

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

At the January 26th regular meeting, the Vestry of Christ Church:

- Elected the following persons to serve in the following capacities for the 2012 year:
 - Senior Warden – Ben Slade
 - Junior Warden – Ed Turner
 - Treasurer – Rees Sumerford
 - Secretary – Te Turner
- By rule, the Rector, Fr. Stephen McWhorter, serves as President of the Corporation.
- Elected Gil Morgan to a new five-year term on the Investment Committee
- Elected Mary Burdell and Rees Sumerford to one-year terms as Trustees of the Wesley Memorial Trust
- Had previously by email vote elected Sam Choate, Mary Helen Moses and Paul and Annabelle Salter to represent Christ Church at the annual Diocesan Convention.
- Heard a report from the Canon of the Ordinary of the Diocese of Georgia, Fr. Frank Logue on the Rector Transition Process, the highlights of which follow:

Fr. Logue began by congratulating Christ Church on the work that has already been done on the Strategic Plan which puts us a long way down the road compared to other churches just beginning a transition. He also liked that we are referring to our committee as a “Call Committee.” Moses was called to go to Egypt; Peter, Andrew, James and John were called by Christ to follow him; and Saul was called to spread the Gospel of Christ to the Gentiles. None of them were planning on taking on a new job, but answered the call and served God faithfully and well. The sign of a good call process is a result that you didn’t expect in the beginning yet one which results in consensus among the Committee, the Vestry and the Parish. To do so begins, proceeds and ends with prayer.

Fr. Frank then led the Vestry through a detailed discussion of the transition process, answering numerous questions and referencing the full Transition Handbook, available on the Diocesan website at: <http://gaepiscopal.org/docs/TransitionHandbook.pdf> and the attached handout.

The current task at hand is for the Vestry to form the Call Committee. Each Vestry member was asked to put together a list of suitable candidates and present them to the Wardens and the rest of the Vestry for discussion at the next Vestry meeting, which will be held in Executive (closed) Session on February 21st.

The goal of the Wardens is to compose a Call Committee which is broadly representative of the whole congregation. Fr. Frank also stated that it is OK for it to be somewhat aspirational. That is, for example, if a goal of the Church is to grow its numbers of young families, then that group along with the Youth need to be represented on the Committee. While it is OK for committee members to have an agenda such as youth or outreach or the music program, they must also be able to appreciate the needs of the whole congregation since their goal is to reach consensus on one nominee. It is also good to have people with certain skills such as communications, writing, executive search, etc. on the Committee. The Call Committee is a Committee of the Vestry and will regularly report to the Vestry on its progress and procedures but all names being considered will be kept in strict confidence. The only name which will come out of the Committee will be the Priest recommended to the Vestry to be called.

Concern was voiced that the “News You Can Use” this week implied that in order to be considered for the Call Committee a parishioner needs to sign up on the website or call the office. That procedure is for the Task Forces being formed pursuant to the implementation of the strategic plan, but the Vestry will certainly welcome and consider nominations for the Call Committee from the congregation.

TRANSITION IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

