

Bishop's Committee  
Wednesday, January 18, 1989

PRESENT: Brewer, Hall, Hunter, Johnson, Moose, Fred Stewart, Ruby Stewart

ABSENT: DeLay, Page, Rethorn

Mo. Karen opened the meeting at 7:45 in the Mundt Library with prayers and discussion.

Motion by Hunter and second by Johnson to accept the Dec. 13, 1988 minutes as distributed. Motion carried.

The treasurer reported a bank balance of \$211.13 as of Jan. 18, although there are accounts payable of \$890.00. She also noted that there are several members who have not returned their pledge cards. So far only ten 1989 pledges have been turned in for a total of \$5989.00. The figure of 12 pledges for \$5740.00, reported in the Dec. 13 minutes, is incorrect.

Fred Stewart reported on the meeting that he and Mo. Hall had with Doug Peterson, the structural engineer from Sioux Falls. When the restoration project is finished, the building will have its entire foundation redone, as well as the north wall, eaves and tuck pointing. At this time, the north side is critical, but the rest of the project, due to financial constraints, will have to be done in stages. The engineer will be putting together a report, and then the B.C., Randy Rheinhartz from the diocesan office and the engineer will meet to examine the options.

Moose reported that the procurement of the cordless mics and the organ repair work are in process.

Mo. Hall reported that Southeastern Mental Health Center is currently looking for temporary facilities, but they would like to eventually use Grace Church as a permanent center.

No one reported any feedback from the annual meeting.

Under new business, Mo. Hall reported that the Ash Wednesday service would be held at 8 p.m. on Feb. 8. She suggested sharing Lenten services with Flandreau. There was general agreement that this would be a good idea, so Mo. Hall will check with Flandreau and try to set it up.

Mo. Hall shared her vision for 1989, concentrating on things that do not cost money. She suggested that we form a pastoral care/outreach committee to visit our shut-ins and others on a weekly basis. It was suggested that a sign-up sheet could be put in the Alpha and Omega.

When queried about adult education programs, Johnson suggested that we stay away from referring to it as "adult education," as folks tend to regard this nomenclature as too much like work. This was tabled until after Lent.

As the third part of her vision, Mo. Hall suggested that "evangelism" is a word that Episcopalians struggle with. She feels that the B.C. needs a strategy of evangelism, and we must decide on what we are willing to commit ourselves. The stewardship surveys clearly show that members desire church growth. Hall suggested that evangelism is not a special technique, but rather just being a friend and risking and daring to talk to one's friends about Christ and the Episcopal Church. There followed a lively discussion about the best ways to attain this goal.

In summary, the B.C. decided that it must contemplate and be intentional about how we talk about our faith to those around us, not as a means to fill up pews but as a means to share our faith. We shall focus on this for six months, using this as part of our Lenten discipline.

The B.C. will meet at Mo. Hall's at 8 p.m. on Tues., Feb. 14 and Tues., March 14.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m. Prayers followed.

Respectfully submitted,

*Katherine T. Brewer*

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Clerk