

St. Aidan's Visioning Team

Meeting Minutes

November 13, 2011

Gathering/ Lunch: Lunch provided by Edie Barnett

Check-in/ Catch-up: Team members discussed personal issues, concerns, well-being since the meeting of October 16. Welcome back to Edie.

Call to Order: 12:15 by Scott Miller

Members Present: Edie Barnett, Mark Buckner, Scott Miller, Nina Rodrigues (joined us at 1:15), Ginger Gray, Mark Wilkinson (Rector).

Members Absent: Amelia Knight, Bill Dempsey, Peggy Fanney, Rick Willis (Consultant).

Opening Devotions/ Bible Study: Mark Buckner read Numbers 9: 15-23. Group discussion of questions from Fourth Reflection: Waiting for Clarity.

Minutes of October 16, 2011 approved.

Follow-up and Discussion:

- Charter Review/ Update: Scott will visit Vestry on Tuesday November 15 and present a charter review and update.
- Milestones: Rick will discuss milestones at next Visioning Team meeting.
- Listening Hearts: Scott asked how best to use the Listening Heart books as a framework for group processing.

Assess History Night:

- History Night was judged to be very successful.
- Thanks to everyone involved, and especially the Vestry.
- Approximately 70 people attended.
- Not many new families showed up- need to look into what attracted them to St. Aidan's, evaluate their needs. This could be a ministry.
- Scott noted that in the past, when things needed to get done, people jumped in and took care of it, did not need a committee to get things done.

- Many people do not know past events and their significance to older members.
- Mark W.- The Thursday night EFM class reviewed the data gathered from History Night.
- Negative impacts on the church were discussed and we attempted to find a common theme among the negatives. Ex.:
 - It was felt Peter stayed too long. Peter Samuel's death was attributed as a factor in Peter staying on longer than intended.
 - Bishop Gene Robinson issue was divisive.
 - The Interim process was a major issue. It seems our core values were attacked.
 - There was a sense of betrayal by the Diocese.
 - Was the negative impact that the church was hurt financially or that the church community was threatened, or both?
- Positive impacts were discussed and the following observations were made:
 - Negative events tended to bring the congregation closer together.
 - Aids hospice was created.
 - The interim was also a positive in that it made us examine what we wanted in a priest. One of the important considerations was management style.
 - Peter's sabbatical- The church kept going while he was away. The Laity was an important factor.
 - Youth mission trips very successful.
 - Segar Gravitt ministry- book club very popular.
- In addition, the following issues were brought forth as a result of our examination of History Night data:
 - It was agreed that we should reflect on how our identity was threatened by the interim process and identify what our core values are.
 - Desire to grow versus fear of change. Some are happy with the status quo.
 - Selfish attitudes- others need to step up (young families).

Action Items/ Decisions:

- Further discussion of issues for the benefit of absent members.
- Discuss men's group as a microcosm.
- Discuss our culture.
- Discuss "click" groups.
- Scott asked that we revisit History Night questions, 2 and 5 especially. Look at the different or changed, not necessarily better or worse? Prior to next meeting, share our distillates by e-mail.
- Ask Nancy to get a bullet-point report ready from each team member- focus on both positives and negatives. Have to her by December 9.
- Get info. To Rick and have Rick present for analysis at the next meeting.

- Mark Wilkinson proposed coming up with a plan for getting the new families and visitors together for a welcoming luncheon and to discuss what they are looking for in a church. To take place in January if possible.

Summary of Decisions/ Actions: A detailed summary of all of the above was presented.

Next Meeting: The next meeting was scheduled for December 18, 2011 at 12:00 p.m.

Closing Prayer: Provided by Mark Wilkinson.

Meeting Adjourned: 2:28 p.m.