

# 1 NEWSLETTER



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## *Episcopal Parish of Ames*

### **Presiding Bishop's letter to the church on General Convention**

July 22, 2009

[Episcopal News Service] Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori has issued a letter to the church about General Convention, which was held July 8-17 at the Anaheim Convention Center in California. "Above all else, this Convention claimed God's mission as the heartbeat of The Episcopal Church," Jefferts Schori says. The full text of the Presiding Bishop's letter follows.

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My brothers and sisters in Christ:

The 76th General Convention is now history, though it will likely take some time before we are all reasonably clear about what the results are.

We gathered in Anaheim, as guests of the Diocese of Los Angeles, for eleven full days of worship, learning, and policy-making. The worship was stunning visually, musically, and liturgically, with provocative preaching and lively singing.

Our learning included training in Public Narrative, as well as news about the emergent church, in the LA Night presentation.

We welcomed a number of visitors from other parts of the Anglican Communion, including 15 of the primates (archbishops or presiding bishops), other bishops, clergy, and laity.

You can see and hear all this and more at the Media Hub: <http://gchub.episcopalchurch.org/>

The budget adopted represents a significant curtailment of church-wide ministry efforts, in recognition of the economic realities of many dioceses and church endowments, which will result in the loss of a number of Church Center staff who have given long and laudable service. Yet we will continue to serve God's mission, throughout The Episcopal Church and beyond. This budget expects that more mission work will continue or begin to take place at diocesan or congregational levels. Religious pilgrims, from the Israelites in the desert to Episcopalians in Alaska or Haiti, have always learned that times of leanness are opportunities for strengthened faith and creativity.

As a Church, we have deepened our commitments to mission and ministry with "the least of these" (Matthew 25). We included a budgetary commitment of 0.7% to the Millennium Development Goals, through the *NetsforLife*® program partnership of Episcopal Relief & Development. That is in addition to approximately 15% of the budget already committed to international development work.

We have committed to a domestic poverty initiative, meant to explore coherent and constructive responses to some of the worst poverty statistics in the Americas: Native American reservations and indigenous communities.

Justice is the goal, as we revised our canons (church rules) having to do with clergy discipline, both as an act of solidarity with those who may suffer at the hands of clergy and an act of pastoral concern for clergy charged with misconduct.

The General Convention adopted a health plan to serve all clergy and lay employees, which is expected to be a cost-savings across the whole of the United States portion of the Church. Work continues to ensure adequate health coverage in the non-U.S. parts of this Church. The Convention also mandated pension coverage for lay employees.

Liturgical additions were also included in the Convention's work, from more saints on the calendar to prayers around reproductive loss.

What captured the headlines across the secular media, however, had to do with two resolutions, the consequences of which were often misinterpreted or exaggerated. One, identified as D025, is titled "Anglican Communion: Commitment and Witness to Anglican Communion." It

- reaffirms our commitment to and desire to pursue mission with the Anglican Communion;
- reiterates our commitment to Listening Process urged by Lambeth Conferences of 1978, 1988, and 1998;
- notes that our own participation in the listening process led General Convention in 2000 to “recognize that the baptized membership of The Episcopal Church includes same-sex couples living in lifelong committed relationships ‘characterized by fidelity, monogamy, mutual affection and respect, careful, honest communication, and the holy love which enables those in such relationships to see in each other the image of God’”;
- recognizes that ministry, both lay and ordained is being exercised by such persons in response to God’s call;
- notes that the call to ordained ministry is God’s call, is a mystery, and that the Church participates in that mystery through the process of discernment;
- acknowledges that the members of The Episcopal Church, and of the Anglican Communion, are not of one mind, and that faithful Christians disagree about some of these matters.

The other resolution that received a lot of press is C056, titled “Liturgies for Blessings.” The text adopted was a substitute for the original, yet the title remains unchanged. It

- acknowledges changing circumstances in the U.S. and elsewhere, in that civil jurisdictions in some places permit marriage, civil unions, and/or domestic partnerships involving same-sex couples, that call for a pastoral response from this Church;
- asks the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music, and the House of Bishops, to collect and develop theological and liturgical resources for such pastoral response, and report to the next General Convention;
- asks those bodies to invite comment and participation from other parts of this Church and the Anglican Communion;
- notes that bishops may provide generous pastoral responses to the needs of members of this Church;
- asks the Convention to honor the theological diversity of this Church in regard to matters of human sexuality.

The full text of both resolutions is available here: <http://gc2009.org/ViewLegislation>. I urge you to read them for yourself. Some have insisted that these resolutions repudiate our relationships with other members of the Anglican Communion. My sense is that we have been very clear that we value our relationships within and around the Communion, and seek to deepen them. My sense as well is that we cannot do that without being honest about who and where we are. We are obviously not of one mind, and likely will not be until Jesus returns in all his glory. We are called by God to continue to wrestle with the circumstances in which we live and move and have our being, and to do it as carefully and faithfully as we are able, in companionship with those who disagree vehemently and agree wholeheartedly. It is only in that wrestling that we, like Jacob, will begin to discern the leading of the Spirit and the blessing of relationship with God.

Above all else, this Convention claimed God’s mission as the heartbeat of The Episcopal Church. I encourage every member of this Church to enter into conversation in your own congregation or diocese about God’s mission, and where you and your faith community are being invited to enter more deeply into caring for your neighbors, the “least of these” whom Jesus befriends.

**The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori**  
*Presiding Bishop and Primate*  
 The Episcopal Church

## EPISCOPAL PARISH OF AMES

### **Parish Office**

St. John's by the Campus  
Episcopal Parish and Student Center  
2338 Lincoln Way, Ames, IA 50014

### **Clergy**

The Reverend Canon Alexander A. Aiton, Jr.,  
Rector

The Reverend Donald R. Payer, Deacon

### **Parish Assistants**

Jeannie Garcia, Secretary  
James Tener, Chaplain and Music Director  
Diane Bjorklund, Director of Christian  
Formation  
Jane Ringwald, Organist  
Wendy Ware, Organist  
Jane Galyon, Newsletter Editor

### **How to Communicate**

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Diocese of Iowa: [www.iowaepiscopal.org](http://www.iowaepiscopal.org)

### **Vestry, 2009**

Scott Saienga, *Senior Warden*  
Jim Stone, *Junior Warden*  
Deb Fisher, *Treasurer* Mary Kay Abbott, *Clerk*  
Margaret Dempsey     Jim Fisher  
Bronwyn Frame         Coralie Lashbrook  
Jeremy Long             Helen McRoberts  
Bob Ozinga              Carol Vleck  
Dorothy Yoerger

### **Newsletter, August 2009, Vol 15, Num 7**

This publication, Newsletter, is published monthly except July by the Episcopal Parish of Ames, a non-profit organization, 2338 Lincoln Way, Ames, Iowa 50014. Comments or inquiries may be sent to the church office. The **deadline for the next Newsletter is Monday, August 24.** Submit articles to Jeannie at St. John's or via email to [church@stjohns-ames.org](mailto:church@stjohns-ames.org) and [jgalyon@iastate.edu](mailto:jgalyon@iastate.edu)

### **August Birthdays**

2 Alyce Holland  
4 Elizabeth Keys  
7 Helen McRoberts  
9 Michael Heffron, Judy Kavanagh  
11 Sarah Gutowski, Cori Peterson  
13 Ed Gillott  
14 Betty Haviland, Christopher Warren,  
Jonathan Warren  
17 Bruce Bjorklund, Sarah Terrones  
18 Jennifer Shives  
23 Anna Hentzel  
24 Cole Hillier  
25 Adlai Hurt  
27 John Bowler, Marie Hope  
28 Annie Vleck

### **August Anniversaries**

1 Erin & Matt Rosacker  
3 Erica & Matthew Cobb  
6 Wendy & Dan Nutini  
7 Marie & Don Anderson  
Jane & Philip Zaring  
13 Mary Jane & Dave Oakland  
15 Toni & Bill Whitman  
Hilary & Jim Ziebold  
29 Mary Ellen & Douglas Hurt

### **Deaths:**

June: Josephine Hicks  
July: Jo Partin

### **August Coffee Hour**

2 8 Ed Gillott  
10 Milly Rosdail Ozinga & Barbara Forney  
9 8 Jane Montgomery, George Montgomery  
Jr. and George Montgomery Sr.  
10 Marie & Don Anderson  
16 8 VOLUNTEER NEEDED  
10 Anne Iles and Gwen, Sally Greve  
23 8 VOLUNTEER NEEDED  
10 VOLUNTEER NEEDED  
30 8 VOLUNTEER NEEDED  
10 VOLUNTEER NEEDED

### **Food At First**

Eleven people helped serve 23 people in July at Food at First. Workers included Jan Payer, Susan Masters, Helen McRoberts, Dorothy Yoerger, Jane Montgomery, Chris Keenan, Mike Moon, Curtis Clark, Ed Gillott and Shelby Poussant (a community volunteer). Plan to join the fun and serve at Food at First on August 22 or September 26. A signup sheet is in the Parish Hall.

*Ed Gillott 515.292.5021*  
[edg813@hotmail.com](mailto:edg813@hotmail.com)

### **Fall Rummage Sale**

The Choir Auxiliary will be hosting a rummage sale at St. John's on August 14 and 15. The proceeds will benefit the student music scholarships for the upcoming school year.

Planning for this event is ongoing and we will be calling on parishioners during the next few weeks to help us staff the sale. Please look for the sign up sheets in the Parish Hall.

You may bring rummage sale items to the church during business hours (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) Monday through Friday, or on Sunday morning and leave them in the office and marked for the rummage sale. Jeannie can help you bring items in. We do not have a great deal of space so large items should be saved until closer to the sale.

In general, we only want items that are clean, in working order and usable. Please note the following caveats:

- Clothes, shoes and hats and other apparel need to be clean and in good repair. If possible, bring on hangers.
- Electrical appliances must be in safe and working order.
- Toys must be clean and in working order, i.e., no missing parts, no puzzles with many missing pieces.
- Linens must be clean and, if sheets, please mark them TWIN, FULL, QUEEN, OR KING.
- Please no holiday decorations that are faded, crumbling or cracked.
- Dishes, glassware and kitchen items should be clean with no cracks, chips or other flaws.

- If you donate something that is probably unrecognizable to most, please include an explanation of what it is.
- Do not donate food items.
- Do not donate old tires, car batteries or farm equipment; we just don't have the space.

When in doubt about an item to donate, please call one of us for advice:

Phyllis Heffron, Chairperson	292-0514
Jan Payer	233-8191
Marie Anderson	268-0154
Judy Kavanagh	233-1982

More news and updates will be forthcoming in the church bulletin.

### **You are Never Too Old to Learn: Join us for Education for Ministry**

Every baptized person is called to ministry. The Education for Ministry (EFM) program provides people with the education to carry out that ministry. During the Service of Confirmation we ask God to "Renew in these your servants the covenant you made with them at Baptism. Send them forth in the power of the Spirit to perform the service you set before them." EfM offers an opportunity to discover how to respond to the call to Christian service.

Lay persons face the difficult and often subtle task of interpreting the richness of the church's faith in a complex and confusing world. They need a theological education which supports their faith and also teaches them to express that faith in day-to-day events. As the emphasis on lay ministry has grown, EfM has come to play an important role by providing a program that develops an informed and knowledgeable laity. The EfM program does not evaluate or recommend individuals for ordination. Many people think that one must be ordained in order to be "a minister." The fact is that all baptized Christians are called to be active participants in the church's total ministry. This TOTAL MINISTRY is nothing less than the exercise of the church's vocation to continue the ministry of Jesus. He reconciled the world to God. We are called to incarnate that reconciliation in our own time and in our own place through worship, service to others, and by proclamation of God's Word to all people.

The EfM program is preparation for the ministry to which we all are called. It is that vocation for which we pray at the end of the Eucharist: "And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord."

EfM is a four year program, but you only commit to one year at a time. The four years cover: 1) Old Testament, 2) New Testament, 3) Christian Church History, the first 1800 years, 4) Christian Church History, the last 200 years.

The class meets once a week during the school year for about 2½ hours, beginning the first week of September. We will pick an evening that best fits everyone's schedule. For more information, check out the EfM website at:

<http://www.sewanee.edu/EFM/index.htm> or see Bruce Bjorklund at church. We'll be enrolling in August. If you have been looking for that course that is more than just another Bible Study, EfM just may be looking for you.

### **ICUBS Baseball Game**

It turned out to be a great family night. The weather was GREAT and as always the food was good which fueled us up for the game. We had 33 people order tickets this year so we had our own little cheering section.

The game started off bad and continued badly. They lost 4 to 1 but we hope for better results next year. The fireworks were wonderful so we left uplifted.

We are looking forward to next year when we can all go and cheer our team on. See you at the ballgame!

### **Abigail Levis**

#### **Youth Delegate to General Convention**

On July 5, 2009, as one of the two youth delegates from Province VI, I headed out west to Anaheim as a part of the official youth presence at the 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention of the Episcopal Church. There I met with 17 other youths and their coordinators from across the US and other countries such as Switzerland, Puerto Rico and Ecuador.

I was amazed at how many people loved seeing the youth there. They welcomed us saying "You are the official youth presence?! We are so glad that you are here!" The diocese of Iowa was likewise delighted to see me and at one point I went and had a lovely dinner with them!

Our diocese supports the youth amazingly but I was astonished to hear how many peoples' dioceses and churches weren't supportive of the youth, and didn't allow the youth to be involved. They wouldn't allow youth to be on vestry or acolyte. Many don't even have a Sunday school. Some dioceses don't have any diocesan youth events. That would mean for us no Happening, New Beginnings, mission trip and ski trip! Iowa has been superb and I am happy that we are open to the youth.

The official youth presence worked hard on making a point that we are not the church of tomorrow we are the church of today! Three groups of two youth each talked to the Episcopal Church Women (ECW), the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies.

We made three main points when talking to the ECW. The first point was that if the youth were made a priority in the church and were able to take control, we would be able to do things that could change the world. The second point was that the church needs to learn how to evangelize. This means that we need ways of worshipping God. The third point was that outreach does not need to be an extravagant trip someplace and that we could all evangelize in our own area by buying fair trade goods or opening the church for the homeless during the week.

In the house of Bishops we talked about how bishops should get to know their youth because since bishops are the head honchos so to speak they can set an example for all the people around them. The youth would also feel more welcome and respected.

The talk to the House of Deputies was about how the church would not grow without the youth. Also that the church needs to be open to what we have to say and that we need a church that reflects who we are and if we don't, we are unlikely to stay. The last point that we made was

that even though we as the youth may be different in who we are and what we all believe, we still stand together united, differences aside, making something great happen in Christ.

In the time at General Convention, the youth also got to put out two resolutions. The first was called D066 which said that we wanted to be able to vote and be elected to go to general convention. This was widely supported but it also had a lot of problems to be ironed out so when the resolution finally got to the House of Deputies, it was dismissed and was not passed. But the good thing is that the youth have made it known what we want and now it is out there so that the next youth can try again and again to make it happen. The second resolution was that to make the youth a part of the Vestry Committee. This resolution was sent to a committee to be looked over and the committee's recommendation was to adopt the resolution, which the House of Bishops was willing to do. Then they sent the resolution to the Deputies asking them to concur. As far as I know the resolution never made it on to the calendar for the House of Deputies and was not acted upon.

I was very honored to be chosen to go to General Convention. Even though it is still not clear to me what I have learned, I know that I have learned so much from all the people I have talked to. The main thing that I learned was that we must be united to make a difference and that we must learn to respect all differences. As the theme of this year's General Convention said "Umbuntu", "I am because you are". There is no "I" in Umbuntu, we must work together for the good of everyone.

### **Jenna Guy, St. Tim's West Des Moines**

July 9-13, I and nine other youth from around the diocese were given the opportunity to attend the Episcopal General Convention Youth Program in Anaheim, California. As we reached the convention center around 3 p.m. on Thursday the 9th, we were welcomed by glorious sunshine and luxurious palm trees. After prancing around in delight, we jumped head first into a game that would entertain us throughout the weekend: Bishop Bingo. The game was created by one of our two brave chaperones, Meg Wagner, with the hope of encouraging us to talk to bishops we otherwise wouldn't personally meet. It didn't take long for us to be fully committed to the game, grabbing our friends at the slightest glimpse of purple. We would then scan our card and try to find a match of the face before us. If we found it, we would approach the Bishop in question and politely ask them to sign the picture of themselves. They seemed to enjoy it almost as much as we did, and that's saying something.

As the weekend continued, we enjoyed small group time, nightly worship, learning about the history of the Episcopal Church, chatting with archbishops from around the world, and working with Habitat for Humanity, but mostly we enjoyed being together. We made friends from New York, Minnesota, Florida, Connecticut, and California. As the weekend moved along we got closer through shared experiences and a shared love of our Episcopal Church. It was a weekend



where we felt the love of God constantly through the community we had quickly formed.

In the blink of an eye we reached our last day at Gen Con, but we had no time for sadness. We reached the convention center Sunday morning with a bit more time to spare than the average Episcopalian is used to before a service. As we filed into the huge room set aside for this special Eucharist, we were enchanted by the beautiful sounds of a gospel choir. We sat together and enjoyed the music while we studied the massive space that was quickly being filled by 9000 of our closest Episcopal friends. Soon the service began. The bishops processed in following impressive Native American drums and chants. Silence filled the room as we waited and watched. Before we knew it, we were at the most anticipated part of the service: The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori's sermon. Our eyes were glued to her as she spoke to us, and all too quickly, her homily was over.

After the service we went to the Exhibit Hall for one last time, and then it was off to the campus we had been staying at for the youth program awards. Our Iowan Episco-posse easily brought home the most awards including: Best Episcopal, Most Generous, Most Insightful Question, Most Sass, and Most Infectious Laugh, just to name a few. After receiving our certificates, we boarded the bus for Disney Land where we spent a night of laughter and fun.

And so our long weekend at General Convention came to a close. Though just a few days long, we managed to make friendships that will surely last a life time. We were given the opportunity to learn about the church we love, we met people we have admired for a long time, and we met strangers we now admire after only a few minutes of conversation. Most importantly, we learned that we have the capability to make a difference in our church and in the world. Each one of us had a slightly different experience with different lessons learned, but each one of us came back changed for the better.

### **Christian Formation/Education News This Fall at St. John's**

Planning for the 09/10 school year has been taking place over the summer. Below is a lineup

of the children and youth programs and Sunday morning classes.

**Children:** We will continue to offer two classes of Godly Play on Sunday mornings to best meet the needs of the children of our parish.

**Godly Play 1** for children ages 3 to kindergarten. These students will meet in the east half of the nursery/preschool room. They will hear the basic stories of Godly Play which are also the foundational Christian and Episcopal stories important for all of us to know in our hearts and minds. This class will offer a shorter class structure following the developmental readiness for these younger children, age appropriate response materials, and a restroom nearby.

**Godly Play 2** for children 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. These students will meet downstairs in the northwest classroom. In addition to the foundational stories, they will hear more about individuals in the old and new testaments as well as some of the saints we recognize throughout the liturgical year.

**Teens:** We will continue to offer a teen class on Sunday mornings as well as EYC (Episcopal Youth Community) Sunday evenings.

**Teen Class:** This year, on Sunday mornings, the youth will be working with a book written by Jenifer Gramber titled "*My Faith My Life A Teen's Guide to the Episcopal Church.*" This is a companion to their Journey to Adulthood program. Chapters include: Baptism & Confirmation, The Bible, Knowing Our History, Sacraments, Prayer, the Church's Political Structure, and What is God Calling them to do.

**EYC:** the Sunday evening program will continue to blend Journey to Adulthood classes, service projects, and fellowship. Sixth graders will be invited to attend on service and game nights as well as attend the Diocesan Youth Events. We will begin a new Rite 13 class for students in the fall of 2011.

Registration for all programs will be Sunday August 30 or the attached form can be filled out and returned to the church any time this month.

## **Summer Recap**

**Nursery:** Our new nursery care giver, Katie, began Sunday, June 7. Please stop in and say hello on Sunday mornings.

**Pilgrimage:** The Pilgrimage group left Thursday June 11 and returned Friday June 19. They toured the Grotto, cooked breakfast for a homeless shelter in Minneapolis, and toured St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral. They also explored Ely Minnesota and camped, canoed, and celebrated God's beautiful creation in the Boundary Waters. The group included **Bryan Bjorklund, Andrew Galyon, and Anthony Palmer** along with J2A leader **John Levis** and St. Anne's member **Joel Baker**. A presentation will be given this fall during the education hour at St. John's. Look for more information in Sunday bulletins and future newsletters for the date.

## **General Convention: July 8-17 in Anaheim, California**

**Abby Levis and Bryan and Bruce Bjorklund** attended General Convention 2009. Ask them about the experience when you see them at church.

Here is a brief report from Bryan Bjorklund. Nine other Iowa youth and I chaperoned by Bruce Bjorklund and Meg Wagner went to Anaheim California Thursday, July 9 and returned Monday July 13 for General Convention. Although this seems like a very short time I met amazing people from all across the country including youth from North California, Minnesota, South Florida, Connecticut, and Texas.

While we were there our group participated in a large variety of fun activities. One of our activities was talking to four arch-bishops (equivalent to our Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Katherine Schori) from Brazil, Australia, Scotland, and Canada. They talked to us about the youth programs currently in their countries along with the direction they hoped their countries would go. We also spent time working with Habitat for Humanity helping build walls, planter boxes, and painted boards.

On Sunday morning, our last whole day in Anaheim, the youth attended the mass worship with about 9000 other Episcopalians. The service had a wide variety of music including hymns we sing every day in church, a gospel choir, and a song sang by Elisabeth Von Trapp (from the Von Trapp family in the *Sound of Music*). The service also included communion, and an awesome sermon from the Presiding Bishop. Even with communion for 9000 people and a full service will still got out of there in an hour and a half.

Throughout the weekend we played "Bishop's bingo," a game Meg Wagner from Iowa City randomly came up with late one night. It was simply a bingo card with different bishop's faces on it, and our goal was to match the face with the bishop, then run after them to get their signature. The game was a fun and good chance to meet different bishops.

When all was said and done we learned a lot about the church's history and how it works, while have a great fun experience and we met lots of new people.

## **May 19 Vestry Minutes**

Fr. Al Aiton called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. with the Order of Evening Prayer. Members present were Mary Kay Abbott, Meg Dempsey, Jim Fisher, Bronwyn Frame, Coralie Lashbrook, Jeremy Long, Bob Ozinga, Scott Saienga and Carol Vleck. Helen McRoberts, Jim Stone and Dorothy Yoerger were absent. Also present were: Fr. Al, Diane Bjorklund, Deb Fisher and Don Payer.

**Time of Study:** Fr. Al asked Don Payer to give an update on "Faith Alive." After update and answering a few questions, Don asked to be excused so that the Vestry might speak openly about their thoughts on facilitating this program for the parish. Following discussion Scott Saienga moved that we prayerfully consider this program and vote on this at our June meeting. To be affective, all Vestry needs to support the decision and in addition many members of St. John's would be asked to help with hosting the speakers, preparing meals and encouraging people to attend. It was suggested that we try to set a date for after the first of the year 2010.

Motion was second by Abbott and motion carried.

**Ministry Area:** Diane Bjorklund provided the attached report and highlighted the plans for the Pilgrimage. Leaders are still needed for Journey to Adulthood and at Diocesan youth events. A suggestion was made that the numerous loose pages in the Sunday Bulletin be condensed into one "Take Home" page printed on both sides. Fr. Al and Jeannie will look into a program to fit this need.

**Property Area:** Fr. Al announced that Tremco will do the necessary roof repairs and Story Construction will repair and plaster the sanctuary wall and the ladies basement restroom. The estimates came in within 10% of the \$20,000 approved at the last meeting. Work will begin within 30 days and should be completed within one week. Fr. Al announced that a fund has been established for a sound system for the hearing challenged. He asked if any Vestry member might know who to contact to inquire about what type of device is needed and estimate of cost. It was suggested that he start by contacting Total Home Technology and possibly get a referral to other companies that would have the capability to serve our need. Scott S. has contacted Cathedral Craft to evaluate each stained glass window and to give an estimate to repair or replace defective glass and wood frames.

**Parish Life Area:** Bronwyn announced that she, Coralie and Bruce will meet June 14 to explore our website and make necessary changes. Coralie found a company that will examine photos of the Last Supper Tapestry that is not being used and may have some antique value.

**Financial Area:** Deb Fisher presented the attached Financial Statement. Deb and Diane B. have discussed the possibility of transferring the present bookkeeping system into Quickbooks or another financial program that would streamline our records and produce necessary Quarterly Reports and payroll. Carol Vleck moved and Abbott second. Motion carried.

**Unfinished Business:** Discussion followed on the Interest Survey. Coralie L. suggested that a

smaller survey be presented at the Ministry Fair in the fall. Bronwyn F. offered to review all Vestry responses and work with Jeremy L. to streamline the present survey to include areas of worship be presented to the parish. Scott S. stated that Evangelism will be a topic to explore as we redefine our ministry, what to name this committee and how it will function. Fr. Al handed out the attached list of assignments for the 2009 Matrix.

**New Business:** Fr. Al shared a Parish Brochure that Jan Payer had brought to his attention with the thought that St. John's might like to do a similar brochure to hand out as an Evangelism tool.

No action taken. Thank you notes from Bethesda Lutheran Church for the groceries St. John's donated to the food program were read.

**Announcements:** Iowa Cubs Game will be July 17. Information will appear in the bulletins and newsletter. Scott S. announced that Grounds Work Days will be Saturday June 20 and Saturday July 18 starting at 8:00 a.m. All are welcome to help.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Kay Abbott, Clerk of the Vestry