

DRAFT

1-27-09 cjh

**Immanuel Church, Highlands
Vestry Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2010**

Vestry Members Present: Carl Burnam, Fr. Kim Capwell (presiding), Craig Folkert (Senior Warden), Laurie Hay (Junior Warden), Carolyn Hendrix (Secretary), Simon Jeynes, Kathleen Kelley, George Parshall, Connie Shultz, Barb Volko, Kay Wack

Vestry Members Absent: David Blowman (Treasurer), Eve English, Byron Hobson, Marcia Lynch

Guests: Vicki Anthos

Opening Prayer and Updates

Fr. Kim opened the meeting with prayer, and personal updates were shared.

Additional Items for Agenda

Carl requested several minutes to discuss the heating system, and Fr. Kim said that he would be discussing changes in the liturgy for Lent.

Finance Report

2010 Budget approval: Tabled until later in the meeting.

Monthly report: David Blowman was absent from this meeting; thus, the treasurer's report will be postponed until the February meeting.

Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes of the December meeting had been reviewed by email. Simon mentioned that he had discussed the Joshua Tree ornaments with Melanie, and their repair/replacement will be addressed as needed. *It was moved by Barb Volko and seconded by Laurie Hay that the minutes be accepted as amended. The motion carried.*

Correspondence

Craig received a notification regarding a 1-1/2 hour Diocesan workshop for wardens and Vestry members on February 3 at St. Anne's in Middletown.

Ministry Review

Fr. Kim noted that it is becoming clear to him that we need much better organization for each of the ministries. He will take steps to address this issue further, probably at a time other than a monthly Vestry meetings.

Fr. Kim attended the recent ordination at Christ Church and was moved by the homilist, whose charge to the new priests was to not spend too much time on the "merely important" as opposed to the "essential." It may be safer and easier to deal with the less important things, but is that really how we are called to spend our time? The Gospel calls us to support people in their struggles and make a positive difference in the world. It may be that other issues on which we spend our time as a parish do not warrant the amount of attention we give them, and he said he would be examining how he prioritizes his time. Laurie suggested that this idea can be extrapolated to personal issues as well as

church issues. One possibility for the parish for moving from “maintenance” to “mission” was to see if we can help respond to Code Purple nights by providing shelter for people who need it. Fr. Kim has discussed this with Alex Lehr-Maunder and Bill Perkins and will continue to investigate.

Reports and Vestry Action

Rector’s Report. Fr. Kim has no specific pastoral concerns. Simon opined that Christian families in general and perhaps here at Immanuel in particular are not supported by secular society. Fr. Kim asked how we might address this. Several suggestions were mentioned. Fr. Kim asked anyone with a suggestion for a good parenting topic email him, and he suggested he might work it into his Wednesday evening programs during Lent.

Vestry nominations. Fr. Kim asked the outgoing Vestry members (Craig, Laurie, Kay and Connie) to take the point on acquiring a slate of at least 7 nominees by March 21. A Vestry nominee must be a member in good standing (attends regularly, contributes financially, is baptized and confirmed). This year we can also nominate a youth representative, since there are several high school parishioners who are over 16 years of age. Potential nominees will be discussed at the next Vestry meeting.

Christmas liturgy redux: A lively conversation was had concerning our recent Christmas season and how we might improve it for the future. It was felt strongly by most Vestry members that the one service at 7:30 does not best address the needs of parishioners. As recently as Sarah Brockmann’s tenure, we had an early service (at 4:30) which was well attended by families with small children. We have had midnight services in the past as well. The pros and cons of having two services, as well as the timing of the service(s), were discussed at length.

Liturgy Changes: Fr. Kim informed us that the Doxology will now be part of the 10:30 service. Also, during Lent, instead of coming up to the table for the Great Thanksgiving, the congregation will stay in their pews and then go to one of several stations for communion.

Lenten Programs: Fr. Kim will be holding a Lenten program on Wednesday evenings beginning with a simple supper at 6:30 and a program from 7-8, ending in Compline. Britta will conduct a program for young people simultaneously. Fr. Kim and Britta are each going to spearhead a dinner, and Connie and Barb also volunteered.

Sr. Warden’s Report. Craig stated that he really enjoyed the addition of the Doxology to the service and that he looks forward to more carefully considered freshening of music. It has been discussed that the Immanuel Praise book needs to be redone.

Jr. Warden’s Report. Laurie mentioned that Britta did a great job with the Christmas Liturgy which was presented on Epiphany. Laurie, Ted, and Fr. Kim are discussing future dinners. If anyone is interested in either helping with or attending a Newcomer’s Dinner, please let Laurie know.

Lois McGinnis is organizing a Quiet Day scheduled for Saturday, February 27, from 9:30-2:30, led by Barbara Tucker. If planning to attend, bring a brown bag lunch.

Ministry Area Reports

Property. Fr. Kim reported that the roof repair is a work in progress. He is meeting with a representative from Leelands Slate on January 19.

Carl reported a leak in the Boiler Room off the dining room that will cost a few hundred dollars to repair. Water is continuing to leak from the heating system. He asked that if anyone hear the radiators making a lot of noise (especially hissing), to please let him know.

Outreach. Vicky was on hand to discuss two Outreach fundraisers: bowling on January 24, and babysitting on February 13, the night before Valentine’s Day. Vicky said that the Katrina mission trip is well funded; thus, it was decided that the bowling trip should be just for fun (i.e. for the cost of bowling only; not a fundraiser), and the proceeds from the babysitting evening will be put into a discretionary account for youth group activities.

The larger issue of fundraising in general will be forwarded to the new Vestry after the annual meeting.

Laurie suggested to Vicki that she write a piece in the Voice education new parishioners about the mission activities in New Orleans.

Following discussion in response to a suggestion from Fr. Kim, *a motion was made (Simon) and seconded (Carl) to provide a \$500 discretionary fund for the mission trip to New Orleans in March. The motion carried unanimously.*

Stewardship

Fr. Kim discussed current numbers, as follows:

2009 pledged	\$166,214
2009 given	\$195,448
2010 pledged so far	\$166,586
Estimated yet to come	28,764
To be given but not pledged (est.)	22,404
Total	\$217,754 (10-11% increase over 2009)

Fr. Kim is encouraged by the numbers, especially that fact that \$30K was pledged by people who have not pledged before. There are still outstanding pledges (to the tune of approximately \$18K) from 2009. He stressed the importance of telling someone (himself, or the Parish Administrator) if circumstances arise where parishioners can’t meet their pledge.

2010 Budget Approval

Since the budget was provisionally approved in December and can be amended at any time, it was decided to wait until the February meeting to formally approve the 2010 budget pending David Blowman’s participation in the discussion.

Personnel Issues

A closed session was held to discuss several personnel issues.

The next Vestry meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 8, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn J. Hendrix
Vestry Secretary