



# ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Vestry Minutes – August 16, 2017 - 7:00 pm

## **Members Present**

Attendees included: Michelle Wiejaczka (Senior Warden), Jim Lukas (Junior Warden), Carol Toft (Clerk), Sally Berveiler, Judy Robel, Darrell Rowe, Jeff Zabor, the Rev. Lori Lowe (Rector), and Lisa Strandberg (Administrative Assistant)

Absent: Rick Carlstedt

The Rector called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with an opening prayer. The Rector and Vestry reflected on next Sunday's gospel from Matthew (15:10-28): "It is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles," and the story of the Canaanite woman.

## **Approval of Minutes**

The wardens moved to amend the June minutes as follows: under "Ministries / Wardens' Concerns," delete "use of time" and replace with "accountability for time off per letter of agreement and the use and amount of the Rector's professional account." The Vestry agreed that the professional account was to be used at the discretion of the Rector. Jim made a motion to approve the June minutes as corrected. Sally seconded. The motion passed.

## **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's reports for June and July were reviewed, along with condensed profit/loss, expense, and quarterly reports. It was noted that pledges paid through June were \$2000 over what was budgeted. Judy moved to receive the reports. Michelle seconded. The motion passed.

## **College for Congregational Development**

The Rector reported about the workshop that she and Beth Lukas attended the week of July 17-21, 2017. They were given tools to help envision St. Paul's future. Beth and the Rector will use some of the material from CCD in the design for the Fall Parish Meeting on September 17<sup>th</sup>.

## **OPERATIONS**

### *Ad Hoc Committee (Building Improvements)*

Jim and Jeff presented a report on the proposed projects for the buildings and grounds, along with estimated costs and the recommendations of the committee. \$25,268 in critical projects was suggested by the committee. (see attached) The Rector thanked the committee for their hard work. The final decisions about which projects will or will not be done is up to the Vestry. The congregation will be given an opportunity for input (not votes) at the Fall Parish Meeting. We will probably need to have a called Vestry meeting prior to the parish meeting to discuss these projects and recommendations further.

### *Columbarium*

Last month, the Rector suggested converting to a flat fee for purchasing a niche in the Columbarium which would include fees for opening/closing and engraving. [The current cost is for the niche only; the fees for opening/closing and engraving are expected to be paid at the time of death.] For those who have already purchased a niche, she suggested that they be offered the opportunity to pay for opening/engraving fees now rather than leaving it to their families later. Considerable discussion followed with other suggestions. The Rector will bring an example of a revised contract and other materials to the September Vestry meeting for further discussion.

### *Chamber of Commerce*

The Rector will send out notices of upcoming mixers. The Vestry was urged to attend some of them to represent St. Paul's. We are already listed in the McHenry Community Guide, but larger ads are available. The Vestry decided not to place an ad. The tentatively scheduled mixer to be held here on October 10<sup>th</sup> will be canceled due to the unavailability of most Vestry members to attend and/or help with it. Discussion concerning next year's membership and events has been tabled for later.

## **MINISTRIES**

### *Stewardship plans for 2017-2018*

Michelle is the chair of the stewardship committee. The Rector suggested further discussion about how we should approach our pledge campaign this year. How can we help parishioners understand what it takes to run the church? It was noted that we can only expect 80% of pledge cards to come in by the end of the year.

## **PARISH LIFE**

Discussion concerning Enriching Our Worship and Prayers of the People will be moved to Coffee & Conversation in September.

The August 13<sup>th</sup> Parish Picnic was a great success with more than 50 attendees!

The Rector and Beth Lukas will work on designing the Fall Parish Meeting. Marilyn Bell will coordinate the covered dish lunch.

## **RECTOR'S REPORT**

The Rector thanked the Vestry for their support during her recent family crisis. She offered updates on pastoral concerns and reported that Barb Moriarty has been trained as a Eucharistic Minister.

## **OTHER BUSINESS** *(none)*

## **WARDENS' REPORTS** *(none)*

## **CLOSING PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m. with our closing prayer for St. Paul's.

Recorded by Lisa Strandberg, Administrative Assistant.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Toft,  
Clerk of the Vestry