

6:00 pm Lectio Divina in Church Chancel

Reflection by Jeannine Netterville

Present: Lewis Ford, Roland Searcy, Zo Granberry, Janet Mohundro, Jim Miller, Jeannine Netterville, Sean Lowey, Preston DuBose, Chris Faber, Jason Sawyer

Absent: Karen Royal, Jim Petty, Wayne Etter,

Guests: Fr. Sean Cox, Mike Mullen, Clifford Hunter, Jim Singleton, The Hon. Tom McDonald

Teaching: Jim Singleton spoke briefly on space utilization study progress, and specifically the possibility for both interior and external Columbaria for the church. The interior design would be constructed in the area just left and inside the parlor door entry to the church nave, and would be the first of the two to be completed.

Tom McDonald and Clifford Hunter then discussed the Columbaria plan. Judge McDonald mentioned he felt fortunate to have located an expert on the subject within a 100 mile radius: Paul Pinigis, resource person with Architarium, from Austin, was also associated with the Field of Honor at TAMU. The area selected for the interior Columbarium is about where the glass display table with the Book of Remembrance now stands. It is a smaller, pre-engineered marble unit, and a study of the basement indicates the foundation intact and strong enough to support its weight. The structure would hold 18 niches per side, each able to hold 2 urns. When closed, the Columbarium appears to be a solid marble wall, and presents a dignified appearance. It uses a patented locking mechanism to secure. The Columbarium would be self-sustaining, and would be constructed at no cost to the church. The team also travelled to Christ United Methodist Church when looking at similar structures in the area.

The external location was determined to be best located on the west (Parker St.) side of the church adjacent to the door near to the Baptismal font. A privacy wall would provide protection and privacy from the street. Judge McDonald said he had spoken with City Planner Joey Dunn and inquired about the city right of way on the west side of the church. Mr. Dunn said that the city would abandon its right of way if the external columbarium were to be constructed on the west side of the church. The idea of construction of the columbarium in the church courtyard area was decided against when it was determined that the deep foundation necessary for the construction would kill the beautiful live oaks that shade the area. A \$100,000.00 pledge by a former parishioner for the construction of a columbarium would cover the down payment costs of the exterior design. Judge McDonald added that a columbarium does not fall under the Cemetery Act, and therefore would be allowable in the location selected.

If the concept of the columbarium is approved, Mr. Hunter and Judge McDonald will go to the builder with plan and pledge for construction. A Columbarium proposal including costs was handed out to those present for perusal.

The Vestry approved the proposal from Tom McDonald and Clifford Hunter, which allows them to contact Architarium to begin planning stages.

7:00 pm: Business Meeting

Senior Warden Dr. Lewis Ford called meeting to order. Minutes were approved as written with 1 clarification.

Ministries Reports:

Mike Mullen reminded Vestry of the "Episcopal Night With the Astros" on Tuesday, June 9. Bus and entry ticket will be about \$65 per person. The date does not conflict with VBS dates. Also, Sunday, July 26 is Bombers Night at the Bryan ballpark home of the Bombers. Tickets are \$12, which includes game and food.

Fr. Cox suggested courtesy recommendations be written and sent to James Frieda and Ron Will for the repair work done by them after the vandalism to the parlor window and door and church windows. An email of the text of said resolution was mailed to the Clerk and Senior Warden of the Vestry, and the resolution sent to both gentlemen with gratitude from the Rector and Vestry of St. Andrews.

Fr. Cox also reported that court information indicates the case against John Rice is moving along. A Victim's Report completed by Fr. Cox insures that info regarding the case will be forthcoming.

Military dates and Summer Holiday for Fr. Cox and family are from May 26 June 26. Fr. Hugh Magers will cover in Fr. Cox's absence.

May 24 is Calendar Event Day – Adult Forum time will offer those interested in securing a date for an event or activity at the church a chance to post it into the church calendar.

Holy Week Services were well attended for the most part. The Senior Warden encourages all Vestry and congregation members to consider attending at least one of the services next year.

Old Business: None

New Business: Zo Granberry announced that African Team Ministry craft items will be displayed in the Parish Hall between services n Sunday April 26. People are needed to Man the table and assist with sales. Cash or check only- no Credit Cards.

Multi-Cultural Ministry and Strategic Plan: Housing ESL twice weekly does not meet multicultural ministry envisioned in Strategic Plan. Apart from parish hosts on Tuesday and Thursdays, the church is uninvolved. Are we OK where we are? Jim Kracht will contact ESL for a speaker to present progress to Vestry. Will there be additional involvement with the community? Chris Faber spoke on Living Hope Baptist Church (now meeting in St. Michael's Episcopal School Chapel on Sat. evenings). They blanketed neighborhood with door to door invitations for 2 weeks before a "Community Picnic", and had respectable number of neighbors arrive for picnic. A few made it to church that evening as well. Preston Dubose suggested an invitation to the ESL participants to join St Andrews for the Parish Picnic in June.

Fr. Cox remarked that he is still interested in a Spanish service. The Quin Grant would allow for the hire of a curate to assist with Hispanic services. He feels the growing pains of a transitional parish. What steps do we take next? Janet Mohundro suggests a bi-lingual or Spanish service on Saturday eves or Sunday afternoons. Many models are available for comparison and consideration.

A curate would be preferably bi-lingual; would share in liturgical and pastoral life of the church. Would also be involved with the Spanish-speaking community. Targets: disaffected Catholics, un-churched. Thus far, San Mateo is the ONLY self-sustaining Spanish parish in the USA. In September-October, ESL was begun with and eye towards expansion. Mike Mullen suggested planning a staff for the future and acting accordingly. He says he believes that frustration is "in the cards" as regards the Sunday eve service participation.

The Quin Grant should be used to fund start-up staffing needs. We need to assess the risks involved with action vs inaction.

Janet Mohundro says she feels we are in limbo on this issue, and that limbo is a bad place to be at any time or place.

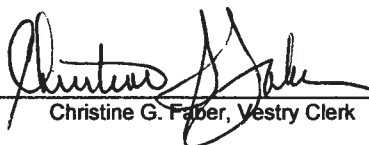
Jim Miller suggested tabling the idea to assess parish interest and commitment. Fr. Cox mentioned that it had been nearly a year since the Strategic Plan / building use and Hispanic Ministry actions. 3-D views of the building ideas are nearly ready for viewing; now is the time to prepare for multi-cultural ministry.

Lewis Ford reported that Sarah Ashburn has involvement ideas with the local community: Baby-Sitting classes, Citizenship classes, afterschool programs, etc. Although the ESL classes we now host are secular, ESL classes run through the church would be able to have a spiritual side.

Zo Granberry reported that she has received letters of request for funds (i.e. Galveston Church still rebuilding in need of funding)

8:20 pm: Meeting ended with prayer by Fr. Sean Cox

Minutes respectfully submitted by _____


Christine G. Faber, Vestry Clerk

5/19/09
Date