

**APPROVED**  
**ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**ANNUAL MEETING – JANUARY 27, 2008**

**Opening Prayer.** Rector Lucinda Laird opened the meeting at 11:15 a.m. with prayer followed by all repeating the Prayer for Building the Spirit.

**Nominating Committee Report.** Junior Warden Shannon Frey, nominating committee chair, thanked the committee for their hard work and introduced the vestry nominees who are Lauren Becker, Sue Bridge, Linda Collins, Becky Donovan, Marty Lawfer, Nancy Loucks, Ken Mertz, Pat Mulloy, Clay Smith and Rhody Streeter. Julie Weis is the Youth Representative. Shannon described qualifications for the candidates and gave instructions for voting. Five candidates will be selected and the parish will vote to affirm Julia Weis, the selected youth vestry member. The five elected vestry nominees will serve three years. Those candidates who are not elected will serve the parish in other capacities in the coming three years. Pages handed out ballots and collected completed ballots with the signed bottom portion of the ballot separated from the marked ballot. Retiring vestry members and others appointed served as tellers and reported their findings at the end of the meeting.

**Treasurer's Report.** Treasurer Jim Moyer reported that the Finance Committee will be enlarged to help integrate the work of those individuals who serve the parish and the rector on the Endowment Fund, the Operating Budget, and the Building the Spirit Committee. Jim thanked the 2007 finance committee of Bev Weis, Greg Petrites, Mitch Shirrell, Edie Nixon and Linda Wardell for their outstanding service. He stated that the 2006 and 2007 budget expenses were depressed due to the construction. 2008 will be the first complete year in the expanded facility with a full staff and clergy to make use of the new building. The 2007 budget surplus of \$29,239 will be brought forward. \$85,000 will be taken from the endowment to support the operating budget. This will be less than taken in past years. The goal is to wean the congregation from depending on the endowment to provide operating expenses. The endowment funds would be better spent on outreach projects. Projected Income and Transfers for 2008 Budget are \$924,739. The Total Expenses projected are \$942,687; and therefore, the treasurer presented a deficit budget of (\$17,948). He explained that this was due to the hiring of increased clergy, a sexton and a larger facility, which is more expensive to operate. The treasurer emphasized that encouraging more level payment of pledges throughout the entire year would be helpful, so that we do not reach the fall wondering if we will meet our budget. He suggested that more pledging units would be needed to continue to fund the new facility and growing program areas. Jim suggested that continuing the "Conversations with the Vestry" would be healthy for the parish so that the work of the vestry continues in its transparency.

**Minutes of 2007 Annual Meeting.** Lucinda accepted Fred Seigfried's motion to dispense with the reading of the 2007 minutes. A number of seconds to the motion were heard. The attendees overwhelmingly approved the motion and the minutes were not read. Lucinda announced that the parish had acquired an Automated External

Defibrillator (AED). She requested a show of hands for those parishioners who are trained to operate an AED and have CPR training. Cards were given to and collected from those persons with the training so the parish would be aware of them. The ushers will be trained in AED and CPR techniques.

**Senior Warden's Report.** Senior Warden Steve Cherry reported on the joys of 2007 including the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lucinda's ordination. He suggested that the "Conversations with the Vestry," begun this year have been successful and should be continued to help keep the congregation "in the loop" of ongoing discussions and decisions. He congratulated the parish on its healthy support of outreach work, including the support of the Rongo Orphanage and the Oyugis, Kenya, medical and agricultural projects. Steve reported that the completion of Saint's Hall and the ministry offices above it would encourage the parish to broaden its outreach and mission work in the community. In particular, he was pleased to announce that The Housing Foundation and Kentucky Habitat for Humanity will be the first renters of two of the three mission offices. Steve encouraged all parishioners to formally accept the responsibility for our new expanded facility by pledging their financial support, whatever the level. Steve thanked the retiring vestry members for their devoted service to the parish. They are Shannon Frey, Lee Fletcher, Jay Lambert, Jim Moyer, Bev Weis and Michael Lambert. The senior warden thanked the members of the congregation for their active involvement in the life of the parish. He explained how impressed he was with the members' ability to hold very differing views and to respect each parishioner's opinion even when it differed from his/her own. Steve said it had been a privilege and honor to serve as senior warden in 2007.

**Rector's Report.** Lucinda opened her comments by reading the Mission Statement of St. Matthew's Church. She said that each year we are coming closer to fulfilling the goals of the statement. The rector celebrated that fact that CONSTRUCTION IS FINISHED. She mentioned the excitement of the year with examples such as the summer Vacation Bible School hosting of 150 children and adults from five Episcopal churches. Lucinda described how our church is changing, and what programs are being put into place to make all, new and old members, feel welcome. Lucinda stated that connectedness to God and each other is a goal she would like us to work towards in 2008. Although the vestry has spent much of its time on its sexuality study and finances, she feels their work has really been about relationships within the parish and beyond. She said that we strive for justice and peace and trust in God's providence as we do our best to meet the challenges of our life together. As we give, so we receive. We are thankful to God who has given us the vision and resources to build in this place. The rector gave a special "thank you" to the "best staff ever" with whom she serves this parish.

The rector announced the results of the vestry election. The following persons were elected to serve a three-year term. They are Lauren Becker, Sue Bridge, Becky Donovan, Clay Smith and Rhody Streeter. Julie Weis was affirmed as youth representative.

**Dismissal.** Lucinda gave a final blessing and dismissal when the meeting was ended at 12:15 p.m.

More specific details about this meeting can be found in the 2007 Annual Report distributed at the meeting.

Respectfully submitted

Jan Garver, Secretary