

**St. James Episcopal Church**  
**Annual Meeting 25 January 2009**  
**Minutes**

*“You are no longer strangers and sojourners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.”*

*The people of St. James are a community of faith rooted in God’s unconditional love, seeking to express that love to one another, our neighbors and the world.*

Discussion of St. James Parking policies for groups who wish to fundraise—discussion at tables, with following table representatives and others offering comments, with excerpts and examples noted here:

Claudia Wohlfeil—Benefits: better communication

Downside: limits scope of giving if only one group is picked each year, whereas in the past years a number of different ministries and outreach served

If people willing to put in the time then those funds should go to that group

Phil Mixer—ministry to those who visit St. James so bulleted references to ‘aggression’ was alarming

hard to collect on game day need clear focus, see funds through to destination

responsibility and follow through

specific ministries

Kate Burns—pool makes some sense but way outlined here is not most effective way to go about that; should give money to people who are willing to come and work.

Rex Burns—provides opportunity for youth and college, as we start putting rules we’ll limit those people’s opportunities; should be discretion to share by group involved and then St. James/vestry can go ask groups for funds

Beth Burns—Parking has gone to funds trips to HS and these funds otherwise would be pulled from general funds

Linda Adams—how to get people to respect St James’s needs? We also need to be able to provide for people who come to St. James for events and who need to park for those occasions.

Margaret Rehberg—don’t agree that it should go to one group  
what’s meant by aggressive?

Carol Porter—loves parking

\$10 suggested donation but take less; but problem during basketball games when parking is full and other events are scheduled at St. James—for example last Thursday for lectionary reading and during Tapestry.

Bruce Kellam/Van Geoghan—Moves/second to approve agenda. Approved.

Appointment of tellers/counters of ballots: Sydney Ankrah, Ted Nitz, and Toni Sarai-Clark

Vestry election—

Parishioners instructed to vote for one and person with most votes will receive the 3 yr term.

Results of voting:

Fritz Hughes—3 year term

Dianne Lowe—2 year term

Eric Pratt—2 year term

Nominations from floor:

Margaret Rehberg also elected for 2 year term

Diocesan Convention reps:

Vote for three. Those elected in this order of votes (most votes received, in descending order):

1. Sara Schofield

2. Phil Mixter

3. Sharon Nitz

Alternates:

Rex Burns

Claudia Wolhfeil

Jennifer Hammond

Phil Mixter invited anyone to attend meeting later that day to discuss Camp Cross. Phil is a member of two leadership groups for Camp Cross. He described an ongoing time of transition for Camp Cross during a search for a new director. Chase will leave in April to pursue study in Japan. Search for interim director for one or two years, though the person selected for the interim position will be able to apply for the permanent position, once that is determined and developed in relation to the need to complete a long-range strategic plan, and to listen to people in the diocese. Please relay your thoughts about the future of Camp Cross to Phil. Phil: Camp Cross owned by the diocese for over 80 years: 109 acres, a beautiful setting, operated primarily as summer camp with focus on children/youth, and in future may try to expand the 'shoulder' of the experience to longer season and wider range of groups.

Phil stressed that at this time no one is considering selling the property though developers have been eager to make offers.

Episcopal Church Women report presented by Margeret Rehberg. She would like to stress and invite consideration of ECW's important contributions to budget/outreach, and she expressed concern that other women aren't participating. They want to be able to include more women; Women in Ministry is the phrase/terminology used at the Diocesan level. Drapes down in Canterbury room, decision to be made about whether to replace drapes with blinds, and provide for brighter/flexible options for lighting.

Beth Burns moved approval for blinds without decorative cord, second by Carolyn Ross.

Question/discussion: expressed concerns to ensure safety for children regarding cords (which can be placed up out of reach); blinds selected are very durable.  
Call for question: approval nearly unanimous (one “no” vote).

Proposed budget for 2009:

Bound report includes year-end report for comparison purposes (pg. 10) and also special funds on page 12, with handout description on table to explain special funds.

Copies of the 2009 proposed budget are in a format that was produced through new software.

In response to question: Givers of record are those who give regularly, but who are not formal “pledgers.”

Total revenues predicted: \$185,204

Total expenditures: \$186,698

Difference is \$1494 out of balance.

Mary Beth described some items on the budget, including health care cost increases despite dropping coverage for George’s daughter.

Sharon: please let her and the Communication Team know your correct email address; those not on email list are called or notified in person; mailing address should be correct; also let us know if you are willing to receive the Tower online.

Sue asked if Mary Beth’s salary is less, but Mary Beth explained that it is not less but the accounting for her self-employment tax is now presented more accurately.

Jennifer Hammond noted and asked about the small amount budgeted for supply clergy; Vestry explained that’s part of effect of budget cutting to try to get projected budget closer to being balanced.

Claudia expressed and encouraged that if people accepted Tower online we could go further toward balancing the budget.

Mary Beth also noted difficulty of predicting and providing for expenses such as snow removal.

Motion/S to adopt budget, Claudia/Bruce.

Approved.

Motion to nominate and elect by acclamation Dean Ritchie as Treasurer: unanimous approval.

Motion to nominate and elect by acclamation Jan Brandt as assistant treasurer

Bruce/Claudia: approved.

Likewise nomination for Stephan Flores, Clerk of the Vestry, with unanimous approval.

Sharon stated that with new software this budget is able to be accessed online by Dean and by Dennis.

Thanks expressed to Jan Brandt and also to members of the Vestry who have been doing a count of giving each Sunday.

Mary Beth had two announcements:

1: Evergreen/Christmas tree needs dismantling; call for volunteers;

2. student on campus asked for volunteers to help escort students through a science fair.

Thanks to kitchen crew and congregation for wonderful food!

Blessing by Mary Beth.

Ted Nitz—prayer, and meeting adjourned.