

ACTS Mission Minutes
January 29, 2009

Present: Leora Houtary, Bonnie Elder, Fr. Pat Travers, Lisa Pusich, Ray Thibodeau, Davida Ahlgren, Mike Monagle

Absent: Winston Smith, Dave Ringle, Myrna Dillon, Robert Tonkin, Janis Burns-Buyarski

1. Call to Order at 6:05pm
2. Call of attendance—quorum established
3. Review of December minutes. Minutes were approved.
4. Review of finances. Account has a balance of 8,915.55 with \$4,266 encumbered from the Earthen Vessels concert until CD costs are covered. For the month, \$85 was received from the fund raising letter, and \$300 was credited against two outstanding Wasilla registrations. The Board approved the treasurer's report.
5. Ray Thibodeau gave an update on Earthen Vessels.
 - The CD is a work in progress. A first studio cut has been done, and they are coordinating studio time for remaining members of the group.
 - Ray presented the Earthen Vessel mission statement as follows: *Earthen Vessels is a contemporary praise music ministry that developed out of a desire to worship the Lord in song. As a part of the ACTS (a Catholic-based Christian movement founded on Adoration, Community, Theology, and Service) Community in Juneau, Alaska our mission is to build, inspire, and bless the body of Christ.* The mission statement was approved by the Board.
 - Finally, Ray informed the Board that Earthen Vessels has been asked to play music for the Batac funeral on February 2nd. The family wished to make a donation to Earthen Vessels, but the group asked that the family make a donation to ACTS Missions instead. The Board expressed its gratitude to Earthen Vessels.
6. Sweetheart/Gumbo Gala Planning.
 - The Board discussed whether to hold the event on Fat Tuesday, 2/24, the day before Ash Wednesday, or on Valentines Day, 2/14. Concern was expressed about 2/14 date conflicting with the JAHWC Wearable Art Extravaganza. After further discussion it was decided to go with the 2/14 date.
 - Kathy Smith has volunteered to prepare the gumbo. May need help with food preparation on Friday the 13th. Bonnie volunteered to do the shopping on Thursday the 12th. She will coordinate with Kathy. Each board member is asked to bring a 2 gallon bag of cooked white rice. King & Queen cakes will be purchased at Costco.
 - Decorating will take place Saturday morning, 2/14, at 10:00am. Board members need to be there then, and return no later than 5:30pm. Teen ACTS will help with serving.
 - Leora handed out flyers and encouraged members to "post everywhere". She will contact the ACTS Board to get the message out on the ACTS website.

Members coordinated appearing at the various masses at the Cathedral and St. Paul's to give a pulpit talk, chatting up the event.

7. Randy Coleman appeared at the meeting on his way to the men's meeting, and asked the Board to consider making a donation of \$125 to the upcoming men's ACTS retreat in sponsorship of a gentleman from Soldotna to attend the retreat. He is one of three gentleman coming from Soldotna. The gentleman is willing to pay his own transportation, but the \$125 registration fee is a hardship for him. Randy stated that the donation would be a modest investment with a high possible of return, in that it would go a long way in planting seeds in Soldotna for a possible Mission retreat. After Randy left, a motion was made to consider Randy's request. Discussion followed on the following points

- Is it a function of ACTS Missions to foster interest from communities throughout Alaska by providing scholarships to attend retreats? Would granting a scholarship set a precedent for future directors to seek financial assistance from ACTS Missions for their retreats?
- ACTS Mission fund raising is for the purpose of funding the next mission retreat – wherever that may be. Is it premature for ACTS Missions to expend funds on retreats without first deciding where the next missions retreat will be? Would providing a scholarship in this instance be perceived as an endorsement to hold the next Missions retreat in Soldotna? It was pointed out that we have received retreat requests from Ketchikan, POW, Haines, and other communities in the Diocese of Juneau.
- Is it premature for the ACTS Missions to make decisions on future retreats before finishing up work on its mission statement and manual?

The question was called. It was decided that the granting of scholarships has historically been a decision left to each ACTS director, based on their individual circumstances and finances. Current and future scholarship decisions should continue to be left to each director. The board determined its efforts should be toward a selected Mission parish. Selecting a Mission parish should come before granting Scholarships. It was decided that before ACTS Missions sponsors another retreat, it needs to complete its work on developing its mission manual and retreat guidelines.

8. ACTS Mission Manuals
 - In light of the preparations for the Sweetheart and Gumbo Gala, Leora recommended to table discussion on the ACTS Mission Manual until next meeting. Leora instructed the board members to work on their assignments handed out at the December meeting.
9. Next meeting, Monday, March 9, 6:00pm.
10. Final prayer closed meeting at 7:40pm.