



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Vestry Minutes – June 21, 2017 - 7:00 pm

Members Present

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

Absent: Darrell Rowe

The Rector called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with an opening prayer. The Rector and Vestry reflected on passages from Matthew, and discussed “How do we understand difficult passages? If we learn to put God first, everything else will fall into place.

Approval of Minutes

Jim made a motion to approve the minutes from the May meeting. Michelle seconded. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was reviewed, along with condensed profit/loss and expense reports. Rick moved to receive the reports. Judy seconded. The motion passed.

Diocesan Pledge

There was a discussion of the 2017 pledge to the Diocese. In 2016, \$7200 was pledged based on what was projected in income. The Diocese asked congregations to increase pledges by 15%, and the vestry approved the Diocesan pledge of \$7500 for 2017. This year, there are 33 units, with \$65,424 pledged. The treasurer estimated another \$6,096 in expected income from those who give regularly but do not fill out a pledge card. The total projected pledges come to \$69,520. This figure does not include income from loose plate, hall rental, AA donations, etc. It was agreed that the \$7500 pledge will stay the same, but will be reevaluated for 2018.

Stewardship

The 2018 Chair will be Michelle. The Rector and Michelle will discuss who else will be on the committee. Recommendations will be presented to the Vestry in August.

OPERATIONS

Ad Hoc Committee (Building Improvements)

The committee consisting of Jim Lukas, Jeff Zabor, Rick Carlstedt, Al Robel, Bill Lang, and Kim Morris met the previous week and will meet again next week to prioritize and assign different projects. They will get estimates, and assess funding sources.

Columbarium

Rick stated that the Columbarium bank account is around \$8,000. 8 to 10 stones need to be replaced. The Rector proposed a simple “flat fee” of \$1500 for a double niche, and \$1000 for a single. This would include everything: the niche, opening/closing, and engraving. We could possibly offer the current reserved ones the opportunity to pay now for opening/closing and engraving fees so that their families will not have to handle this aspect of interment after the fact. This will be revisited after looking at actual costs.

MINISTRIES

Mobile Food Pantry

Our latest MFP was June 17th, serving 39 cars, which is lower than previous MFP events. McHenry County appears to be saturated with food trucks. We need to make sure there aren't multiple food trucks at the same time.

Mutual Ministry Review

The Rector sent out copies of Andrea's notes, stating that it is not a performance review, it's a reflective opportunity. She would like another opportunity to discuss issues.

Warden's Concerns

There was discussion about the two warden's concerns related to the Rector's use of time.

PARISH LIFE

Inquirer's Classes

The dates for these classes will be September 28, October 1, 8, and 15. The Rector will teach the first three, with Deb Lang teaching the last one on October 15.

College for Congregational Development

Beth Lukas presented information on this two-year program. Michelle and Beth attended a workshop about this program at last year's Diocesan Convention. The Rector and Beth would like to attend the week-long session in July. Cost is \$800 per person, per year. The Diocese will award scholarships of \$400 each. The program includes tools to reimagine the church and energize the congregation. This is an important avenue to begin to develop a vision for St. Paul's and how we will "be church" in the future. Sally moved to authorize the \$800 for the Rector and Beth to attend this summer. Jeff seconded. The motion passed.

RECTOR'S REPORT

The Rector shared pastoral and personal concerns.

OTHER BUSINESS *(none)*

WARDENS' REPORTS

Jim reported that Betts' Place has been taken off of St. Paul's insurance.

CLOSING PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m. with our closing prayer for St. Paul's.

Recorded by Lisa Strandberg, Administrative Assistant.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Toft,
Clerk of the Vestry