

VESTRY MEETING St. Stephen's Church  
September 17,2009  
7:30 p.m.

Margot Chritchfield  
Keith Conforti  
Sheri Anderson  
Ginny Wieland  
David Theodore  
Robin Lualdi  
Fran Burnham  
Robin Fusco  
Sandy Emler  
Kris Broe  
Davenport Crocker, Jr.  
Kathie Brooks  
Rob Jurgel  
Roger Hill

**Vestry Cornerstone Goals**

Decentralize decision-making and two-way communication.  
"Tithing Plus" allocated to outreach plus increased awareness and participation  
Financial Health  
Changing worship needs for a growing church  
Increase active membership

**Vestry Circles**

Worship/ formation/Outreach  
*Davenport Crocker, Jr., Robin Lualdi, Robin Fusco*

Parish Organization/Property  
*Roger Hill, Rob Jurgel/Fran Burnham*

Parish Life/Hospitality/Evangelism  
*David Theodore*

This was a special meeting because we gathered prior to meeting to have a wonderful dinner. Many thanks to Robin Lualdi.

**Life In The Spirit**

The meeting officially opened with the September prayer from the Vestry Handbook as well as reading aloud our Vestry Ground Rules.

Nearer To Christ-vestry members shared experiences

Minutes – the minutes were voted on and approved noting that there was one correction and that was that John Seal will be our PR person for the Mariner and we will check on the Ledger and Hull Times.

Agenda – agenda voted on and approved

## I. New Business

### A. Cornerstone Goals – What do they mean to our Parish now – are they relevant?

#### Decentralize decision-making and two-way communication

- Returning authority
- Move toward programatic
- Others make decisions – not just the Rector
- Do our circles accomplish the shared decision-making
- Encourages collaborative communication

We need to create a culture that fosters the concept that we are there for the parish – service and availability.

Smaller social events encourage individuals to express themselves.

#### “Tithing Plus” allocated to outreach plus increased awareness and participation

- The feeling is that this still holds true but may need to change verbiage – suggestions should be e-mailed prior to our retreat.

#### Financial Health

- This goal is constant yet fluid

#### Changing worship needs for a growing church

- Relevant worship for a diverse congregation

#### Increase active membership

- Numbers and active engagement

David Theodore will speak about evangelism next Sunday

Rob Jurgel suggested that a good book to read was Quitting Church.

## B. Parish Circles

- Ministry Fair follow-up – debrief on successes and opportunities.

- There was an idea expressed that we could get a letter out concerning the circles and Davenport suggested that we actually start doing the role and “get our feet wet” prior to a formal communication.

Rob felt that something that would be effective would be to have people involved give testimonials at each service:

Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> – Spirit

Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> – Life

Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>- Growth

### C. October Retreat

- Mutual Ministry Review
- Kathryn Earle will assist in facilitation
- Dinner ay Sheri’s Friday @ 6:30
- Saturday – 9:00 – 4:00 p.m.
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Margot lead us in a closing prayer and there was a subsequent motion to adjourn at 9:37 p.m. that was seconded, voted on and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Broe  
Clerk