

**Holy Faith Episcopal Church
Port St. Lucie, Fl.**

**Bishop's Committee Meeting Minutes
October 16, 2013**

Presiding: Fr. Orlando J. Addison, Vicar

Committee Members Present: Bonnie Claren, Leandus Campbell, George Cleary, Wayne Griffin, Elias Jansen, Carmen Mendoza, Aquinda Toppin, Hazel Walcott

Excused: Aurora Mata.

Others Present: Arlene Mighty, Parish Administrator, (Interim Recorder)
George Adams, Treasurer.

1. Meeting convened at 6:30pm with the Opening Prayer and Teaching and Spiritual moments.

2.Information:

a. Approval of Minutes from June and September. Motion – W. Griffin; 2nd. G. Cleary. All in favour.

b. Parish information and activities:

- i. Youth Ministry: There are 15 to 20 youths. Activities include bowling and laser lights in St. Lucie West. Other activities are being planned such as making baskets to deliver to the residents of Nursing Homes. The youth are very excited about the group and they are inviting their friends to come. It is important to pray for that Ministry and support it as much as you can . Cecelia is doing a wonderful job of leading that Ministry, along with Carmen Higuera, Juan and Elias. Another activity invited the youths to ask whatever questions they had about God and about Religion, of Fr. Orlando. They were shy at first, but once they became comfortable with the subject, they started asking some very difficult questions. which Fr. Orlando was able to answer with the knowledge that he had and with the assistance of the Holy Spirit. The youth enjoyed this activity.
- ii. Newcomers Ministry: Jeanne Stone is the leader of this Ministry. She is putting together a group of people from the Parish. The first meeting will be on Saturday Oct.19th. Newcomers will teach everyone who comes to this Parish and desire to become a Member of the Parish, about the Episcopal Church, who we are, what we are and what is expected of new members of this congregation. Topics to be covered will be the History of the Episcopal Church, the Liturgy, to use and history of the Book of Common Prayers. There will be several sessions on these subjects. So regardless of the newcomer's background they will given the same knowledge of the Episcopal Church; and the more they knowledge they have, they will be more willing to give of their time talent, and treasures. Fr. Orlando will start teaching these classes. Lay people will be trained to do this, and eventually they will be able to teach on their own.
- iii. 50th Anniversary: A Meeting will be held on Thursday, Oct 17th. Carole Gooden declined leadership of the Communications Committee. She will help in any way she can. Arlene Mighty will recruit members of the congregation to assist her. Jeanne Stone will finalize the arrangements for the Banquet. A donation will be offered in lieu of a fee. The Committee will present a list of the activities and events for the year, at the next meeting, and will have a discussion on this topic.
- iv. Outreach Ministry: Holy faith has been chosen as a site for the distribution of diapers. Volunteers will come and bring the diapers to be distributed to families in need. Tuesdays will be at Holy Faith and Thursdays at St. Andrews. The Outreach Ministry started this as a way to reach out to the community and to the poor. The diapers are stored in the food pantry. There is \$865 in the Outreach account.

- v. Jazz N Spirit: Jazz will be held in the PH on Thursdays, except on the first Thursday of the month. Nov. 14th will be the first session. Nov. 21st will be next. In Dec. will be on the 12th and 19th. Fee to be determined.
- vi. E.C.W.: Gertrude McLeod was chosen as the Diocesan Treasurer. Congratulations to Gertrude. This gives Holy Faith more exposure.
- vii. Stewardship Campaign: Marilyn is doing a good job with this Ministry. She contributes writings for the Newsletter. Marilyn has been able to organize, once a month, an event, giving information on several topics. It is important to support each Ministry and events that are planned. In November the event is Making a Christian Will. The next event in December will be on financial planning. "Using God's Resources".
- viii. Cursillo: The Spanish Cursillo will take place on Oct 25, 26 and 27, at Canterbury. Fr. Orlando will be attending as he is the Spiritual Director. Fr. Cherisol will be the celebrant for Sunday 27th.
Cursilliestas are invited to attend the reunion at Holy Faith once a month. Arlene Mighty is the coordinator of that event.
- ix. Vision Ministry: Will be working on the Core Values of Holy Faith at the next meeting. Without core values, there is friction within the lives of this community. Next meeting will be on Sat. Oct 19th.
- x. Liturgical Ministry: Plans have been made from Advent to Easter. Planning for Pentecost is next. The colour of the linen for Advent is changing from Purple to Blue. Purple is more penitential, and blue is more celebratory. Liturgical Dance will be incorporated into the service for advent. Families will participate in the procession and in the readings. There will be chanting of the Advent Liturgy on the first Sunday of advent, there will also be the use of Incense at the 10 o'clock Service. The Congregation will be informed, especially for those with allergy to incense. Men are being invited to join the Choir, especially for the Christmas Cantata.
- xi. Others: Annual Meeting will be on January 19, 2014. Need to start seeking members of the congregation to run for the Vestry. Delegates for the Diocesan Convention also needs to be elected. Bylaws need to be approved by the Diocese before being presented to the Vestry.

3. Discussion (Vision and Mission):

- a. Holy Faith Theme Garden : Several suggestions have been made about what to do with the empty lot. eg: a soccer field; a community garden. On thinking and meditating on these options, the question arose. How would these benefit the community, Ft. Pierce and Port St. Lucie? Who would be responsible for maintaining those areas? Our budget would not be able to support these. Volunteers would not effectively work, and no one person would be able to devote their time in doing this. Upon further meditation, a Theme Garden became apparent. It could encompass the Nativity scene, with lights where families could come and walk through the garden, and have each station of the Nativity scene. This way we could share the land with the community. We could hire an outdoor architect to design it. We can also have an outdoor stage that could be used for performances but various choirs from the different churches. For Lent, the theme can be changed to the Passion of Christ, the Crucifixion and Resurrection. For October, for Halloween, use a Biblical theme of the coming of Christ for people to come and learn. A Christian Theme, through-out.
How will we get the money to do this? This will be approached as a business. Invite people in the congregation with business knowledge and skills, to come together and bring forth ideas on how this

business can operate. There is money available, we just have to find it. This Theme garden will be unique to Holy Faith, no other church will have this. It will be something new, unique, something and will be attractive to the community and to parents and their children. This is something to think about and pray about to make it happen.

- b. Classrooms for Sunday School: We getting children at the 10 o'clock. We are also getting cross-cultural worshippers. They would normally attend the 12 o'clock service, but are coming to 10am, because their children speak English. Also new people from the outside. The problem is that we rented the classroom to the Unity Church of God. They are amicable with meeting in the Parish Hall. We need to train teachers, put partitions in the rooms for the different levels of classes.
- c. Discussion of Church Property by George Cleary, Jr. Warden: Discussed the paving of the drive way. One estimate was received. 2 more estimates are needed in writing. Discussion of the Survey ensued. Motion to approve the Company, but 2 more estimates should be obtained in writing. H. Walcott; 2nd by L. Campbell. All in favour.
Dinner Dance on Dec. 14, 2013.
Jr. Warden requests that he be notified of upcoming events. Leave note in Jr. Warden box.

4. Decisions

- a. Treasurer's Report by George Adams: Budget short-fall discussed. Not enough income is being generated by contributions.
The Diocesan support will discontinue at the end of 2014.
Motion to accept the Treasurer's report. H. Walcott, 2nd by A. Toppin.

5. Closing Prayer by Fr. Orlando at 9:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by Arlene Mighty, Interim Recorder.