

Bishop's Committee
Monday, July 23, 1990

PRESENT: Brewer, DeLay, Johnson, Fr. Lewis, Sanford,
F. Stewart, R. Stewart

ABSENT: Page

GUEST: Lois Moose

Most of the meeting was taken up with comments by Fr. Lewis. This paragraph will attempt to adhere to those as closely as possible. Fr. Lewis perceives himself as a sacramentalist, not as a leader. Merrill was our leader, and now he is gone. Does anyone remember the money deal which we made with Fr. Lewis? It was \$275.00 for three Sundays until Jan. 1, 1990, and then when Grace had time to catch up a bit financially, the church would work up to Mo. Karen's salary of \$500.00. He feels that we have been remiss in not meeting this challenge and coming to him and discussing it. We are without a senior warden--without a priest who was hired to be a leader--barely making ends meet financially--have lost three key members in the last month--what are we going to do? We also have no Sunday school teachers, according to Lois Moose. Statistically, 80-85% of people come to church because family and friends invite them. Sanford interjected here that greeting and contacting new people is not a complicated thing. We can obtain list from merchants downtown and take a loaf of bread to newcomers. Fr. Lewis continued that we are in a crisis time, and if we invite people to the church, we must learn how to keep them. But now we have a more pressing problem--we have no senior warden--we have no priest. Fr. Lewis feels we do not need representatives or elected officials to the Bishop's Committee-- we are too small a congregation. We are currently in a caretaker situation. He would be willing to make pastoral visits to prospective members. "Decide what you're going to do and do it." For the last five months of the year, we must have a leader. Fr. Al cannot do it from Sioux Falls.

Motion by DeLay and second by F. Stewart to nominate Katherine Brewer as senior warden. Motion carried.

Motion by DeLay and second by Moose to nominate Jan Sanford as clerk. Motion carried.

Motion by DeLay and second by F. Stewart to continue the church's \$30.00 monthly seminary stipend to Mo. Karen Hall, as long as the funds are available. Motion carried.

The agenda next time will include a discussion of Grace's Centennial celebration -- invitations, 100 yr. old service, someone to be in charge of the Centennial.

It was announced that services will go back to 11:00 a.m. on the last Sunday in August.

Treasurer Ruby Stewart distributed copies of the June, 1990 financial statement. The bank balance as of June 30 was \$125.39.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine T. Brewer

Katherine T. Brewer
Clerk