



St. Annes' Episcopal Church  
Middletown, Delaware

Vestry Retreat  
Saturday, February 28, 2009

Dan Bennett began the retreat at OSA's at 8:30am.

Vestry Present: Ted Nutter, Mother Jo Ann, Anne Nutter, Sally Sutton, Ellen Jennings, Larry Norfleet, Toni Meadowcroft, Diane Dudderar-Foster, Matt Wolinski, Dan Bennett and Scott Lawrence.

Absent: Matt George, Norene Taylor and Shanna Schuler.

Scott Lawrence gave the group a historical tour of OSA's (both the grounds and the building).

Mother Jo Ann gave the Holy Eucharist. All participated in the sermon - each speaking to the group answering the questions, "who are you?", "why are you here?" and "what are you doing about it?".

#### Committee Report Discussions

- J2A, Rite 13 and YAC - Dan Bennett asked the Vestry to promote the upcoming J2A dinner and auction. Youth Sunday will be April 19. J2A, Rite 13 and YAC will be looking for new leaders for the next 2 years.
- Property - Ellen Jennings raised a concern about the monthly rent of the trailers that is being spent. Vestry will consult with the leaders of J2A before a final decision is made. Ellen distributed the "Ed Sparks report" (electrical work done at the church). Dan asked Diane if we are close to getting bids to repair the floor of the gazebo at OSA's? Vestry recommended to have an engineer review and access the situation. Anne Nutter will give Diane names of structural engineers. Two dead bats were removed from the town church. Cracks in the grout around the stained glass windows has also been found.
- Membership - Sally Sutton made the suggestion that this committee should meet monthly. Mother Jo Ann will contact membership chair. How will we handle printing the new church pictorial directory?
- Stewardship - this will be the "most" important aspect for the future of St. Anne's. There needs to be a committee with year-round emphasis. It was suggested that the congregation needs "stewardship" education. Mother Jo Ann made the suggestion of starting "shepherding groups" - each Vestry member has a group. They could have regular meetings and communication.

Dan Bennett proposed changing the date of the Vestry meeting to the first Sunday of every month. Anne Nutter made the motion and Matt Wolinski seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

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Next meeting will be April 5, at 11:45am in the primary classroom downstairs (below the Parish hall).

From Mother Jo Ann:

- Clean-up day will be Saturday, April 4.
- God's Power and Light will perform at St. Anne's on April 1, at 7:00pm.
- Her pay package must be approved by the Vestry. Larry Norfleet made the motion and Scott Lawrence seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Dan began the discussion with the entire group, "what will St. Anne's look like in 35-40 years from now"? "What did it look like 35-40 years ago"?

- Change from a pastoral church to a program church.
- In the 1970's, an average of 100 people at church on any given Sunday.
- In the early 2000's, an average of 200 people at church on Sunday.
- How do we handle these changes and minister to the community today and in the future?

FACTS Committee Report

- Discussion began around "where do we go from here with the FACTS committee?"
- Dan introduced the document, **Resolution to Ensure the Future Growth of St. Anne's Episcopal Church.**
- Ellen Jennings made the motion and Diane Dudderar-Foster seconded.
- Discussion began about the details in the **Resolution**. Several minor changes were made to the Resolution document.
- A final vote was taken - 9 were for the Resolution and 3 were against.

FOR	AGAINST
Anne Nutter	Scott Lawrence
Sally Sutton	Shanna Shuler
Ellen Jennings	Toni Meadowcroft
Larry Norfleet	
Diane Dudderar-Foster	
Matt Wolinski	
Matt George	
Norene Taylor	
Dan Bennett	

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- What Now?
- Interim concerns (future, growth and faith)
  1. electrical issues
  2. boiler issues
  3. handicap accessible
  4. continue to gain new members
  5. funds to sustain
  6. capital vs. operating
  7. encourage and develop better music program
  8. church school/ education space
- Congregation needs to see the Vestry support our new facility - both in their actions and communications.
- Discussed how best communicate the Resolution to the congregation. It was decided that Dan (and other Vestry members ) would attend all three services and discuss the Resolution during the announcement time.
- Planning now to move forward. There should be four new committees formed.
  1. feasibility
  2. architecture
  3. communication
  4. execution
- A list was generated of names of from the congregation that might be potential members of the four new committees.

The retreat was ended with a closing prayer from Mother Jo Ann.

Respectively submitted,

Sandy Lind  
Secretary