

MINUTES

Vestry Meeting –Wednesday, July 12, 2017 - 7:00 PM

Present: Fr. Richard, Nancy Waugh, John Grant, Susan Howland, Rose Reith, Lynn Garland, Tamsin Lucey, Peg Nelson

Absent with regrets: Mary Bridget Burns, Diane Nichols, Bill Pieczynski

Open at 7:15 p.m. with prayer

Bible Study - Matthew 13

Prayer for Peace - Lynn shared the Prayer for Peace, by Miriam Therese Winter of the Medical Mission Sisters.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the minutes from the June vestry meeting , emailed June 21, 2017, as amended.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the Treasurer's report, emailed July 6, 2017. The oil tank has been filled to 7,000 gallons. The Finance Committee will meet in early September.

It was agreed that the approved minutes should be provided to Chris to keep her in the loop and for her to post to the bulletin board. Chris will be asked to include a note in the bulletin that the minutes are on the board and in Tidings that they are available on the website. Susan will post them to the website.

Building Committee – Tamsin

Tamsin said that the kitchen repairs will begin after VBS, however, Gordon Plumbing has been paid 50% and will start some wet wall work that will not interfere with either the YMCA or The Bread Box Company. We have ordered the equipment from Gillette and paid 50%. They will store until we are ready to take possession. We will get the architectural discount rate on the counters.

The United Way Day of Caring is September 15, 2017. Together with St. Luke's Guesthouse, they are working on a way to do some volunteer work. Tamsin has put in requests for man hours to paint the classrooms, clean up at the back of the church and sort coats in the coat closet.

Garon Electric confirms that the front fan in the church is gone. The back fan is working, but eventually we will need to seek advice on the proper type of commercial fans for replacement.

John inquired about placing hooks for guitars between the radiators. Because the instruments may get bumped there, Tamsin will ask Brian about moving the memorial book case to give more room in that corner for instruments and the choir.

Fr. Richard questioned that the stair railings to the narthex door are properly seated and therefore may be unsafe. Tamsin will ask Brian to check both stair railings.

John will go through the Books of Common Prayer and discard those with missing pages. Once he has determined how many need to be replaced, we can offer this as an opportunity for anniversary gifts with a dedication page placed inside the front cover.

Pastoral Outreach Team Building- Fr. Richard

Now that we have welcome cards, how are they handled and how do we follow-up? Susan, Lynn and Laura will discuss how the feedback on the welcome cards is to be handled. A reminder will be placed in the bulletin to fill in the welcome card. Other suggestions were for the ushers to mention the cards as people enter and for those sitting in the same pew with a visitor to kindly mention the cards.

Fr. Richard has monthly services at Heritage Green in Sturbridge, usually with about 14 attendees.

Review

July 2, 2017 cookout and community outreach – It would be a good idea for community events to have better organization—people at each food station to avoid waste, better supervision, and people assigned to specific duties. Of the approximately 65 who attended, more were from the community and not many from the immediate neighborhood. We need to put up a sign to acknowledge our donors. Fr. Richard commented that he observed a mixing of groups from the community, which he felt was precious. There was also discussion about the amount of work involved in putting on this kind of event and that it did not seem to be fully supported by the congregation this year. We agreed to continue the discussion to clarify our goals and consider whether it could be simplified in some way.

There was a lengthy discussion about a date for the harvest supper and pumpkin carving event. Traditionally, this is a celebration of the culmination of community garden activity. This year's harvest supper will be September 24.

Discussion

Because our kitchen will not be suitable (only one sink), we will not be able provide to lunches for school children the last two weeks in August. Fr. Richard will convey this information to Pastor Kirsten. If this is something that we are interested in doing in 2018, we will start the conversation early enough to plan for cooks and workers.

Upcoming events

Vacation Bible School is organized and ready.

Vacation – Fr. Richard has arranged for supply priests while he is on vacation:

On July 23rd and October 22nd: The Rev. Charles Summers

On July 30th and October 1st: The Rev. Meredyth Ward

Pastoral Emergencies - Pastor Kirsten and Pastor Janet

Other business

Fr. Richard, Tamsin and Susan will conduct Chris Bolte's employment review as soon as possible. Nancy mentioned that she can be available to sit in the 3rd week in August.

Closing prayer.

The vestry moved, seconded and approved adjournment of the business meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Peg Nelson, Clerk

Next Vestry meeting August 9, 2017 7:00PM