Pet Blessing will be on October 1, 2006 at 4:00 pm. Volunteers are needed to be Hosts and supply refreshments. Christine suggested that wrapped doggy (pet) treats with a notation from St. Benedict on a business card be handed out at the Pet Blessing. Roger offered that the note be a blessing on the back of the card. Theresa asked if it was rain or shine and Catharine stated yes. Theresa asked if someone could ask the local pet stores if they would post our flyers and give us donations.

EFM (Education for Ministry) begins this Wednesday evening with about 7-8 people.

Catharine stated the need for forming an Outreach Committee which would be more organized.

Peg and Catharine will be attending the Kennon Callahan conference in Barrington on September 25-27, 2006.

Other issues: Catharine stated that the local school district recognized our sign that stated we are praying for Jane Addams middle school. This is a part of our Outreach program. Christine suggested we give the Pet Blessing flyers to school kids as this is a well-suited outreach to the community. Catharine stated that we need to get the school calendar to plan ahead with their meetings, etc.

Christian Education/Youth: Church school starts Sunday, September 17, 2006.

Godly play will meet at the same time this year. Jeff Hill, Helen Konder and Mary Sanborn make up the team. Laura asked if Beth Erickson had found 2 more teachers and Catharine stated not yet.

Other issues: Roger stated that he needs software to link the finance computer to the Office printer. He will ask Courtenay to contact the copier rep to try to get this done for us.

Meeting Process: All agreed that this meeting contained a full agenda and was productive. The next scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, October 9 at 7:00pm.

Action Items:

Christine and Roger to put together a letter to be used in Small group discussions on October 1, 2006.

Peg and Roger to close all US Bank accounts.

Roger to work with Courtenay regarding the snow plow contract.

Catharine to have a conversation with Phil Bauman.

Roger and Laura to get information from the Blood Bank for the blood drive.
Christine to write a note regarding the Pet Blessing event for Catharine to review.
Roger to work with Courtenay on getting the copier rep to help connect the finance computer to the office copier.

Closing: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Roger Ostrovecky. Seconded by Mark Wright, accepted by all.
Catharine closed with a prayer at 8:58 p.m.