



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Vestry Minutes – December 13, 2017 - 7:00 pm

Members Present

Attendees included: Michelle Wiejaczka (Senior Warden), Jim Lukas (Junior Warden), Rick Carlstedt, Carol Toft (Clerk), Judy Robel, Jeff Zabor, Alan Robel, the Rev. Lori Lowe (Rector), Lisa Strandberg (Administrative Assistant), and Shay Craig, (Bishop's Staff, Associate for Resource Development)

Absent: Sally Berveiler, Darrell Rowe

The Rector called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with an opening prayer. The Rector and Vestry reflected on the Epistle for Sunday, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24.

Approval of Minutes

Jeff made a motion to approve the November minutes as submitted. Jim seconded. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's reports for November were reviewed. Michelle moved to receive the reports. Rick seconded. The motion passed. The balance in the Endowment Fund is \$188,515.

2018 Draft Budget

Jim presented a draft budget from the finance committee, which showed 10/31/17 balances, the projected end-of-year total expenses, and the proposed 2018 budget. There are 33 pledging family units. The budget sub-committee would like to cut 10% of net expenses, exclusive of the mortgage. It is estimated that the Endowment Fund will be depleted by September 2019 unless the \$9700 per month withdrawal is reduced. For every \$1000 reduction, the EF will be extended for 2 1/2 months. One option is to have the Rector become part-time, while collecting her pension. However, the Church Pension Fund policies do not allow a rector to convert to part-time (in the same parish where he or she has been the rector) and draw a pension. Nevertheless, the Rector will explore this issue with the Bishop Lee. Meanwhile, Jeff will work with the budget sub-committee to decide where to cut expenses, and seek lower bids for our current contracts. Shay will meet with the Rector to discuss evangelism, year-round stewardship, and CCD.

Stewardship to date

There has been a good response to the initial pledge letters. The rector will send letters to those who have not pledged yet. Thank you cards will be sent to those who have returned their pledges. Carol, Michelle, Judy, and Jeff volunteered to write notes. The Rector will also send out a Christmas appeal letter.

MINISTRIES

Advent Baby Baskets

Baskets are out and filling up. There will be eight altogether.

PARISH LIFE

Nominating Committee

Darrell, Rick, Jim, Michelle, and the Rector will meet again. Nominees are: Jeff (Junior Warden), Kim Morris and Barb Moriarty (to take over Rick and Darrell's positions), and Kathy Biggerstaff (to fulfill Sally's remaining year).

Advent IV and Christmas Eve

Help is needed to prepare between the morning and evening services. There will be a festive reception after the 9:00 pm Christmas Eve service.

Annual Parish Meeting

The meeting will be January 28th, with a covered dish luncheon. Financial reports, 2018 budget, and election of the new Vestry members will be on the agenda.

OPERATIONS

Projects

- A new handrail along the handicapped ramp has been constructed and installed by Ted Jenson. It is a good match to the existing railings.
- Water pressure needs to be addressed.
- The \$4000 down payment for a new well will be delivered to Huemann's by Jeff. Starting date TBD.
- Porch Lighting has been updated and is a great improvement.

Options for Cleaning the Building

Now that Charlie is no longer able to continue as our volunteer sexton, we need to come up with other options. One possibility is to recruit teams of volunteers for cleaning and other tasks such as worship planning, etc.

WARDENS' REPORTS

Jim reported that he spoke with Jennifer Loacker (Senior Warden at St. Ann's) about common needs between our two churches. They are currently conducting a full-time rector search.

RECTOR'S REPORT

The Rector reported on parishioner health updates. The Rector Open House will be January 7th from 4-6 pm. Members of the Vestry will provide platters of food for the event.

OTHER BUSINESS *(none)*

CLOSING PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. with our closing prayer for St. Paul's.

Recorded by Lisa Strandberg, Administrative Assistant.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Toft, Clerk of the Vestry