

St. Mary's Episcopal Church  
Newton Lower Falls, Massachusetts

Minutes of Vestry Meeting, January 20, 2009

**PRESENT:** Peter Chase, Paul Pyzowski, Mary Green, Tom Holtey, Beverly Hurney, Elisabeth Rippy, Kitty Smith, John Turtle, Elisabeth Comer, Phyllis Campbell, Lynn Farnell, Dick Sabin and Mike Stevens

The Vestry meeting opened with a prayer for the country by Peter Chase.

**NEW  
BUSINESS:**

The Annual Meeting was the first order of new business. Vestry members were asked to bring refreshments for the meeting. The report from the nominating committee has three members out of the five slots available. Stewart Tucker, Maryjane Burgess and Nick DePeyster have accepted. Two more members will be confirmed by the annual meeting.

Mary Green reported that there will be a congregational business meeting/workshop in March. She will try and go and anyone interested should see her about the details.

**COMMITTEE  
REPORTS:**

**Stewardship:** Mary Green gave an update on pledges to date. The target figure has not been reached yet. We are still \$36,000 shy of the goal although the estimated real gap is closer to \$16,000.

**Investment  
Committee:** Michael Stevens had lunch with Ariel and a representative from the DIT fund. There was general discussion about the current and future budget and how to cover the shortfall for 2009. There is still approximately \$4500 still in an old interest account that should be used to cover the costs of the new computers for Kirsten and Denise.

**Budget:** Several ideas were proposed to make the 2009 budget balance. After much discussion and an examination of the proposed budget line by line it was agreed to be conservative due to current economy. It was proposed and seconded and voted as follows:

**VOTE**

**To increase the endowment fund contribution from  
4.0% to 4.0%.**

**To reduce operating expenses by \$9900.**

**To estimate pledge income at \$245,000.**

**To carryover the 2008 surplus of \$10,915**

Worship: Rev. Jack Johnson will be here Sunday January 25<sup>th</sup>. Reverend Johnson is with the National Council of Churches. Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> will be an Evensong with special Taizé music followed by a soup and bread supper.

Property: Tom Holtey passed out a written report on property matters.

Rector & Staff: All are well.

Outreach: A report from Elisabeth Comer for the Outreach Committee is attached.

Women of  
St. Mary's: No report

Tenants: No report

Churchyard: No report

Worship: No report

Altar Guild: No report

Hospitality: No report

Music: Kitty Smith submitted a report from Kirsten Johnson attached to these minutes. See the notes above about the special music for Evensong on February 8<sup>th</sup>.

Deanery: No report.

St. Mary's  
Historian: No report.

Peter concluded with a prayer for the work of the vestry.

The next vestry meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 24, 2009 at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Farnell for Susan Griffin, CLerk